

**MINUTES
CITY OF JEFFERSON COMMON COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 4, 2003**

The Tuesday, November 4, 2003, meeting of the City of Jefferson Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Brawders. Members present were: Ald. Coffman, Ald. Wagner, Ald. Bare, Ald. Gang, Ald. McGrath, Ald. Stewart, Ald. Carnes and Ald. Stevens. Also present were: City Attorney Brantmeier, City Engineer Ludwig and City Clerk/Treasurer Stewart.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Peg Beyer, 623 South Center Avenue, addressed the Council regarding the potential elimination of the mayor and a councilperson. Beyer stated that she served on the Council for seven years and was disappointed that the Council would consider eliminating a representative of the people. Beyer also stated that she was in strong support of the Mayoral position as well, as it provides leadership to the rest of the Council. Beyer stated that if money was motivating this potential cut then the Council should consider a pay cut, as they were asking the rest of the staff to do. She stated that the Councilpersons make \$2,500 a year and the Mayor makes \$4,000—she noted that school board members only make \$600 a year.

Bill Koehler, Highway K, addressed the Council regarding Walmart. He urged the Council to update the City Master Plan soon. He indicated that he felt that there was a lack of zoning for retail business. He then provided the Council with excerpts from the Madison newspapers regarding Walmart and the economy. Koehler asked the Council to think long and hard before letting Walmart into the community.

Nancy Haberman, 536 East North Street, addressed the Council regarding several issues. She questioned how the process to hire a City Administrator is going. She also stated that she questioned the elimination of the Mayor and a council position. Haberman stated “if it’s not broke...don’t fix it”.

Sharon Schmeling, 709 State Street, addressed the Council regarding the potential elimination of the Mayor and a councilperson. She requested that the Council, during their discussion, clarify their reason for the potential eliminations.

DISCUSSION: ELIMINATION OF MAYOR & COUNCIL POSITION

Ald. Stewart stated that he had requested that this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. He stated that several community members had stopped him and asked what the Council was going to do regarding the potential elimination. Stewart stated that he himself was unsure and therefore asked that this topic placed on the agenda.

Ald. Carnes questioned the process that would be used to make a change. He asked if the process would be similar to the potential elimination of the City Administrator.

Atty. Brantmeier stated that the City of Jefferson has adopted Chapter 62 of the State Statutes, which requires the Mayor as the highest elected official. He stated that Chapter 64 of the State

Statutes would allow for the elimination of the Mayor, but would also require the addition of a City Manager. Brantmeier also noted that the Council structure as defined in Chapter 64 would reduce the number of Council members to 1 for every 4,000. Brantmeier then indicated that, according to the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, only a small minority of communities operated under Chapter 64 (the City Manager form of government). Leaving the majority, like the City of Jefferson, operating under Chapter 62. He then reviewed with the Council the number of individuals it would take under both scenarios to force a referendum on the issue.

Atty. Brantmeier then concluded by restating that if the Council wished to change to the form of government allowed under Chapter 64, the elimination of the mayor could be possible.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ald. Wagner introduced Resolution No. 92.

CITY OF JEFFERSON RESOLUTION NO. 92

BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Jefferson that the consent agenda for November 4, 2003 is hereby adopted.

The consent agenda for tonight includes:

- ◆ Vouchers Payable for November 2003 in the amount of \$121,665.78 and Payroll Summary for October 17, 2003 in the amount of \$95,798.39.
- ◆ Council Minutes from the October 21, 2003 Regular and Closed Session Meetings of the Common Council.
- ◆ Special Meeting Minutes of the Jefferson Common Council from October 28, 2003.
- ◆ Small Animal Collection Contract for 2004.
- ◆ Licenses as Approved by the Regulatory Committee
 - ▣ Operator's Licenses
 - ▣ Special Class B Licenses

Ald. Bare indicated that he did not approve of the Small Animal Collection Contract. He stated that he felt the 5% increase was too high.

City Clerk/Treasurer Stewart stated that the increase was due to an increase in the per capita rate as well as an increase in population. She stated that for many years the Humane Society did not increase its per capita rate.

Ald. McGrath, seconded by Ald. Bare moved to remove the animal collection contract from the consent agenda. It was the recommendation that a representative from the Humane Society should be present at the next Finance Committee and Common Council meeting for discussion. On call of the roll, motion carried by a vote of 7 to 1. Ald. Wagner cast the dissenting vote.

Ald. Wagner, seconded by Ald. McGrath moved to recommend Amended Resolution No. 92. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously. Ald. Carnes abstained from the approval of the October 21, 2003 Common Council Minutes.

AUTHORIZATION DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE AN AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE INCORPORATING A WHEEL TAX

Ald. Carnes introduced Resolution No. 93.

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
RESOLUTION NO. 93**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Jefferson that the Council hereby authorizes and directs the City Attorney to prepare an amendment to the Municipal Code incorporating a “wheel tax” in the amount of TBD to be imposed against all motor vehicles (less than 8,000 pounds) that are customarily kept in the City of Jefferson at the time of registration.

Ald. Carnes moved to recommend Resolution No. 93. Motion died for a lack of a second.

Ald. Carnes, seconded by Ald. Stewart moved to adjourn to Closed Session of the Wisconsin State Statutes Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) to discuss employment. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Gang, seconded by Ald. Stevens moved to reconvene to Open Session. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously.

HIRE OF AUXILIARY EMT

Ald. Coffman introduced Resolution No. 94.

**CITY OF JEFFERSON
RESOLUTION NO. 94**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Jefferson that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to hire Katie Mick as an auxiliary EMT.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with the 2003 approved wage resolution, compensation shall be \$1.00 per hour on-call and \$7.00 per hour for actual run-time.

Ald. Coffman, seconded by Ald. Wagner moved to recommend Resolution No. 94. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Stevens, seconded by Ald. Stewart moved to adjourn the November 4, 2003 meeting of the Jefferson Common Council. Motion to adjourn carried on a voice vote.

The minutes of the November 4, 2003, meeting of the Common Council are uncorrected. Any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which time the minutes are approved.