



**CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN  
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**March 28, 2023**

Mayor Toland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**City Council Members Present:** Mayor Dan Toland, Jeff Bjork, Nick Carow, Sean Downing, Alyssa Mueller, Todd Bjerstedt, Scott Morrisette, Diane Odeen

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Scot Simpson; Assistant City Administrator Jason Stroud; City Attorney Chris Gierhart; IT Specialist Jon Smits; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Assistant to the City Administrator Jennifer Smith; Management Analyst Fellow Ellen Massey; Community Development Director Amy Peterson; Fire Chief Steven Cash; Assistant Director of Community Development Emily Shively; Community Services Director/City Clerk Amy White; Library Director Tanya Misselt; Human Resources Director Karen Bergstrom; City Planner Sam Burns; City Planner Kendra Ellner; Finance Director Josh Solinger; City Engineer Todd Nickleski; Economic Development Manager Keri Schreiner; Sergeant Denton Anderson

**Others:** Ken Witt, Scott Knudson, Adam Kastonek, Stephanie and Matt Johnson, Kodi Satra, Boy Scout Troop 54, Stephanie Falkers, Maria Wardoku, others

Boy Scout Troop 54 led the Pledge of Allegiance. The mayor thanked the boy scouts for attending.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 14, 2023, Regular Minutes

**MSC Downing/Bjork move to approve minutes. Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills: \$1,294,110.38

**MSC Carow/Bjerstedt move to approve bills. Unanimous.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Library Director Tanya Misselt spoke in support of the city's proposed comprehensive plan. She listed what the library was willing to do to assist.

St. Croix County Public Safety referendum

St. Croix County Administrator Ken Witt, Sheriff Scott Knudson, Public Information Officer Adam Kastonek came to provide information on the upcoming public safety referendum. The referendum requests funding to add 24 new staff positions to the department.

Mann Valley Updates Presentation

Economic Development Manager Keri Schreiner provided a presentation. Last year, the council approved the updated concept plan. Schreiner talked about the land uses and provided an overview on the infrastructure and project timeline.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance 2023-03 - An update to the City's Comprehensive Plan, to replace the 2005 Comprehensive Plan – Second Reading and Disposition

**At 6:49 p.m., Mayor Toland moved into a public hearing and introduced Community Development Director Amy Peterson.**

Peterson thanked the parties that participated in the process including the council, community, staff, and the consultant. She introduced Stephanie Falkers from SRF Consulting Group. Falkers provided an in-depth presentation. She gave an overview of the process and three plans – the Comprehensive Plan, The Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the Bike and Pedestrian Plan. She talked about the process, engagement, and Focus River Falls participants.

Falkers explained what a comprehensive plan was. It is required by state statues with updates required every 10 years. She talked about the comprehensive plan goals, the nine requirements, housing, and future land use and boundaries. Falkers talked about the Outdoor Recreation Plan including a needs assessment and recommendations and priorities. Upon conclusion, she introduced Project Manager Maria Wardoku with Alta Planning + Design, who would talk about the Bike and Pedestrian Plan.

Wardoku talked the vision statement, goals, existing conditions analyses, public engagement, network recommendations, project implementation tools, policy and program prioritization. Upon conclusion, Wardoku turned over to Falkers. Falkers talked about what's next and thanked the council.

The mayor asked if there were any comments from the public.

Stephanie and Matt Johnson, W10439 880<sup>th</sup> Avenue – came in support of the Bike and Pedestrian Plan and hoped council would adopt it.

**With no other public comments, the mayor moved back into Open Session at 7:23 p.m. MS Morrisette/Odeen move to adopt the ordinance. The mayor asked for comments.**

Alderson Downing was in favor of the plan. He thanked SRF, the city planners, and everyone involved in the process for their hard work. He talked about his proposal including vision statements for all city departments in the city's strategic plan as a planning tool. He provided further details and asked City Administrator Simpson to provide an example. Simpson spoke about 'nesting' plans and being related to each other. Downing said again he was in favor and thanked Morrisette and Odeen for being a part of the planning process for the Comprehensive Plan.

Alderson Bjork is in favor of the plan but has an issue with verbiage saying it's a local government's master plan for the community should change in the future. He felt it should be more of a guide for the future and not an etched in stone plan. Bjork spoke about future councils getting opportunities brought to them which will be part of the plan/guide. To him, it's a guide. Downing agreed saying that in past planning meetings, the mayor said we are working toward these goals. He felt that was important for us to remember.

**With no other comments, the mayor asked for a vote. The ordinance passed unanimously with all voting in favor.**

Resolution No. 6755 - Adopting the 2023 Outdoor Recreation Plan

**MS Mueller/Odeen move to adopt the resolution. The mayor asked for comments.**

City Administrator Simpson clarified that the public hearing was available for people who wanted to comment on these plans too. The mayor asked if anyone had any comments on either the Outdoor Recreation Plan or Bike and Pedestrian Plan. There were no comments.

**With no other comments, the mayor asked for a vote. The resolution passed unanimously with all voting in favor.**

Resolution No. 6756 - Adopting the 2023 Bike and Pedestrian Plan

**MS Mueller/Downing move to adopt the resolution. The mayor asked for comments. As there were none, the mayor asked for a vote. The resolution passed unanimously with all voting in favor.**

Ordinance 2023-04 – Annexation of land and right-of-way in the Town of Troy to the City of River Falls (Parcel Identification Numbers (PIDS) 040113010000 and 040113295025 at County Highway U and County Highway M); and applying a Zoning Classification of A – Agriculture District – First Reading  
**At 7:28 p.m., Mayor Toland moved into a public hearing and asked for comments. As there were no comments, the mayor moved back into Open Session at 7:29 p.m. Council did not have questions.**

Ordinance 2023-05 – Annexation of the western portion of land and right-of-way in the Town of Troy to the City of River Falls (Parcel Information Number (PID) 040113295101 on County Highway M); and applying a Zoning Classification of R-3 Multifamily (High Density) Residence District to the westernmost portion and C – Conservancy District to the eastern portion of the annexation area – First Reading

**At 7:29 p.m., Mayor Toland moved into a public hearing and asked for comments. As there were no comments, the mayor moved back into Open Session at 7:30 p.m. Council did not have questions.**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Acknowledgement of the following minutes: Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 2/15/2023; Library Board – 1/9/2023; 2/6/23; Plan Commission – 2/7/23; Historic Preservation Commission – 3/8/23; BID Board – 1/10/23

Resolution Approving the Specific Implementation Plan for Oak Hill →→***pulled by Carow***

Resolution No. 6757 - Approving the Preliminary Plat for Oak Hill

Resolution No. 6758 - Approving the Development Agreement for Oak Hill

Resolution Approving the Specific Implementation Plan for The Current →→***pulled by Carow***

Resolution No. 6759 - Approving the Development Agreement for The Current

Resolution No. 6760 - Directing Staff to Make a Reasonable Accommodation for a Group Home at W9194 Hwy 29

Resolution No. 6761 - Approving Purchase of Taxi Vehicle

Change of Agent for Tattersall Companies, LLC. →→***pulled by Morrisette***

Resolution No. 6762 - Approving Uncollectible EMS Accounts for Fiscal Year 2022

**MSC Odeen/Morrisette moved to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6763 - Approving the Specific Implementation Plan for Oak Hill

Aldersperson Carow asked for project information. Simpson provided details on the Oak Hill residential project on South Apollo Road and West Maple Street. **MSC Carow/Morrisette moved to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6764 - Approving the Specific Implementation Plan for The Current

Aldersperson Carow asked for project information. Simpson provided details on the Current residential project. **MSC Carow/Morrisette moved to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Change of Agent for Tattersall Companies, LLC.

Aldersperson Morrisette asked Kodi Satra to come forward for questions. Morrisette asked Satra if she understood the role of an agent; if she possessed her responsible server's certificate; and if she understood if an alcohol-related violation occurs and she is not present, she is still responsible. Satra answered yes to all. **MSC Morrisette/Downing move to approve change of agent. Unanimous.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution No. 6765 - Amending the City's Uncollectible Policy

**MSC Morrissette/Bjerstedt move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

**REPORTS:**

Comptroller's Report for February 2023

Comptroller Odeen read the following report: General Fund revenues through the end of February were \$3,504,859 or 27.4 percent of total budgeted revenues for the year. Revenues in February included \$2,353,635 in general property tax and \$276,033 in state facilities revenue. Expenditures through the end of February were \$1,827,625 or 14.3 percent of total budget expenditures for the year. As of February 28, 2023, net revenues over expenditures were \$1,677,234.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

***At 7:42 p.m., MS Morrissette/Odeen move to recess into Closed Session per Wisconsin State Statutes for the following purposes: § 19.85(1)(c) “considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercise responsibility, to wit: City Administrator”.***  
**The roll call vote to move into Closed Session passed unanimously with all voting in favor.**

**RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:**

**MSC Mueller/Bjerstedt move back into Open Session at 7:55 p.m. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6766 - Approving City Administrator Employment Agreement

**MSC Bjork/Mueller move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

**MSC Bjerstedt/Morrissette move to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk