



**City of Madison**  
**Meeting Minutes - Final**  
**COMMON COUNCIL**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE**

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

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Tuesday, February 7, 2006

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 103A (City-County Building)

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## CALL TO ORDER

**Ald. Paul Van Rooy called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.**

**Present:** Ald. Paul J. Van Rooy, Ald. Zachariah Brandon, Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Ald. Isadore Knox, Jr. and Ald. Larry Palm

**Absent:** Ald. Santiago Rosas, Ald. Austin W. King and Ald. Brenda K. Konkel

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve January 3, 2006 meeting minutes.

**A motion was made by Ald. Skidmore, seconded by Ald. Knox, Jr., to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by acclamation.**

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

**Ald. Paul Skidmore moved, seconded by Ald. Larry Palm to table Agenda Item No. 2 - Legislative File No. 02553: Military Leave Pay ordinance to see if Ald. Judy Compton would arrive to speak to the ordinance. Motion was approved.**

**Ald. Austin King arrived at 4:35 p.m.**

**Present:** Ald. Paul J. Van Rooy, Ald. Zachariah Brandon, Ald. Austin W. King, Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Ald. Isadore Knox, Jr. and Ald. Larry Palm

**Absent:** Ald. Santiago Rosas and Ald. Brenda K. Konkel

### 02643

Re-Draft Ordinance - Amending Section 2.20 of the Madison General Ordinances to clarify procedures by which the Mayor may address the Common Council.

**A motion was made by Ald. Brandon, seconded by Ald. Knox, Jr., to Approve City Attorney Michael May presented the redrafted ordinance for review. The ordinance will be put into final format, introduced to Council and referred to a future Common Council meeting for action. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Absent:** Rosas and Konkel

**Aye:** Van Rooy, Brandon, King, Knox, Jr. and Palm

**Abstain:** Skidmore

**Ald. Brenda Konkel arrived at 5:04 p.m. Ald. Santiago Rosas arrived at 5:08 p.m.**

**Present:** Ald. Paul J. Van Rooy, Ald. Santiago Rosas, Ald. Zachariah Brandon, Ald. Austin W. King, Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Ald. Isadore Knox, Jr., Ald. Larry Palm and Ald. Brenda K. Konkel

02846

Discussion of Madison Police Department and Council Communications

**Madison Police Department Chief, Noble Wray, was present for the discussion on Common Council and Police Department communication issues.**

**Chief Wray indicated that he had reviewed an email from Ald. Robbie Webber regarding MPD press releases and the ability to supply that information to the Common Council. Press releases are generated by Public Information Officer, Mike Hanson weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. After hours, press releases regarding incidents are produced by the Officer In Charge (OIC). Press releases are currently available on the Madison Police Department website at: <<http://www.cityofmadison.com/wsc/pdpress.wsc/pdpressrelease>>**

**Chief Wray stated his expectations were that the district captains were meeting annually with the district alder(s) and discussing how the alder wished to receive information about incidents in their districts. He further explained that the MPD contact notification procedure requires the OIC to notify the district captain or lieutenant if a major incident occurs after work hours (example, 2:00 a.m.). The captain or lieutenant will have the most current and best information available. Press releases contain only basic information on the incident and could be sent out 2 or 3 hours after an incident has occurred. Chief Wray indicated that he (or Assistant Chief Randy Gaber) should be notified if there is a breakdown in communication between a district captain and the alder. It was important to him that the Police Department and elected officials have an effective working relationship.**

**The following were comments from the CCOC members:**

**Ald. Isadore Knox:** He noted that his experience as a new alder with the police department was that he felt he was the "low man on the totem pole" in terms of receiving information. Significant staff changes in his police district may have contributed to this problem. He also noted that he initiated the contact with the district captain and felt that there may have been some miscommunication on notification expectations. There are times he still hears about major incidents from the residents in his district and not from the police department. He thought information on incidents that constituents or the media would contact alders would be the most valuable to be notified.

**Ald. Paul Skidmore:** He noted that his experience with the police department was a very positive one. He has instructed the police district to contact him if the incident would be "above the fold" of the newspaper. He felt that he and the police department have reached a good expectation level on when to contact him. He also encouraged alders to attend their district in-service, as it is an important opportunity to introduce yourself, give out your cell phone number and let the police know what your expectations are. He noted that alders should insinuate themselves with the police district and not wait for a captain to contact you.

**Ald. Larry Palm:** He noted that he also had to instigate contact with his district

captain. The police never discussed an information distribution plan with him. There was an instance on Milwaukee Street where there was a bicycle fatality and he was not contacted by the police department. He thought that these types of incidents deserved a contact.

Ald. Zach Brandon: Officer Hanson lives in his district and does keep him apprised of incidents. But some incidents do "slip through the cracks". The most notable example was the pipe bomb on East Pass. Ald. Brandon asked the Chief if he could develop a baseline directive that would assist the captains in knowing what incidents would require a timely contact.

Ald. Austin King: Alders could be another layer for disseminating information to neighborhood listservs.

Ald. Brenda Konkel: She has had a good relationship in the past with police captains. Now she is experiencing some lapses in contact. She has noted in the past that people on listservs, that she is also a member of, have information on incidents before she does.

Ald. Paul Van Rooy: He indicated that he has met with the district captain and stops by on a regular basis to get information. This arrangement works well for him.

Chief Wray noted two issues that needed to be addressed:

1. A performance component issue - the captains should be contacting alders.
2. A protocol development issue - he will meet with captains to develop a protocol on contacting alders.

Ald. Austin King asked about the police district lines being redrawn and the possibility of having lines drawn so that major streets would have only one aldermanic district versus split between aldermanic districts (example, S. Park Street). He thought that it would assist in communication issues where it was unclear on whose aldermanic district the incident occurred in. Chief Wray indicated that the report on district lines will be before the PSRB and Council and he will note that this concern be addressed.

Chief Wray will return to CCOC with a draft protocol for the next CCOC meeting. Ald. Paul Skidmore suggested that the Fire Department Chief Amesqua be invited to attend a future CCOC meeting to discuss communication issues between the Madison Fire Department and Council.

[02858](#)

Memo from City Attorney, Michael May, dated 1/31/06 re: Proposed Revisions to Chapter 3 - MGO

City Attorney Michael May indicated that this was part of his work plan for the year. The revision of MGO Chapter 3 would be a two-step process:

1. Reorganize Chapter 3 so that ordinances that are related to each other are next to each other.
2. Revise sections by placing certain provisions elsewhere.

The process also breaks up Chapter 3 into five separate chapters:

Chapter 3A - Organization, Offices and Departments  
Chapter 3B - Qualifications of Officials and Employees  
Chapter 3C - Compensation and Civil Service  
Chapter 3D - Elections  
Chapter 3E - Open Meetings and Public Records

He would also move all committee, commission and board sections to Chapter 33 and then they will all be in one place and the Department of Civil Rights will be moved to new Chapter 39.

Michael May questioned the need to have all city positions listed in the Madison General Ordinances Chapter 3 and asked whether this could be done through another venue such as an APM or resolution (versus ordinance changes).

Ald. Paul Van Rooy wondered why the Council was dealing with personnel matters since they seemed to be minor and could be handled through the HR Department.

Michael May stated that the Council could elect to do this another way.

Ald. Zach Brandon recalled that there was a time when Council voted "no" on a reclass.

Ald. Brenda Konkel thought it would be a better idea to do personnel changes by resolution because they would have a fiscal note anyway. She thought then you could have all the changes on one piece of legislation versus one ordinance for each change.

Ald. Konkel questioned the need to have committees in one section and departments in another. Michael May hopes to cross reference committees and departments so that people would know that they need to go somewhere else to get the information.

Michael May asked CCOC members to provide him with any feedback to the proposed changes in the next two weeks.

## NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Ald. Paul Skidmore moved to take Agenda Item No. 2 off the table, seconded by Ald. Zach Brandon. Motion was approved.

### 02553

Amending Section 3.36(11) of the Madison General Ordinances to modify the pay differential and leave accumulation for employees on military leave and provide Veteran's Day leave for employees who are veterans.

A motion was made by Ald. Brandon, seconded by Ald. Skidmore, to Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

Ald. Judy Compton will be invited to attend the March 7, 2006 CCOC meeting. The motion passed by acclamation.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ald. King, seconded by Ald. Skidmore, to Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m. The motion passed by acclamation.