

## MINUTES

### SHEBOYGAN COMMON COUNCIL

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rindfleisch at 6:00 p.m.

Ald. Present: Bohren, Bowers, Dekker, Hanna, Heidemann, Kath, Kittelson, Montemayor, Rindfleisch, Roeseler, and Sampson.

Ald. Excused: Bouck, Hammond, VanderWeele, Versey, and Wangemann.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of the minutes of the March 9<sup>th</sup> 2011 meeting. Hanna/Bohren. All Ayes. Minutes approved.

Motion to file Council Document 25-42 by Transit Commission regarding changes in the Composition; appointment terms of the Transit Commissioners. Hanna/Montemayor. All ayes. Motion approved.

Motion to file Council Document 10-22 – a communication from JoAnn Decker regarding Sheboygan City/County CAD-RMS Proposal New Business Model. Montemayor/Hanna. All ayes. Motion approved.

Motion to file Council Document 15-23 – a communication from Alderman Tom Bowers regarding the reorganization of the Sheboygan Fire Department. Bowers/Hanna. All ayes. Motion approved.

Council Document 16-30 – a communication from Marge Mattern requesting that when someone speaks on Public Forum, there should not be comments from the Mayor or anyone in response to a citizen's comment. Marge was allowed to speak at this time and she wanted to know if we have a policy in place. She stated that the Mayor responds much too often and tends to put citizens in a bad situation. Chairman Rindfleisch stated that calling a "point of order" would be the correct procedure to follow and that the Chairman can be overruled by a 2/3 vote. The rules are not statutes, they are just guidelines. Alderman Heidemann stated that we are looking for common courtesy from any chairman of a committee when dealing with the public. Alderman Hanna stated that there are 2 sides to the coin, common courtesy from the Chairman as well as the public. Motion was made to file the document and to follow the current policy/guidelines that we have in place or have the Committee of the Whole Chairperson enforce the proper procedure whenever necessary. Hanna/Montemayer. All ayes. Motion approved.

Motion to file Council Document 16-31 – a communication from Marge Segalle regarding cell phone usage on the council floor during meetings. A reminder would be put into the policy/procedure manual that is currently being updated addressing this issue. Montemayor/Roeseler. All ayes. Motion approved.

A motion was made to file Council Document 16-29 regarding number of alderpersons and the redistricting issue. Heidemann/Montemayor. Under discussion Ald. Bohren asked what was happening with this. Chairman Rindfleisch stated that the county is still working on this and it is still in our hands at the city clerk's office. Alderman Hanna stated that it will still be up to us at the end of the day to decide how many aldermen will represent a certain number of citizens. Alderman Sampson stated that he

went to the redistricting meeting and 3 different options were presented. They will bring these several different options to us for our review was his understanding. Alderman Bohren stated that if we are downsizing in the number of alderman, it will make it difficult to serve. For what we get paid it is difficult. How much do we give up of our personal lives to serve as aldermen? Chairman Rindfleisch stated that quorums are necessary and there many other things to think about when downsizing. Ultimately, it will be up to the next council. Vote was then taken. All ayes. Motion approved.

Council Document 18-49, a communication suggesting a vehicle by which individuals can provide additional financial support for city departments was then discussed. Alderman Heidemann stated that this came about after watching people talk about the library situation. Not everyone wants their taxes raised, so how can people donate money to the city for whatever purpose they would like? Alderman Hanna stated that he donated money to the emergency call box last year. Finance department takes care of this and records any donations. Alderman Bohren stated that during the last bargaining session the talk was heard that taxes could have been raised and we would not be in the predicament we are currently in. Let those that want their taxes raised step up to the plate and give back to the city. Alderman Sampson then asked if we are able to make specific donations. Chairman Rindfleisch stated that yes we can make specific donations at this time. We could create check boxes on tax bills to donate to certain areas if that was what we wanted to do. Alderman Hanna said we could create a letter to send to citizens welcoming their donations if that was agreed upon as well. Alderman Heidemann was skeptical about these ideas and said the monies would have to be used for intended purposes. Chairman Rindfleisch stated that the money has to be given to the proper fund. It would be against the law not to do this. Alderperson Kath stated that the Senior Center just changed its bylaws to recommend donations/designations. We could have the Friends of the Aldermen. Alderman Bohren said that finance could set up a line item to accommodate each city department. Alderperson Montemayor said that it sounded like a good plan. Alderman Sampson said to be careful about how we do this and be careful in the wording of a letter. Alderperson Kath asked what would prevent each department from doing this already? Alderman Bohren said that a citizen's donation line item could be directed right to the finance department. Chairman Rindfleisch touched on the fact whether contributions are voluntary and not tax deductible. This would need more research. A motion was then made to refer this document to the Strategic Fiscal Planning Committee of the new Common Council. Motion made by Sampson/Hanna. All ayes. Motion approved.

There being no further business Chairman Rindfleisch called for adjournment of the Committee of the Whole sine die at 6:43 p.m.

Motion made by Alderman Sampson/seconded by Alderman Hanna. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Alderperson Jean Kittelson, Common Council President