

**“Special” Parks and Recreation Board
of the City of Onalaska**

Monday, June 13, 2016

1

1 The Special Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board of the City of Onalaska was called to
2 order at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2016. It was noted that the meeting had been announced
3 and a notice posted at City Hall.

4

5 Roll call was taken with the following members present: Andrea Benco, Brian Udermann,
6 Andrea Vogler, Ohbe Johnson. Ald. Jim Binash arrived with the meeting in progress.

7

8 Also Present: Parks and Recreation Director Dan Wick, Parks Maintenance Supervisor Mark
9 Hanson

10

11 Excused Absences: Gretchen Newhouse, Victor Hill

12

13 **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

14

15 Motion by Brian, second by Andrea Vogler, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as
16 printed and on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

17

18 On voice vote, motion carried.

19

20 **Item 3 – Public Input (Limited to 3 minutes/individual)**

21

22 Andrea Benco called for anyone wishing to provide public input

23

24 **Shaun Domenget, Vice-President of Tornado Youth Hockey**
25 **N7039 Oak Street**
26 **Holmen**

27

28 “I’m here to discuss our proposal that you will be discussing in Closed Session later on. I just
29 wanted to basically show up and touch base on why we think it’s important. Hockey is a fast-
30 growing sport. Its popularity is getting bigger and bigger every year. More and more kids are
31 coming in, and we as an association strive to do whatever we can to make hockey as inexpensive
32 as possible. That kind of seems to be the myth – hockey is really expensive. It can be when you
33 get older, but we want to offer kids of all ages and of all skill levels the ability to get out there on
34 the ice and have some fun. Obviously the more income we bring in, the cheaper we can make it
35 for those families to come in and play hockey. That’s what we’re asking of you: to partner with
36 us and work with us and help us make it easier on those families. We’re not here by any means
37 looking for a handout. We’re a nonprofit organization. We’re not looking to buy new nets or
38 buy all sorts of new stuff with any of this. We’re strictly looking to make it easier on our
39 families to be able to come in, play hockey and have some fun.”

40

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2

42 **Tina Kabus**
43 **N7155 Elm Court**
44 **Holmen**

45
46 Tina said Tornado Youth Hockey is seeking sponsorship opportunities; specifically, space in the
47 Omni Center to utilize signage from sponsors.

48
49 Shaun noted that other ice rinks in the area (La Crosse, West Salem, La Crescent) have small
50 locations where it states “friends of” the local youth hockey program. Shaun said, “We’re not
51 asking for naming rights to the building. As I discussed with Dan a little bit through email, our
52 sponsorship opportunities right now are pretty limited. When we go out in the community and
53 try to obtain sponsors, it’s pretty limited what we can offer them. We’re looking to work with
54 you and figure out a way that maybe we can open up some new opportunities, offer some new
55 things to our sponsors, gain more sponsors and with that, more sponsor income. And in turn,
56 [we can] make it a little more affordable or maybe [be] able to offer more things to our kids for
57 our program.”

58
59 Tina noted that the tournaments Tornado Youth Hockey hosts attract individuals from different
60 cities and said Tornado Youth Hockey is seeking to form more of a partnership.

61
62 Andrea Benco called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that
63 portion of the meeting.

64

65 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

66

67 **Item 4 – Presentation on La Crosse Area Bluffland Plan**

68

69 Charlie Handy, La Crosse County Planner, shared with the board a draft copy of the Bluffland
70 Plan, which La Crosse County staff has been working on since August 2015. Six communities in
71 the La Crosse area, as well as the La Crosse Area Planning Committee, funded the plan jointly
72 based on a formula utilized for funding the LAPC. Public input was collected over a one-year
73 period, and this data was compiled to create the Bluffland Plan. Charlie said this plan was a 20-
74 year process, but political support began in 2013. Charlie read the vision statement: “*The*
75 *Blufflands Coalition will establish an exceptional network of contiguous protected lands and*
76 *recreational trails throughout the La Crosse-La Crescent region. Our cooperative efforts will*
77 *enhance the health of residents, visitors, natural ecosystems and our local economy.*” Charlie
78 then stated the plan’s six “big ideas:”

79

- 80 **• Commitment to cooperation:** Coming together in a regional effort
81 **• Land – protected and connected:** Protecting the land from eventual development and
82 disturbance from recreationalists

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- 83 • **Trails, trails, trails:** Public feedback indicated that recreation was a crucial element.
- 84 • **Restoration:** Focus long-term.
- 85 • **Many sites, one brand:** Individuals who are enjoying the blufflands do not care in
- 86 which municipality it is located.
- 87 • **Dedicated funding:** Attempting to consistently identify projects where the funding is
- 88 known.

89
90 Charlie noted that there were more than 600 survey results. Charlie said the survey indicated
91 that acquiring more land to protect it from development was a priority, about a “35 to 40 percent
92 issue.” The survey also indicated that there should be more recreational opportunities for hiking,
93 scenic overlook viewing/photo taking locations, cross country skiing (these were the top three).
94 As a result, multiuse trails were listed as a priority. Charlie noted that 20.8 percent of those
95 surveyed indicated they would be willing to pay increased property taxes of \$100 or more a year
96 to fund bluffland protection and improvements. Charlie said a recommendation has been made
97 to create “The Blufflands Coalition,” but added this recommendation may not come to fruition
98 and that the LAPC will be discussing this topic at its meeting Wednesday. Charlie said there are
99 LAPC members who have questioned whether it is necessary to establish another coalition as
100 several coalitions already exist. Charlie said these individuals have asked if perhaps an existing
101 organization can carry out this plan so that it is not necessary to create another coalition.

102
103 Andrea Benco asked if the recommendation is to allow existing government entities to continue
104 working together.

105
106 Charlie said the recommendation was made to establish La Crosse County as the lead agent.
107 Charlie noted that La Crosse County would serve as the fiscal agent under the proposed
108 Blufflands Coalition. Charlie said there have been discussions about eventually establishing a
109 structure similar to that of “Outdoor Chattanooga,” a private nonprofit organization that performs
110 a majority of the programming for “Outdoor Chattanooga.”

111
112 Charlie addressed funding, stating that the goal is to locate a consistent funding source that can
113 be shared by everyone involved. Charlie said the proposal states that the City of Onalaska would
114 contribute a certain amount of money of the total need, with 90 percent remaining with the city
115 for city projects included within the plan. Ten percent would go to the Blufflands Coalition for
116 regional work. Charlie noted that more than 3,000 acres are currently protected and referred to
117 Map No. 30, which had been distributed to board members. This map starts to set priorities for
118 protecting lands. Lands have been labeled as Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3, with Tier 1 being the
119 highest priority. Priorities for additional acquisitions include: being visible from the cities,
120 unique natural resource, extend/connect regional La Crosse Blufflands Trail, expand contiguous
121 lands, and expand mountain biking opportunities. Priorities for existing parcels include
122 restoration (invasive species removal) and trail development.

123

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124 Andrea Benco notes the plan states a goal as being the expansion of mountain bike trails, but it
125 does not expressly state the expansion of hiking trails, which survey respondents stated is the
126 number one priority.

127
128 Charlie said attempts have been made to address hiking in the La Crosse Regional Blufflands
129 Trail, which is the focus. Charlie said it is a multipurpose trail, but the focus is on hiking.
130 Charlie said the primary geography of the trail is from Goose Island to Kings Bluff Quarry in the
131 Town of Holland. Charlie said the Tier 1 areas include Kings Bluff Quarry, Goose Island, and
132 the overlook in the City of La Crescent. Charlie referred to Map No. 58, which shows trailheads,
133 trail improvements, and access improvements. Charlie said that while there are several
134 trailheads, they are “very poor.” Charlie said the goal is to strive for good branding, and also to
135 ensure that the trailheads are available and easy to access. Charlie said that while the map
136 includes trails, it is “fairly general.” Some of the specifics for trail design have been included,
137 and Charlie said some of the city’s 90 percent of local funding could be dedicated to design and
138 construction work. The regional group will establish priorities, and these priorities will vary by
139 year. Charlie noted the La Crosse Bluffland Trail would run south to north, and there would be
140 new biking-oriented trails in different specific locations. Other trail network enhancements
141 would include loops, options for everyone, difficulty ratings, and routine maintenance to prevent
142 trail damage and rogue trails.

143
144 Charlie addressed dedicated funding and said there have been discussions as to whether the
145 funding can be done on a per capita basis, or if perhaps room tax revenue may be utilized.
146 Charlie said the goal is to make this a regional project, which in turn will keep the Blufflands
147 Coalition “more focused” on serving everybody. Charlie addressed the action plan, which
148 includes the following:

149

150 **2016**

- 151 • LAPC approval of the plan
- 152 • Member communities endorse/approve plan
- 153 • A Memorandum of Understanding is crafted
- 154 • Sign standards are confirmed/established

155

156 **2017**

- 157 • Formal establishment of coalition
- 158 • Staffing confirmed (LAPC? La Crosse County? LCCVB?)

159

160 **2018**

- 161 • Coalition creates incentive program to spur local projects
- 162 • Produce first Blufflands Annual Report (for 2017)

163

164 Charlie said the goal is to complete the trail by 2021, noting that land and easements must be

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165 acquired and construction must begin. Charlie said Interstate 90 will be the “biggest connection
166 hurdle” and noted that steps are being taken to address this.

167

168 Ald. Binash asked Charlie if he has approached the La Crosse Area Convention and Visitors
169 Bureau about the plan.

170

171 Charlie said no, noting that the timeframe for drafting the plan was prior to the LCCVB naming a
172 director. Charlie said he wants to wait to see what the LAPC’s recommendation will be at its
173 meeting Wednesday before approaching the LCCVB. Charlie said the LCCVB did not have
174 good representation on the steering committee, adding he wants to have a solid plan before
175 approaching the LCCVB.

176

177 Ald. Binash asked Charlie if he is associated with a governmental agency.

178

179 Charlie noted he is employed by La Crosse County.

180

181 Dan noted that the City of La Crosse and City of Onalaska had contributed to the plan.

182

183 Charlie said the “bridge staff” likely will be government staff, but the long-term goal will be for
184 the Blufflands Coalition to become a private, nonprofit entity. Charlie said he be seeking formal
185 support in the future and encouraged feedback from board members.

186

187 Andrea Benco asked if adjustments can still be made after the LAPC approves the plan.

188

189 Charlie said he would like board members to submit their comments by the end of June, noting
190 that the LAPC will give its recommendation either June 15 or shortly thereafter. The final
191 document would be completed by the end of June.

192

193 Andrea Benco referred to a public meeting held one week ago, at which time it was revealed
194 there is a plan for a certain group to develop trails. Andrea said one of the proposals is for this
195 group to be in charge of laying out and constructing the trails for the entire system. Andrea said
196 some of the trails the group has constructed “prove to be not very sustainable” and will require
197 significant maintenance. Andrea said she wants to make sure that the city has the flexibility
198 either to alter the trails or work with the group that will be laying them out.

199

200 Dan said he believes the city will be allowed to provide input.

201

202 **Item 5 – Recommendation on Driftless Region Bike Share Program**

203

204 Andrea Benco noted she had been contacted by Matthew Christen, founder and president of
205 OnaBike, who told her that Mayor Joe Chilsen said if the board supports this program he

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206 believes he can obtain funding outside the Parks budget. The board will need to pass a formal
207 resolution of understanding that would support the program before it goes to the Common
208 Council.

209

210 Ald. Binash noted the board had discussed this at a past meeting and said it was his
211 understanding that it would not be feasible to have this program in the city.

212

213 Andrea said the board had discussed this item at its April 25 meeting, adding it was her
214 understanding that there was support for the program.

215

216 Dan said there are questions as to whether the city or Driftless Region will assume control of the
217 program. If it is the latter, the city would purchase bicycles and establish stations under Driftless
218 Region’s control.

219

220 Ald. Binash noted the city would need to have a certain amount of money to participate and also
221 hire someone to perform maintenance. Ald. Binash said it was his understanding that the board
222 believed it would not be feasible for the city to participate.

223

224 Andrea Benco said Matthew wants to know if this is a program the board would support. Andrea
225 said Matthew believes the Driftless Region Bike Coalition would be the hosting entity and not
226 the city. Andrea said the city’s role might be to provide locations in the park for stations, and
227 then Mayor Chilsen would locate funding to pay for the stations. Andrea said the city would not
228 be the staffing or coordinating entity; it would only provide host sites. Andrea said perhaps the
229 city would want to be a coordinating entity, in which case the board could pass a resolution to
230 that effect.

231

232 Ald. Binash said it was his impression from Matthew’s presentation at the April 25 Parks and
233 Recreation Board meeting that the onus would be on the city. Ald. Binash said it was his
234 understanding that the city would have to pay to participate in the program, and the city also
235 would have to provide maintenance. Ald. Binash said, “Then we talked about, are we really in a
236 position for people to be riding bikes in this general area? I thought the consensus was, ‘I don’t
237 think so.’ It’s a nice idea, but is it really going to work for the cash outlay that we’d have to put
238 in this? And frankly, I don’t know where the Mayor would get the money from.”

239

240 Andrea Benco said she also was unsure about the funding, but she added that Mayor Chilsen had
241 told Matthew that he should obtain support from the Parks and Recreation Board. Andrea said,
242 “If we don’t want to support it, that’s fine, too. I don’t know where the money would come
243 from, either.”

244

245 Brian said he recalls that the board generally supported the idea; however, board members were
246 unsure about the number of stations, where they would be located, and the number of bicycles at

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247 each station. Brian also said he recalls Matthew telling the board there is a cost to participate.
248 Brian said it was his understanding the board supported the program, but board members also
249 had some questions.

250

251 Andrea Benco said the board could state its approval for the program, but also state it is not
252 willing to fund it. Andrea said the board also could state it does not have the funding or the
253 staffing to participate. Andrea added it is her understanding that Driftless Region has not yet
254 committed to being the organizational entity that would provide maintenance, but Matthew said
255 he believes the organization is leaning toward serving in that capacity.

256

257 Ald. Binash said this is different than what he heard during Matthew’s presentation to the board.

258

259 Andrea Benco said that since Matthew’s presentation Driftless Region has been working to
260 secure the coordinator position.

261

262 Ald. Binash said he likes the idea of the program.

263

264 Andrea Benco admitted that funding the program will be a challenge.

265

266 Ald. Binash said he would not support the program if funding would have to come from Parks
267 and Recreation.

268

269 Andrea Benco said she agrees with Ald. Binash.

270

271 Ald. Binash said funding would need to be secured annually.

272

273 Andrea Vogler and Brian said they would like to obtain more information.

274

275 Andrea Benco said no action will be taken and told board members she will contact Matthew and
276 let him know they still have concerns regarding the program.

277

278 **Item 6 – Approve the Audio Upgrades to the Omni Center. Bid Deadline is 4:00 p.m. on**
279 **Friday, June 10th**

280

281 Dan referred to the memo he had distributed to board members and noted that the lone bid had
282 been opened last Friday. Dan referred to a handout listing the 2016 Capital Improvement
283 Projects and noted that \$50,000 was budgeted for the sound system project. Commercial AV
284 Systems submitted a bid of \$111,715.63.

285

286 Dan said, “When we hired a consultant to create the spec for this, we met with them a few times
287 on site, [and] they came to my office. The scope of the project of coming in and having a sound

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288 system that would sound good in the facility and throughout the facility got changed up quite a
289 bit through the process, and that’s why you’re seeing a larger dollar figure. When you look at
290 safety of users, safety of Omni Center employees, our facility doesn’t communicate with each
291 other. Our front office can’t make an all-call throughout the building. If there’s something
292 happening, we have to go to Arena 1 and make an all-call in Arena 1 and then go to Arena 2 to
293 make an all-call throughout the building. We talked through this process to tie in our banquet
294 rooms and concession stands so that we could, from our front office, make a call to the
295 concession stand. ... We also wanted to try to tie in when we have activities in the building –
296 let’s say one of the hockey games is being broadcast – that we could pipe that through the
297 building. ... We did look at it, and the scope of the project changed some. ... We want to try to
298 make something that will last and it’s going to do the job well into the future.” Dan said the two
299 current sound systems would be relocated to one central location that would be secure.

300

301 Dan presented four options:

302

- 303 • Approve Arena 1 upgrade to be done in 2016 and look to obtain funding in 2017 or
304 beyond. Dan noted that the price includes “the brains” to Arena 1.
- 305 • Approve the entire project contingent on favorable prices coming in on the Omni Center
306 roof project. Dan said staff has been working with HSR on developing a spec, and it will
307 appear in the June 17 edition of the Onalaska-Holmen Courier Life. The bid deadline is
308 June 30. Dan said the initial process was going to be an infill with a rubber covering over
309 the top to do the lower portion of the roof. However, concerns were raised over the
310 amount of snow that melts from the upper roof to the lower roof. Dan said a vendor who
311 applies a spray-on coating over metal roofs had attended a show at the Omni Center and
312 noted this coating has an 18-year warranty. Dan said HSR representatives told him
313 facilities with metal roofs are utilizing this method, adding the cost of doing so would be
314 more favorable to the city. Dan said he believes the cost of the roof project will be
315 substantially less than what was budgeted. If Option No. 2 is selected, it would be
316 necessary to remove this off the June 14 Common Council agenda and approve it in July.
317 It also might be necessary to extend the project deadline.
- 318 • Combination of the first two options stated.
- 319 • Reject the bid and rebid out the project in the fall for a summer 2017 installation.

320

321 Brian asked when the call for bids went out.

322

323 Dan said the call for bids must appear in the Onalaska-Holmen Courier Life two consecutive
324 weeks. The bids cannot be opened less than 10 days after the call for bids was last published.
325 Dan noted the top four vendors listed (Commercial AV Systems, Tri-State Sound and Light,
326 Commercial AV Pros, and Advanced Multimedia Solutions) are all located in the Coulee
327 Region. The Twin Cities-based Tierney Brothers, which declined to bid, is installing a new
328 audio/video system in the Common Council Chambers. AVI Systems, also a Twin Cities-based

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329 company, did not submit a bid.

330

331 Dan referred to the 2016 CIP Projects handout and said he had inputted the costs to address
332 Arena 1 and the banquet rooms. Dan referred to the \$9,600 budgeted to paint Arena 2 and said
333 this cost will decrease. Dan noted staff had sealed the building and said he expects to see a
334 reduction of between \$1,000 and \$1,500. Dan referred to the \$51,000 budgeted for Arena 1
335 bleacher upgrades and said the city will save approximately \$30,000 by not installing plastic
336 caps over the boards. Dan said the cost of the listed 2016 CIP Projects totals \$150,851.93, and
337 the total budget is \$253,000.

338

339 Andrea Vogler asked what other drawbacks there would be in addition to waiting one more year
340 and then rebidding the project.

341

342 Dan said prices could increase, or the current contractor who bid the project would choose not to
343 bid again.

344

345 Ald. Binash inquired about the roof project.

346

347 Dan said he had received estimates of approximately \$3 a square foot, noting that the lower
348 portion of the roof is less than 20,000 square feet. Dan said 90 percent of the Omni Center’s
349 issues occur on the lower roof. Dan said the cost of the roof project would be \$60,000 and told
350 the board that if the bids come in as expected there would be funds available to address the sound
351 systems in Arena 1 and the banquet rooms. If the bid comes in at a certain price, the board
352 would authorize in July to have the Common Council approve spending an additional \$30,898.84
353 for Arena 2.

354

355 Ald. Binash said another option would be to approach the Common Council and request funding
356 from the Special Projects Fund.

357

358 Dan suggested seeing where the bids come in and then requesting funding at the July 6 Finance
359 and Personnel Committee meeting and the July 12 Common Council meeting.

360

361 Motion by Ald. Binash, second by Ohbe, to recommend approving audio upgrades by
362 Commercial AV Systems at the Omni Center in Arena 1 at a cost of \$60,799.75, and the banquet
363 rooms at a cost of \$20,017.04.

364

365 Dan suggested voting on the motion on the floor and then making another motion regarding
366 Arena 2 as it would not go before the Common Council until its July 12 meeting. Dan said he
367 and Ald. Binash will know by June 30 where the bids will come in for the roof project and told
368 the board they can approach the Finance and Personnel Committee and the Common Council and
369 request special funding, if necessary. Dan said the recommendation to spend the additional

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370 \$30,898.84 also could go straight to the Common Council.

371

372 On voice vote, motion carried.

373

374 Motion by Andrea Vogler, second by Brian, to approve, upon the June 30 bid opening of the
375 Omni Center roof project, a meeting between Ald. Jim Binash and Parks and Recreation Director
376 Dan Wick to examine the funding options to complete the audio upgrades project with Arena 2.
377 If Ald. Binash and Dan should need to look for special revenue accounts through the Special
378 Projects Fund, they would go before the Finance and Personnel Committee and the Common
379 Council. If there is sufficient funding in the 2016 Omni Center Projects, the items will go right
380 to the Common Council for approval.

381

382 On voice vote, motion carried.

383

384 **Item 7 – Approve the following Agreements/Contracts:**

385

386 a. Recreation Program Coordinator Agreement

387 b. Official/Referee Independent Contractor Agreement

388

389 Dan said City Attorney Sean O’Flaherty has developed a new agreement for the Recreation
390 Program Coordinators. This includes programs led by Onalaska High School boys basketball
391 coach Craig Kowal, Onalaska High School volleyball coach Megan Swiggum, and Onalaska
392 High School baseball coach Larry Swiggum.

393

394 Motion by Andrea Vogler, second by Ohbe, to approve the Recreation Program Coordinator
395 Agreement and the Official/Referee Independent Contractor Agreement.

396

397 Dan noted that a high school basketball tournament is scheduled for this weekend and said the
398 city has worked with Craig Kowal for several years. The city collects all the fees and receives
399 \$25 per team, and Craig will be responsible for paying the officials. Dan addressed the
400 Official/Referee Independent Contractor Agreement, noting that there was a shortage of umpires
401 at last weekend’s Jimmy Olson Baseball Tournament. Dan said calls were made to other
402 agencies to find individuals who are not on the city’s payroll, and he noted that this agreement
403 stating that umpires will work games at a specific rate of pay.

404

405 On voice vote, motion carried.

406

407 **Item 8 – Report from La Crosse County Bluffland Steering Committee**

408

409 No report.

410

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411 **Item 9 – Report from Onalaska Enhancement Foundation**

412

413 Dan told the board Celebrate Onalaska will be held June 24-26. The Rugged Run will be held
414 June 26.

415

416 Ald. Binash asked that events such as Celebrate Onalaska be placed on explorelacrosse.com.

417

418 Andrea Benco said explorelacrosse.com does not talk about Onalaska events and stated she
419 believes the website’s name should be changed so it is not so specific to the City of La Crosse
420 because it is affecting the bus tours coming through.

421

422 Dan said he will be meeting with A.J. Frels, the LCCVB’s Executive Director, on Thursday.

423

424 Dan also noted that the LCCVB will tour La Crosse County’s facilities, including the Omni
Center, on June 20.

425

426 Andrea Benco said she has been asked about Celebrate Onalaska and expressed concern that the
427 LCCVB might not be aware of the event.

428

429 Ald. Binash, who serves on the LCCVB Board, said La Crosse is being used because it is a well-
430 recognized name. Ald. Binash said adding the names of the other municipalities would not
431 work.

432

433 Andrea Vogler excused herself from the meeting.

434

435 **Item 10 – Report from Great River Landing Committee**

436

437 Ald. Binash said the committee had discussed signage at its June 9 meeting. Ald. Binash also
438 noted that the project has been slowed due to the discovery of Native American artifacts on the
439 site.

440

441 **Item 11 – Director’s Report**

442

443 **a. Parks Update**

444

445 Dan read an email from a citizen (Christine Hanson) sent to Interim Land Use and Development
446 Director Katie Aspenson complimenting two young men who had watered trees along 6th
447 Avenue South. Christine had placed two flags by a tree on Memorial Day in remembrance of her
448 late husband and grandfather, both of whom served in the armed forces. Christine said she
449 forgot to remove the flags, but the two young men removed them, watered the tree and then
450 replaced them. Dan also read an email forwarded from Human Resource Director Hope Burchell
451 stating she had received a compliment from a special education teacher who had brought

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452 adaptive physical education students from the Onalaska School District to the Aquatic Center on
453 June 6. The teacher said the Aquatic Center staff was “helpful and knowledgeable” and
454 complimented the staff. Dan said the fourth graders from Irving Pertzsch Elementary swam at
455 the Aquatic Center on June 7, and students from Northern Hills Elementary used the facility on
456 June 8. Dan noted he had spoken to Northern Hills staff and told the board that 50 percent of the
457 students had never swum at the Aquatic Center.

458

459 Mark reported that new playgrounds have been installed at Van Riper Park and Oak Park No. 4.

460

461 **b. Recreation Update**

462

463 Dan estimated that 135 children are participating in the track and field program.

464

465 Brian noted that there is a lacrosse program for 14-year-olds, and games are played at the Coulee
466 Region United Soccer Association Fields in La Crosse.

467

468 Dan said there is information regarding the Lightning program in the Activity Guide.

469

470 **c. Aquatic Center Update**

471

472 Dan said a concession specialist was hired.

473

474 **d. Omni Center Update**

475

476 Ice was removed so the exterior of Arena 2 could be sealed, and the interior of the arena was
477 painted. A high school volleyball league sponsored by the Holmen Park and Recreation
478 Department plays on Monday nights. A middle school volleyball league plays on Thursdays.

479

480 **Item 12 – Closed Session**

481

482 To consider a motion to convene in Closed Session under Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin
483 Statutes for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the
484 investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or
485 bargaining reasons require a closed session:

486

- 487 • Tornado Youth Hockey Contract
- 488 • Nathan Hills Estates
- 489 • Staff Compensation Review in light of FLSA changes

490

491 If any action is required in Open Session, as the result of the Closed Session, the Board will
492 reconvene in Open Session to take the necessary action and/or continue on with the printed

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493 agenda.

494

495 Motion by Ald. Binash, second by Ohbe, to convene in Closed Session.

496

497 On roll call vote: Ald. Jim Binash – aye, Ohbe Johnson – aye, Brian Udermann – aye, Andrea
498 Benco – aye. In Closed Session.

499

500

501 Recorded by:

502

503 Kirk Bey