



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 1, 2011

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 -

Mark Clear; Lauren Cnare; Bryon A. Eagon; Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Ald. Chris Schmidt; Michael Schumacher and Tim Bruer

Excused: 1 -

Marsha A. Rummel

Others Attending: Ald. Bridget Maniaci, Ald. Thuy Pham-Remmele, Ray Harmon (Mayoral Assistant), Chris Klein (Mayoral Assistant), Jeremy Shepherd, Mario Mendoza (Legislative Analyst), Brad Wirtz (HR Director), Janet Piraino (Mayor's Chief of Staff), Tom Carto (Overture Center Director), Anika Wright (Overture Center), David Remmele, and Kristin Czubkowski (TCT)

Ald. Mark Clear, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ald. Tim Bruer, seconded by Ald. Chris Schmidt, to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2011 CCOC meeting. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals from members.

Ald. Marsha Rummel arrived at 4:35 p.m.

Present: 8 -

Mark Clear; Lauren Cnare; Bryon A. Eagon; Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Marsha A. Rummel; Ald. Chris Schmidt; Michael Schumacher and Tim Bruer

REFERRAL FROM COMMON COUNCIL

21020

Creating Sec. 33.33 of the Madison General Ordinances to create the Sister City Collaboration Committee.

Sponsors: David J. Cieslewicz

A motion was made by Ald. Tim Bruer, seconded by Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER . The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 -

Clear; Cnare; Eagon; Bidar-Sielaff; Ald. Schmidt and Schumacher

Abstentions: 1 -

Rummel

Non Voting: 1 -

Bruer

Discussion on the Overture Center transition was tabled until Overture Center representatives and Janet Piraino were available for the discussion.

DISCUSSION ITEM

21208

Report from Jeremy Shepherd (Martin Schreiber & Associates Inc): City of Madison's lobbyist before state government

Attachments: [2011-2012 Madison State Government Priorities](#)

Mario Mendoza, Legislative Analyst, Chris Klein, Mayoral Assistant and Jeremy Shepherd, Martin Schreiber & Associates Inc. were in attendance for the discussion. Mr. Mendoza stated that the Mayor's Office is transitioning his duties (state government relations) to Chris Klein and that was why they were both in attendance. Mr. Mendoza then introduced Jeremy Shepherd as the City's new lobbyist to the State Capitol. Mr. Shepherd shared his background with the members of the CCOC; started in politics in 1998, sociology major and with a criminal justice minor degree, had worked with State Senators Dale Schultz, Steve Freese, Cheryl Albers and Ted Kanavas. He recently worked as a lobbyist for the Wisconsin Bankers Association. He joined Martin Schreiber & Associates six months ago.

Mr. Mendoza distributed the document entitled: "2011-2012 City of Madison State Government Priorities" which outlined the city's top priorities. He noted that most of their lobbying efforts would be spent on interactions between the state budget and city revenues. They want to be strategic and focused to prevent any further erosion in shared revenue and other state aid payments. They would also be working to maintain Dane County's RTA, funding for the K-12 educational system and funding of the UW System.

Mr. Shepherd stated that there would many challenges but also many opportunities in the upcoming State budget process. He noted that one of the biggest challenges would be closing a \$3.3 billion hole in the 2011-2013 budget. He stated that opportunities would appear in the form of reshaping

government. He anticipated the Governor offering "tools" for cities to place in their "toolboxes". Mr. Shepherd believed one tool would be in the area of public employees. The Governor would be introducing his budget on 2/22/11 and stated that he had stated that he would not include policy initiatives. The budget would then go to the Joint Finance Committee. After that it would go to the Assembly and Senate to pass by 7/1/11.

Mr. Shepherd noted that there were 38 new representatives (with 25 being very conservative) that would need to be educated on actions and consequences of decisions. He would frame/shape his lobbying efforts around the need for new jobs and the creation of new economy ideas for the city and the county.

Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff asked if Medicaid cuts could be tied into loss of health care jobs. Mr. Mendoza made note of the suggestion.

Ald. Marsha Rummel asked if they could look into improvement of the rail beds to allow freight to move faster and become more competitive. She noted it would also create green economy opportunities. Mr. Shepherd thought the "green" the state legislators were looking into was monetary vs. green energy options but there may be opportunities to pursue some of these initiatives.

Ald. Tim Bruer asked where Mr. Shepherd thought revenue sharing rated. Mr. Shepherd believed it would take a hit but was not sure how much of a hit at this time. Ald. Bruer noted that there are several communities (e.g. Kenosha, Racine, etc.) that are more dependent on shared revenue compared to Madison. Mr. Shepherd stated that if the conservatives think the Governor doesn't go far enough they would. Mr. Shepherd was not optimistic about retaining current shared revenues or payment for municipal services. He thought the current administration and legislature are serious about fixing the structural deficit that the State continues to find itself in and this would cause a lot of fiscal pain around the state.

Ald. Bryon Eagon asked if the city was taking positions on issues such as super-majority vote, voter ID, K-12 funding and stem cell research. Mr. Klein stated that the super-majority issued had passed and that the city opposed the voter ID bill, cutting 4-year old kindergarten and cutting stem cell research money (recently met with the UW).

Ald. Chris Schmidt asked if the RTA was part of the toolkit for economic development. Mr. Shepherd stated that currently there are three different approaches they are seeing with the RTA: 1. complete repeal of RTA legislation, 2. only going after Dane County's RTA or 3. tweaking the RTA legislation. Ald. Schumacher stated that his constituents were generally in support of the RTA but not the sales tax component of RTA.

Ald. Eagon asked if there was any headway in changing the school funding formula. Mr. Shepherd stated that the proposal by the DPI was met with a cool reaction.

Ald. Mark Clear asked if the projected \$3.3 billion deficit included the \$700 million tax cut they passed last week. Mr. Shepherd stated that it would add to the deficit and the State was also short \$250 million to close this year out.

Ald. Clear asked how helpful the Madison delegation was at protecting the

interests of the city and if alders needed to lobby their respective representatives. Mr. Shepherd stated that the Madison delegation still had a voice and was important in discussions.

Ald. Michael Schumacher noted that the League of WI Municipalities is also another source of influence in lobbying the State.

CCOC members requested Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Klein to attend the March 1, 2011 CCOC meeting to provide an update on the State budget and its impacts on the city and lobbying efforts.

UPDATE

[21221](#)

Update: Overture Center Transition - Anika Wright (Overture Transition Manager), Janet Piraino (Mayor's Chief of Staff) & Overture Center Staff

Attachments: [Overture Center Transition Teams and Timeline](#)

Anika Wright, Tom Carto, and Janet Piraino were available to provide an update on the Overture Center transition. Ms. Piraino reviewed the membership of the transition team (see attachment to the legislative file). They have been discussing employee transition issues - specifically and generally. She also noted that they also talk about communicating transition progress to the Council and to staff, timelines and performance contracts. Mr. Carto introduced Ms. Wright as Overture Center's transition project manager and the direct contact for staff to answer their questions and to gather their input.

Ms. Wright provided members with a Overture Transition graph that included an external transition team, an internal transition team and various subgroups. The chart also provided a snapshot of their timeline for various portions of the structural agreement:

3/1/11 Job descriptions/employment terms
3/1/11 City performance contract
7/1/11 Employment offers to employees
9/1/11 Employees respond to offer

Mr. Carto stated that there are a number of timelines within the structural agreement and internal deadlines over the next 10+ months that have to be tracked.

Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff asked how realistic it was to have job descriptions and employment terms drafted by March 1. Mr. Carto explained that part of the challenge was developing the final organizational chart because the strategic planning had not been completed. He noted that currently job descriptions don't look very different from the current city job descriptions. He stated that Ms. Wright would be meeting with staff to make sure that the new job description aligned with what the work the employee currently performs. The cost of benefits won't be known until they know how many employees would be working at the Overture. They would offer health benefits and 401K benefits. Ald. Bidar-Sielaff stated that it was not only important to offer benefits but employees would need to know how much those benefits would

cost.

Ald. Lauren Cnare asked if Ms. Wright was on-site. Ms. Wright stated that she had an office at Overture and staff had been very responsive and willing to work through transition issues. Ald. Cnare asked if they had a sense of how many employees would be staying with Overture. Ms. Piraino stated that now that the larger question of ownership has been answered, employees were generally concerned about issues that would impact them directly. She noted that employees are asking more questions and that members of the transition team (herself, Brad Wirtz, etc.) are available to talk with them.

Mr. Wirtz stated that they have worked out an agreement with Local 60 relative to bumping/displacement that could occur during the transition and that it didn't look like it would not be too disruptive due to vacancies that would be occurring during the year.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

20336

Discussion on Mayor's Aldermanic Appointments to City Committees - Requested by Ald. Thuy Pham-Remmele & CCOC

Attachments: [Committee Appointment Process - Alders](#)
[Appointment Process Research Results \(2010\)](#)

Janet Piraino, Ald. Thuy Pham-Remmele and Ald. Bridget Maniaci were present for the discussion.

Ald. Mark Clear noted that the Mayor's citizen appointment process was discussed at a previous CCOC meeting. He stated that before them tonight was a discussion on the Mayor's alder appointment process.

Ald. Pham-Remmele asked Ald. Michael Schumacher if he was pleased with the research results provided by Lisa Veldran, Administrative Assistant, on appointment processes in other municipalities. Ald. Schumacher stated that he was satisfied with the results and that what was provided was a snapshot of other municipalities from a broad range in population, form of government, etc. Ald. Schumacher stated that he was more interested in a council discussion on the form of government (mayor/council vs. city manager/council or city administrator/council). He stated that if the city wanted to make any changes he suggested they wait one full mayoral election cycle before implementing.

Ald. Pham-Remmele was disappointed with the results of the compilation - it was too simplified. She would want to see Madison as a baseline and compared to other similar sized cities and this did not give her that. The chart was only for citizen appointments and not alder appointments. She could not work with the results.

Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff asked Ald. Pham-Remmele what changes to the current aldermanic appointment process she wanted CCOC to review and if she needed more information. Ald. Schumacher stated that he had requested Ms. Veldran to conduct research on citizen appointments and he never asked to look at alder appointments.

Ald. Marsha Rummel asked if there was any way to appeal the Mayor's alder

appointments because it was not in the memo.

Ald. Bridget Maniaci wanted to know if her council comparable results could be used in comparing committee appointments. She would support an appeal process and citizen appointments going through the Mayor's Office and alder appointments going through the Council Office. She was also questioned the number of alders on committees (example: Pedestrian/Bike/Motor/Vehicle Commission had four alders). She stated that the council needed to discuss appointment structure, committee structure, compensation levels and staffing levels as a total package.

Ald. Schumacher stated there was no way to pull out the political aspect in making appointments to committees but that you could set up structures that supported decorum and etiquette and in turn supported collaboration. The question should be was it serving the Council as it moved forward on big issues (Edgewater, Overture) and how many issues had not become problems because the system was working. He thought a scenario where council leadership made appointments could also become politicized. The Mayor had the appointing authority but the Council could have some shared responsibility. The first step should be gauging if the Council wants to do something before wasting time on this issue.

Ald. Mark Clear asked Ms. Veldran to contact the municipalities about their aldermanic appointments and merge that data with what had been collected already.

Ald. Schumacher stated that you can't overlook human dialog and that it is as important as the appointment process.

Ald. Tim Bruer noted that the Council had, as the legislative branch, taken up restructuring the city's committee structure at least four times and the results had not resulted in a significant reduction in committees.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ald. Marsha Rummel, seconded by Ald. Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, to adjourn . The motion passed by voice vote/other. The meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.