



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
COMMON COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

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

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

4:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER

Present: Paul J. Van Rooy, Brenda K. Konkel, Lauren Cnare and Robbie Webber

Absent: Austin W. King, Isadore Knox, Jr., Tim Bruer and Michael E. Verveer

Others Present: Janet Piraino (Mayor's Chief of Staff), George Twigg (Assistant to Mayor)

The meeting was called to order by Ald. Paul Van Rooy at 4:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Common Council Organizational Committee minutes from November 14, 2006.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

05039

Discussion Item - Board of Estimates Budget Deliberations and Scheduling other Committee, Commission and Board Meetings.

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

Ald. Ken Golden requested that CCOC discuss the issue of allowing committee, commissions and boards to meet during the Board of Estimates deliberations on the budget.

Ald. Brenda Konkel believed that the intent of the current ordinance was to free up Common Council members to attend Board of Estimates budget deliberations so that they would be able to ask questions of staff at those meetings rather than taking up time on the Council floor.

Ald. Brenda Konkel thought that this agenda item was part of a broader discussion on the budget process and requested that this be referred.
The motion passed by acclamation.

Ald. Austin King arrived at 4:36 p.m. Ald. Tim Bruer arrived at 4:38 p.m.

Present: Austin W. King, Paul J. Van Rooy, Brenda K. Konkel, Lauren Cnare, Robbie Webber and Tim Bruer

Absent: Isadore Knox, Jr. and Michael E. Verveer

05040

Discussion Item - Allowing registrants to be questioned by the Common Council immediately following testimony on public hearing items.

Receive

Ald. Austin King indicated that Ald. Zach Brandon had requested that CCOC discuss the issue of questioning registrants immediately after they provide testimony versus waiting until all the registrants have spoke to ask an individual questions. (Ald. King noted that this would apply to all agenda items and not just public hearing items.)

The example provided to Ald. King by Ald. Brandon occurred during the 2007 budget process (Todd McGrath had testified and then left and Ald. Brandon had wanted to ask him questions). Ald. King noted that under "Robert's Rules of Order" people who testify before public bodies are not necessarily required to open themselves up for questioning by the body and can decline to be questioned (you have the right to speak without subsequent questioning). He also noted that people don't often "hide" under this rule.

CCOC members discussed what would happen if Council members questioned registrants immediately after they testified:

1. What if a registrant was questioned immediately after their testimony for 45 minutes by Council members, wouldn't this be a disservice to the other registrants waiting to provide testimony?
2. Could the Mayor ask Council members if they had questions for the registrant before calling the next registrant so that the person would not leave the chambers?
3. Ald. King noted that when the Dane County Board has a number of registrants they take 10 registrants at a time and entertain questions from the Board members at that time before taking the next 10 registrants - he thought this approach worked well.

Ald. Austin King agreed to discuss this at the next Leadership Meeting with the Mayor to come up with a solution. Ald. Brenda Konkel stated that she would like to see whatever is decided upon codified in MGO Chapter 2 so that it doesn't get "lost in the shuffle". Ald. King indicated that he would also follow-up with City Attorney Michael May on this request.

05119

Discussion Item - CCOC's role in the referral process as it relates to the reorganization of the City of Madison Planning & Development Department.

Receive

Ald. Brenda Konkel requested that this item be placed on the agenda. She believed that CCOC should be involved in the Planning & Development reorganization process.

Ald. Brenda Konkel wanted to avoid a "train wreck" on the Council floor and thought a discussion on what the issues were before the final vote on the reorganization would be helpful.

Ald. Tim Bruer agreed that the CCOC could vet the reorganization plan before it gets to the Council floor basically acting as a sounding board.

Ald. Austin King stated that he did not wish to see these types of policy issues coming before CCOC (e.g. smoking). Ald. Konkel noted that the committee reorganization within the plan would be the type of issue before the CCOC. Ald. Paul Van Rooy noted that the reorganization of the committees would be the most contentious issue.

Janet Piraino indicated that the Mayor would not fight whatever the body decided. She said that the Mayor doesn't want to bog down the process but continue to move forward with the reorganization. She noted that the ordinance and resolutions are already being introduced and acted upon by committees, commissions and boards.

Ald. Austin King suggested an alternative would be to have the Common Council meet as a Committee of the Whole to discuss the Planning & Development Reorganization after all the committees, commissions and boards have made their decisions on the reorganization ordinance.

Council staff will poll alders on a date to meet as a Committee of the Whole.

Timeline:

Legislative File No. 04859 - Ordinance reorganizing the Planning & Development Department as the Department of Economic and Community Development - Introduced November 7, 2006

Referred to: Board of Estimates, Plan Commission, Economic Development Commission, Community Development Block Grant commission, Community Services Commission and the Mayor for a Public Hearing on November 28, 2006

**Mayor held his public hearing on November 28, 2006
Economic Development Commission on agenda December 6, 2006
CDBG Commission on agenda December 7, 2006
Community Services Commission on agenda December 13, 2006
Plan Commission on agenda December 18, 2006
Board of Estimates on agenda January 8, 2007
Common Council Committee of the Whole - Week of January 29, 2007
Common Council on agenda for February 6, 2007**

05120

Discussion Item - Appointing members to the 2007 CCOC Sister Cities Review Subcommittee.

Approve

The following CCOC members volunteered to serve on the CCOC Sister Cities Grant Review Subcommittee (no Council approval needed):

**Ald. Lauren Cnare, District 3
Ald. Tim Bruer, District 14
Ald. Paul Van Rooy, District 18**

ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Bruer, seconded by Van Rooy, to Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m. The motion passed.**