



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
COMMON COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, July 3, 2007

4:30 PM

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

Present: Tim Bruer, Brenda K. Konkell, Satya V. Rhodes Conway, Robbie Webber, Michael Schumacher and Joseph R. Clausius

Excused: Michael E. Verveer and Judy Compton

Others Present: Dean Brasser, City Comptroller, Deb Simon, Comptroller's Office, Michael May, City Attorney, Janet Piraino, Mayor's Chief of Staff, Rebecca Cnare, Interim Mayoral Assistant, Joe Grande, Water Utility Department and Rosemary Lee

Ald. Tim Bruer called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Common Council Organizational Committee minutes from June 5, 2007.

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

ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

Ald. Judy Compton arrived at 4:37 p.m.

Present: Tim Bruer, Brenda K. Konkell, Satya V. Rhodes Conway, Robbie Webber, Judy Compton, Michael Schumacher and Joseph R. Clausius

Excused: Michael E. Verveer

06668

Establishing rules and procedures for Common Council deliberation on the City of Madison's 2008 Capital and Operating Budgets.

Sponsors: Michael E. Verveer

Attachments: Calendar.pdf

A motion was made by Compton, seconded by Rhodes Conway, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES Dean Brasser (City Comptroller) and Deb Simon (Comptroller's Office) were present to discuss the resolution.

Ald. Brenda Konkel stated that she did not have a problem with the calendar but with the Council input and informational process during budget deliberations. She noted that there was usually a scheduled Council question and answer-type meeting with the Comptroller on the budget and that alders are invited to attend the Board of Estimates deliberations on the budget. (Ald. Konkel requested that the Clerk's office send an email reminding committee staff not to schedule meetings during Board of Estimates budget deliberation nights.)

Ald. Tim Bruer stated that Council Leadership would work with the Comptroller's Office develop a vehicle well in advance of the budget deliberations that would provide technical assistance and encourage an environment where alders would be well-oriented on the budget process. He noted that even seasoned alders needed to have a refresher course on the budget process. He envisioned a budget retreat that would be more interactive and would include spending priorities for the city-at-large and for individual districts (e.g. traffic calming, etc..)

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway had the following thoughts about the budget process:

1. Public participation would be a separate issue
2. A possible process for rookie alder to "survive" the budget process
 - a. another orientation but budget specific
 - b. a chance to process the information from the orientation
 - c. another session to answer specific questions

Dean Brasser noted that the Council President has in the past scheduled a meeting on the budget and that these meetings have followed different formats over the years. He also noted that the earlier in the year this meeting is held the less likely that live information is available. Mr. Brasser noted that ideally he favors putting together budget topics together from specific questions in advance of the meeting versus a lecture on the budget.

Ald. Bruer envisioned a two-part meeting process:

1. Orientation style meeting on the budget
2. Follow-up meeting with specific questions/budget interests

Ald. Michael Schumacher questioned where the outcomes and measures from "Madison Measures" document fit into the budget process. Ald. Brenda Konkel noted that "Madison Measures" indicators were never discussed by the Council and should not be looked at as something that the Council has approved. She also stated that did not think that "Madison Measures" was a bad idea and getting it started was a big undertaking in itself.

Janet Piraino noted that the Mayor uses the indicators contained in the "Madison Measures" document for crafting his Executive Budget. Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway asked if the Mayor would be interested in additional measures suggested by alders. Ms. Piraino indicated that he would be interested and that Andrew Statz could conduct another presentation for alders on "Madison Measures".

Ald. Rhodes-Conway supported having a meeting where specific questions were answered at a meeting but she wanted to know how questions could be compiled in order to avoid alders asking the same questions multiple times and wasting staff time. Ald. Compton thought it would be a good idea to compile the questions now. Ald. Konkell noted that questions tend to come later from the budget discussion and that it would be hard to come up with questions ahead of time.

Ald. Tim Bruer will talk to Ald. Mike Verveer about setting up the budget meetings. He supported compiling questions ahead of time to give department staff time to supply answers. The motion passed by acclamation.

[06571](#)

Amending Section 33.09(2)(d) of the Madison General Ordinances to eliminate the requirement that the alderperson who serves on the Henry Vilas Zoo Commission must be from the district in which the zoo is located.

Sponsors: Julia S. Kerr and David J. Cieslewicz

Attachments: Aldermanic Appts by District .pdf

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

Ald. Michael Schumacher moved, seconded by Ald. Joe Clausius, to recommend adoption of the ordinance.

Ald. Judy Compton wanted to know why the request was made to remove the requirement that a District 13 alder serve on the Zoo Commission.

Ald. Michael Schumacher hypothesized that the alder may have received many committee appointments and those appointments where a specific district alder serve may have been one too many for this alder.

Ald. Brenda Konkel was concerned that alders have to serve on numerous committees and thought the committee should know if there is an underlying uneven distribution that should be assessed.

Ald. Judy Compton moved an amendment, seconded by Ald. Brenda Konkel:

"To eliminate the requirement that the alderperson must be from the where the zoo is located, however the alderperson from the district has first right of refusal..."

Ald. Michael Schumacher questioned whether there were other committees that required a specific district alder to serve. Ald. Tim Bruer requested that the Mayor's Office provide information on what committees require a specific district alder to serve.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway stated that there is a reason specific district alders are appointed to certain committees. Ald. Joe Clausius did not want to set a precedent by voting in favor of the ordinance.

Ald. Judy Compton stated that the CCOC should look at the broader issue and not just this one appointment. The motion passed by acclamation.

UPDATES

[06639](#)

Update: Wireless Technology - Rich Beadles, Information Services

A motion was made by Konkel, seconded by Rhodes Conway, to Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on August 7, 2007
Rich Beadles requested that this item be re-referred to the August 7, 2007 CCOC meeting. The motion passed by acclamation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

[06669](#)

Discussion Item: Legislative File No. 06305 - RES-07-00582 - requesting the CCOC make recommendations regarding increasing size of Water Utility Board and receiving regular reports regarding the Water Utility (Common Council adopted 5/15/07)

Attachments: Adopted Resolution Leg. File No. 06305, City Attorney Memo dated 5/31/07, Memo from Ald. Rhodes-Conway re: Water Utility Reports

Michael May indicated that the ordinance relative to the membership on Board of Water Commissioners will be introduced at the August 7, 2007 Common Council meeting.

CCOC members continued discussion on this item relative to the following reports:

1. MGO Section 13.03 to include various reporting requirements to the Common Council.
2. Recommending a list of topics and a procedure for regular report to the Common Council.

Joe Grande, Water Quality Manager, was present to discuss the issue of reports. He noted that many of the reports requested in Ald. Rhodes-Conway's memo dated June 5, 2007 can be answered in two places:

1. By City Engineering
2. Board of Water Commissioners Agenda and Minutes

He stated that Water Utility could do a better job in water quality reporting to the Board of Water Commissioners and the alders. He noted that public information is available on the website such as water quality reports. He also stated that most wells are tested annually so having more than quarterly reports provided would not be very useful.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway noted that there were couple of categories of information that she was interested in:

1. Good first step by providing alders with the Board of Water Commissioners agenda and attachments electronically. A lot of what she detailed in her June 5, 2007 memo now appears on the Board of Water Commissioners agenda and alders are now receiving that information.
2. Water Utility needs to work on notifying an alder when a water utility incident occurs in their district. She would like to see something similar to what Building Inspection provides to the alders (a once a month listing of violations or complaints) or what the Clerk's office provides with the ALRC notification when a liquor license is applied for in the alder's district.

This report from Water Utility would provide, as an example: number of complaints about water pressure, number of complaints about the color of water, etc. She did not want to make it this an burdensome job for staff to put together but alders would like to know even the volume of complaints.

Joe Grande indicated that is something that could be done by aldermanic district.

He thought that this type of report would be best reported through the Board of Water Commissioners.

Ald. Michael Schumacher asked why things needed to go through the Board of Water Commissioners first. He wanted to know if there had been a discussion on this process and wondered why this particular report couldn't just come from the Water Utility?

Joe Grande indicated that this was his personal opinion and was a way of "killing two birds with one stone" and that these reports did not need to go through Board of Water Commissioners first. Mr. Grande noted that he already sends out Water Quality Updates once a month (sometimes twice a month) and that this type of report could also be sent as well.

Michael May indicated that the Board of Water Commissioners would want to get everything the Council receives but the Council may not want everything the Board of Water Commissioners receives so by sending to all alders the alder could choose what information they wanted to view/download.

Ald. Brenda Konkel indicated that it was helpful now that the reports are attached in Legistar. She had a concern about the notification process. She noted that there recently was a water break in her district and that it was in the newspaper but she had not been contacted by Water Utility. She wanted to know if there was some way for Water Utility to notice alders about water breaks, work in the area, etc... She noted that alders could also disseminate the information they receive from Water Utility to neighborhood listservs. Mr. Grande stated that particular incident was an oversight and that this was an area for improvement.

Ald. Judy Compton indicated that she has never had trouble getting information from the Water Utility and she appreciated the new information being provided. She also wanted information from the Water Utility before the press gets it or a neighbor notifies her.

Ald. Rhodes-Conway stated that the following were recommendations about reports Council should receive:

1. Continue to copy ALL ALDERS on all the Board of Water Commissioners agendas and attachments
2. Water Utility work towards developing a way of reporting complaints/calls received that resembles what Building Inspection creates (a brief summary) which is specific to each district:
 - a. by address
 - b. general category/event (e.g. BI - snow removal, trash)
 - c. who is making complaints (see if it is one person in particular that alder may want to follow up with)
3. Alders want to know about water incidents before the press knows - courtesy email (either all alders or specific alder) - emergency situations would be excused

Ald. Tim Bruer requested that Water Utility develop a draft summary report using the criteria above and send it to CCOC members for feedback. He suggested that Water Utility get a copy of Building Inspection's monthly reports that are sent to each Council members to see format that is used.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway also wanted Water Utility to work with alders on disseminating Water Utility information through their neighborhood/district listservs.

06051

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

Attachments: Ald. Konkel's Suggested MGO 2 Changes

Receive

Michael May, City Attorney, thought an efficient way of reviewing this chapter would be to sit down with Ald. Brenda Konkel and review the issues she raised. Ald. Brenda Konkel indicated that she did not want the appearance to be that this was only her work and urged others to assist in the process.

Ald. Judy Compton moved, seconded by Ald. Joe Clausius to create a CCOC subcommittee to work on changes to Madison General Ordinances, Chapter 2 with members to include: Ald. Brenda Konkel, Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway and Ald. Michael Schumacher. Motion was approved unanimously.

06417

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

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

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway thought that just discussing the process would be helpful.

Council staff was asked to request that the City Clerk appear at the August 7, 2007 CCOC meeting to discuss this item. The motion passed by acclamation.

06419

Discussion Item: Common Council Legislative Analyst Position

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

A motion was made by Schumacher, seconded by Konkel, to Refer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

Ald. Tim Bruer requested that a special CCOC meeting to invite all alders to discuss this item be scheduled. The motion passed by acclamation.

[06862](#)

Discussion Item: Proposed 2008 Common Council Meeting Dates.

Attachments: Proposed 2008 Common Council Meeting Dates, MEAC Memo to Mayor and Council President

A motion was made by Konkel, seconded by Rhodes Conway, to Rerefer to the COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE, due back on August 7, 2007 Lisa Veldran, Administrative Assistant, indicated that the attached meeting schedule was drafted according to the request by Madison Election Advisory Committee to not hold Common Council meetings on any election day (not just on municipal election days).

Ald. Robbie Webber expressed concerns about dates bumping regularly scheduled committee meeting dates but was supportive of not holding Council meeting on election days.

Ald. Michael Schumacher asked if Council members haven't shown up for meetings during elections? Ald. Konkel indicated that it is a burden on the Clerk's Office and a problem for poll workers who want to attend Council meetings.

Ald. Judy Compton indicated that she did not think that there was a problem - polls were open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and alders should be able to vote and make it to a Council meeting.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway wanted to know if changing the meeting dates would create extra work for the City Clerk's office staff.

Ald. Brenda Konkel thought Council could change their meetings to the second and fourth Tuesdays versus first and second Tuesdays on the month. She thought this would be beneficial to the other committees.

Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway moved, Ald. Judy Compton seconded to accept the 2008 Common Council meeting dates.

Ald. Judy Compton moved, seconded by Ald. Michael Schumacher to accept the 2008 Common Council meeting dates without the October 28, 2007 date.
Motion failed on a roll call vote:

Noes: Aids. Bruer, Konkel, Webber and Rhodes-Conway (4)

Ayes: Aids. Compton, Schumacher and Clausius (3)

Ald. Brenda Konkel moved, seconded by Ald. Satya Rhodes-Conway to refer this discussion item to the 8/7/07 CCOC meeting. The motion passed by acclamation.

Ald. Mike Verveer arrived at 5:59 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

