

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2011**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Marc Polsean, Charles Steinhoff, Gary Krause, Weston Mack, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson and Jeff Clifton present. Alderperson Terry Noble was absent. Also present were Administrator Matt Giese, Clerk John Severson, Police Chief Mark Rahr, DPW Steve Clark, City Attorney David Jenkins, Ken Vickers and Emily Rozeske.

2. Approval of the March 29, 2011 Regular Council Minutes

Motion by Alderperson Steinhoff to approve the March 29, 2011 Council minutes. Seconded by Alderperson Hubbard. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

3. First period for public comment

None.

4. Certified survey Map for land adjacent to County RD. J – Robert Starks (Plan Commission)

Motion by Alderperson Steinhoff to approve the Certified Survey Map as recommended by the Plan Commission. Seconded by Alderperson Hubbard. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

5. Recommendation for denial of insurance claim.

Midwest Claims Service recommends denial of a claim in which the claimant, Rayne Blaha, sustained bodily injury when he allegedly slipped and fell on an icy sidewalk located at 122 ½ North Main Street in the City of Viroqua. Motion by Alderperson Clifton to deny to claim by Rayne Blaha on the basis of no negligence on behalf of the City of Viroqua. Seconded by Alderperson Polsean. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

6. Partial release of utility easement – Cummins Filtration

Motion by Alderperson Krause to approve Resolution No.11RS007 conveying the North 38.7 feet of City easement recorded in volume 362, page 504 as document number 331312 to Cummins Filtration Inc.. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

7. State/Municipal agreement for a highway Improvement Project – Main Street Concrete replacement

Steve Clark reviewed the agreement which includes \$378,750 from the Department of Transportation for repairs to Main Street concrete. The City would be obligated for 25% of design engineering equaling \$11,250. Motion by Alderperson Clifton to approve the agreement as recommended by Public Works. Seconded by Alderperson Steinhoff. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

8. Potential recommendation from Finance Committee regarding room tax

Alderperson Krause reported that John Iverson requested the City to consider suspending the 3% room tax for the remainder of the year. Mr. Iverson feels the room tax puts him at a disadvantage in pricing extended stays for construction workers. The Finance Committee had forwarded the item without recommendation. The Council discussed the room tax issue. Motion by Alderperson Polsean to table until a later date. Seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad. On roll call vote Alderpersons Steinhoff, Krause, Mack, Thompson, Tryggestad and Polsean voted aye. Alderpersons Hubbard and Clifton voted nay. Motion carries.

9. Discussion regarding Committee and Council meeting times / structure

Alderperson Steinhoff proposed that standing committees of the council meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month as needed. The Council discussed the proposed schedule change. Motion by Alderperson Steinhoff that stating May 1st, 2011 committee meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month as necessary. Seconded by Alderperson Clifton. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

10. Discussion regarding City Engineer position

Matt Giese recommended that the Council consider changing the full time engineering position, as budgeted for beginning midyear, to a part time position. Mr. Giese cited the proposed state mandated 0% levy increase for 2012 and an absence of planned capital projects as reasons for the change. Motion by Alderperson Mack to pursue the part time engineering position. Seconded by Alderperson Hubbard. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

11. City boulevard trees – informational

The Viroqua Tree Board reminded citizens that trees in the boulevard are not to be tapped or trimmed without permission from the City.

12. Payment of bills

Motion by Alderperson Krause to approve payment of bills as presented on payment reports dated April 8, 2011 and April 12, 2011 in the amounts of \$36,741.36 and \$15,656.37. Seconded by Alderperson Clifton. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

13. Second period for public comment

None

14. Adjournment

Motion by Alderperson Steinhoff to adjourn the meeting until April 26, 2011. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

John Severson, Clerk