



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
COMMON COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

4:30 PM

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

Present: Michael E. Verveer, Brenda K. Konkel, Satya V. Rhodes Conway and Robbie Webber

Absent: Tim Bruer, Judy Compton and Michael Schumacher

Excused: Joseph R. Clausius

Others Present: City Attorney Michael May, Mayoral Assistant George Twigg, Ald. Zach Brandon, Brian Benford, Rosemary Lee, Vicki Kratz, and Cheryl Elkington

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Common Council Organizational Committee minutes from March 6, 2007.

A motion was made by Konkel, seconded by Webber, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by acclamation.

Ald. Judy Compton arrived at 4:42 p.m.

Present: Michael E. Verveer, Brenda K. Konkel, Satya V. Rhodes Conway, Robbie Webber and Judy Compton

Absent: Tim Bruer and Michael Schumacher

Excused: Joseph R. Clausius

REFERRAL FROM COMMON COUNCIL

06008

Amending Section 3.03 and creating Section 3.015 of the Madison General Ordinances to establish term limits for the Mayor and Alderpersons.

Sponsors: Brian Benford

Refer to a CCOC meeting in 90 days (August 7, 2007 meeting).

A motion was made by Konkel, seconded by Webber, to Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on August 7, 2007

Registrants:

Brian Benford, 2502 E. Mifflin Street, Supported/Spoke

Rosemary Lee, 111 W. Wilson Street, Opposed/Spoke

Brian Benford spoke in support of the ordinance and provided an explanation of why he introduced the ordinance before he retired from the Council (see attached memo dated March 20, 2007, entitled "Term Limits). He noted that there is power in incumbency and feels that it dissuades others from running for office. He wanted to see a public discussion (public hearing) on this issue to occur along with the conversation on public financing.

Ald. Brenda Konkel asked Mr. Benford if the CCOC should refer this item for 120 days or 90 days. Mr. Benford didn't want to see the ordinance "killed" at CCOC. He wanted CCOC to hold a public hearing and time it so that it coincided with the discussion on public financing. Ald. Konkel thought that the blue ribbon committee would come back with recommendations within 90 days.

Rosemary Lee spoke in opposition to the ordinance. She stated that the incumbent may be an asset to the district and the city. She indicated that their constituents would take care of aldermanic terms by voting to return the incumbent (or not).

Ald. Zach Brandon spoke in favor the ordinance and supported a public hearing.

Ald. Judy Compton indicated that she would be voting no. She saw the value in holding a public hearing and if the ordinance would go forward she would suggest amending it to change current language to read that Mayoral term limits would be 2 terms (vs. 3) and Aldermanic term limits would be 5 terms (vs. 4). She believed that alder terms should be longer than the mayor's term. The motion passed by the following vote:

Absent: Bruer and Schumacher

Excused: Clausius

Aye: Verveer, Konkel, Rhodes Conway and Webber

No: Compton

Ald. Tim Bruer arrived at 4:47 p.m. Ald. Michael Schumacher arrived at 4:52 p.m.

Present: Michael E. Verveer, Tim Bruer, Brenda K. Konkel, Satya V. Rhodes Conway, Robbie Webber, Judy Compton and Michael Schumacher

Excused: Joseph R. Clausius

DISCUSSION ITEMS

[05581](#)

Discussion Item - Sponsorship Process for Substitute Ordinances/Resolutions

Attachments: Draft Memo re: Procedures for Alternates and Substitute Ordinances and Resolutions (5/22/07), APM 3-1, Definitions: Substitute, Alternate and Amended Ordinances, Draft Memo re: Procedures for Alternates and Substitute Ordinances and Resolutions (3/20/07), Draft Memo re: Procedures for Alternates and Substitute Ordinances and Resolutions (3/6/07), Substitute Procedure Memo 3/1/07 from T. Peters/M. May, M. May Email "Substitute Ordinances" dated 1/10/07, T. Peters Memo "Substitutes" dated 2/7/07, Ald. Golden Memo "Sponsorship and Substitute" dated 2/6/07

This matter was Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on June 5, 2007 City Attorney Michael May reviewed the current draft memo on procedures for Alternate/Substitute Ordinances and Resolutions for CCOC members. He suggested that the document come from his office, Clerk's Office and Council Office. He also suggested the APM 3-1 (Administrative Procedures Memo) be updated when these procedures are finalized.

Ald. Brenda Konkel had questions about the sponsorship process and how original sponsors are notified of substitute ordinances/resolutions being created. She noted alders are not able to respond quickly to agencies that are drafting substitutes whether the alders wishes to remain as a sponsor on a substitute.

Ald. Judy Compton noted that Council staff can assist in reaching alders when a response is needed quickly.

Michael May said a simple solution could be that the original sponsor stays on even if it is a substitute and the alder the would request that they be taken off if they objected to the substitute.

Ald. Brenda Konkel wanted to see all the recommendations of the committees listed available to the Council. She also noted that the original and previous versions of ordinances or resolutions are not available in Legistar.

Ald. Michael Schumacher would like to see committee reports attached in Legistar, particularly if they are recommending changes to the original piece of legislation.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway listed the following issues she gathered from the discussion:

1. Issue of accessibility of multiple versions of legislation in Legistar (historical significance)
2. Issue of version management - when a committee is suggesting a change that it becomes incorporated.
3. Issue of notification of sponsors: is a opt-out choice vs. opt-in choice and is not a current practice.
4. Issue of receiving reports from various committees not just the lead referral committee in Legistar.

Ald. Konkel questioned the order of sponsors and why the Mayor is listed first and the lead sponsor is listed second. City Attorney May and Council staff indicated that it was a practice of courtesy. Legistar can list sponsors by order if needed.

Ald. Robbie Webber indicated that the discussion/recommendations of each referral committee for each piece of legislation should be available to the Council. Council staff indicated that could be done by generating history lines for individual pieces of legislation.

CCOC requested that City Attorney provide a revised draft directive (memo) to agencies and a copy of the current APM 3-1 (in order to incorporate changes) to CCOC members to be discussed at the June 5, 2007 CCOC meeting. The motion passed.

06051

Discussion Item: Madison General Ordinance Chapter 2 - by Ald. Brenda Konkel

Attachments: Ald. Konkel's Suggested MGO 2 Changes

This matter was Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on June 5, 2007 Ald. Brenda Konkel originally requested the "Order of Business" found in Chapter 2 be reviewed and revised. She requested that this be expanded and that CCOC review the entire Madison General Ordinances Chapter 2 (Council Standing Rules). She distributed a copy of Chapter 2 and her notes for 77 suggested changes, questions and thoughts to the chapter.

She wanted to know if the CCOC wanted to create a subcommittee or have the City Attorney work on the changes.

Ald. Michael Schumacher asked what the purpose was for Ald. Konkel's rewrites. Ald. Konkel indicated that the main purpose was to align the ordinances with current practices or deciding current practices are wrong and they should follow the ordinance. She noted that there may be some substantive changes.

Ald. Michael Verveer noted that the CCOC had a subcommittee on public input and access that addressed some of these issues, particularly suspending the rules at the start of each Council meeting. Ald. Verveer's preference was to do this review without creating a subcommittee and that CCOC members review Ald. Konkel's proposed changes to Chapter 2 for the next CCOC meeting.

CCOC requested that this discussion item be referred to June 5, 2007 CCOC meeting. Council staff will forward a copy of the document with Ald. Konkel's notes to CCOC members for further input. The motion passed.

06417

Discussion Item: Tracking reports requested by the Common Council - Ald. Brenda Konkel

A motion was made by Compton, seconded by Rhodes Conway, to Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on June 5, 2007 Ald. Brenda Konkel requested this discussion item. She wanted to know if there was a mechanism the City Clerk's Office uses to track when reports (requested by resolution) are due back to the Council or when ordinances have upcoming sunset dates.

She wanted to know how the Common Council is made aware of when reports are not being submitted by a deadline date (established with an adopted resolution). Was it up to the city staff person to alert Council? Or are was there a central tracking mechanism to alert city staff and Council that a deadline is approaching?

Lisa Veldran noted that it was a manual process when she worked in the Clerk's Office. She was not sure how it was being done now.

Council staff will inquire of the City Clerk if they have a tracking mechanism and report back to the CCOC on June 5, 2007. The motion passed by acclamation.

[06418](#)

Discussion Item: Public Use of Legistar - Suggested Improvements - Ald. Brenda Konkel

Attachments: Memo dated 5/15/07 from Ald. Konkel

This matter was Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on June 5, 2007 Ald. Brenda Konkel reviewed her memo dated May 15, 2007, entitled "Public Use of Legistar":

List of items she noted:

1. When searching for an item, if the Legistar search returns over 200 items, you can't get the information. This is problematic because it includes searching by sponsor name.
2. You can't get the voting records of alderpersons.
3. Can't print the master file and if you print only the legislative file you have no date or reference.
4. The legislative file for ALRC recommendations should include the recommendation in each individual file.
5. Some information is passed out at City Committees and not later added to the legislative file as attachments.
6. Some committees don't even try to make information available in Legistar.
7. It appears there is a need for additional staff training.
8. When you go to the agenda page, it would be more convenient if it started on the month we are in.
9. It would be easier if the weekly meeting schedule linked directly to the agenda.
10. The link to Legistar on the City's home page should say something other than "City Hall", it needs to be more descriptive.
11. There are minutes missing from several meetings especially on the additional meetings portion of the website.
12. In the people search, some of the committees are wrong.
13. We should be able to see all versions of ordinances and resolutions not just the latest version (substitutes).
14. Reports of absences should be available online.
15. Several files on the same issues don't have all the same attachments.
16. Last action listed last on agenda or council action listed last, so the council agendas are easier to read.

Ald. Michael Schumacher noted that as a new user to Legistar the interface is not very user-friendly. He has issues with the interface and attaching the substantive data to the legislation.

Lisa Veldran indicated that she is a member of staff work group working on the Legistar upgrade (L5) and that she would take the questions/issues to the work group to answer. Ald. Konkel also requested that the entire Council be sent the list of issues and asked to add any other specific items.

CCOC members also requested that Information Services staff who heads the project attend the June 5, 2007 to provide an update on the Legistar upgrade. The motion passed.

06419

Discussion Item: Common Council Legislative Analyst Position

Attachments: Position Descriptions: Council, Mayor, County, Various Cities

This matter was Rerefer to the **COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE**, due back on June 5, 2007 Ald. Brenda Konkel indicated that there is a need for a Council staff person devoted to specifically to provide research to Common Council members.

Ald. Michael Schumacher noted that given the complexity of legislation it would be a benefit to the Council to have their own legislative analyst.

Ald. Tim Bruer stated that the legislative analyst position had been discussed by Council members in the past and he supported revisiting the need for the position.

Ald. Mike Verveer and Ald. Tim Bruer will discuss adding this position in the 2008 budget with the Mayor at their next Leadership Meeting. They will report back to the June 5, 2007 CCOC meeting. Lisa Veldran will provide information from the CCOC Subcommittee to Study Staffing Needs and provide job descriptions from other cities. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Compton, seconded by Bruer, Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. The motion passed by acclamation.