

MAY 29, 2007

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 Marc Polsean, John Bjerke, Gary Krause, Weston Mack, Roger Hatlem, Gail Frie, and Terry Noble present. Alderperson Dave Tryggestad was absent. Also present were City Administrator Jeff Gohlke, Clerk John Severson, City Attorney David Jenkins, Chief of Police Mark Rahr, Nancy Rhodes, Carol Gohlke, Marjorie Macasaet, Tom Johnson, Mitchell Ziolkowski, Jeff Clifton and Eugene Bekkedal.

2. Approval of the May 8, 2007 Council Minutes.

Motion by Alderperson Krause to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2007 meeting. Seconded by Alderperson Bjerke. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

3. First period for public comment.

Mayor Fanta read a letter of resignation from Assessor Eugene (Bud) Bekkedal effective May 31, 2007. The Council and those in attendance honored Bud with a round of applause. Mr. Bekkedal thanked the City for all that it has done for him and said that it's great to be a citizen of Viroqua.

4. Designation of Viroqua Historic Landmarks - 207 South Main (Local General Store), 305 Railroad Avenue (Train Station), 223 South Main (Dairyland Printing), 500 East Jefferson (Landmark Center).

Mayor Fanta read the list of properties recommended by the Historic Preservation Commission for designation as historic landmarks. Nancy Rhodes presented the nomination papers to the Council. Attorney Jenkins reviewed the procedures for designating a historical site. It was noted that no comments from citizens were heard at the public hearing. Alderperson Noble asked why two of the applications did not have signatures of the property owners. Alderperson Noble noted that no public comment does not mean the owners are in favor of designation and that an application should be signed. The Council discussed the application process and the historic preservation ordinance. Alderperson Noble felt that the ordinance should be revisited and a signature form should be required. The ordinance as is does not require the signature of a property owner. Discussion continued. Alderperson Frie said he was completely confident that the property owners were involved from the start. Motion by Alderperson Frie to approve the nominations for historic designation as presented. Seconded by Alderperson Hatlem. Alderperson Noble asked that the nominations be voted on separately. On the motion to approve the designation of the Landmark Center at 500 East Jefferson as a historic site all voted aye on roll call vote. On the motion to approve the designation of Dairyland Printing at 223 South Main as a historic site all voted aye on roll call vote. On the motion to approve the designation of the Local General Store at 207 South Main as a historic site Alderpersons Polsean, Bjerke, Krause, Mack, Hatlem and Frie voted aye. Alderperson Noble voted nay. On the motion to approve the designation of the Railroad Avenue Depot at 305 Railroad Avenue as a historic site Alderperson Bjerke, Krause, Mack, Hatlem, Frie and Polsean voted aye. Alderperson Noble voted nay. All motions passed.

5. Police Department K-9 proposal.

Police Officer Mitchell Ziolkowski presented his proposal for the City to acquire a drug detection dog. Officer Ziolkowski offered to purchase, train and keep the dog at his own expense and lease the dog to the City for \$1.00 per year. The Council discussed with Chief Rahr and Officer Ziolkowski the need for a drug dog. Motion by Alderperson Mack to approve the proposal as presented and lease the drug detection dog from Officer Ziolkowski for \$1.00 per year. Seconded by Alderperson Polsean. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

6. Ordinance regarding Vernon County Petition for Direct Annexation – first reading.

Administrator Jeff Gohlke introduced the petition from Vernon County requesting the annexation of approximately 6.9 acres comprising the Erlandson building and the heating plant. The annexation was approved by the Plan Board. Attorney Jenkins suggested the second reading be waived. Motion by Alderperson Polsean to approve Ordinance No. 07OR003, Annexation of the Erlandson Property, and to waive the second reading. Seconded by Alderperson Hatlem. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

7. Ordinance regarding utility service outside of City limits – first reading.

Jeff Gohlke reviewed proposed Ordinance No. 07OR004 requiring annexation prior to City utilities being provided and suggested that the second reading be waived. Motion by Alderperson Krause to approve Ordinance No. 07OR004 and to waive the second reading. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

8. Appointment of Appraisal Services and Data Processing System, Inc. to the position of City Assessor.

Motion by Alderperson Mack to approve the appointment of Appraisal Services and Data Processing Systems, Inc. to the position of City Assessor. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

9. Approval of Public Employee Safety and Health Programs.

Tom Johnson presented the Safety and Health programs for the City of Viroqua to the Council. Motion by Alderperson Frie to approve the Safety and Health programs as presented. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

10. Resolution regarding Local Government Property Insurance Fund.

John Severson presented a resolution required by the State of Wisconsin authorizing buildings and property of the City to be insured by the Local government Property Insurance Fund. Motion by Alderperson Polsean to approve Resolution No.07RS008. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

11. Public Works part time hourly pay rate.

Motion by Alderperson Frie to set the part time pay rate at \$10.00 per hour for the first year and \$13.00 per hour starting the second year as recommended by the Public Works Committee. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

12. Discussion and possible action on proposed Skate Board Park and designation of segregated account for donations.

Alderperson Noble told the Council that donated funds had been received for the Skate Board Park project and that the Finance Committee was recommending a segregated account be established for said funds to be used only for the project. Alderperson Noble added that the Finance Committee was also recommending that the \$3,600.00 budgeted for the web site be transferred to the Skate Board Park project since he is managing the web site on a voluntary basis. Motion by Alderperson Noble to establish the segregated account, transfer \$3,600.00 from the web site budget to the Skate Park project and to start site preparation as soon as possible. Seconded by Alderperson Frie. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

13. Completion of Aberg Case and amount owed.

Attorney Jenkins suggested that the amount owed by Mr. Aberg be reduced from \$200.00 to \$125.00 which would cover out of pocket expenses. Motion by Alderperson Mack to reduce the amount owed by Mr. Aberg to \$125.00. Seconded by Alderperson Frie. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

14. Alcohol license renewals.

Alderperson Mack presented the alcohol license renewals to the Council as recommended for approval by the Public Safety Committee. Motion by Alderperson Mack to approve the alcohol license renewals. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries. (list attached as permanent record)

15. Operator licenses – new and renewals.

The Council reviewed the list of operator license. Motion by Alderperson Mack to approve the operator license renewals as presented. Seconded by Alderperson Polsean. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries. (list attached as permanent record)

Motion by Alderperson Mack to approve new operator licenses for Michelle Johnson, Katherine Brunsluk, Heidi Hendrickson and Lisa Stoikes as recommended by Public Safety. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

16. Public Safety committee recommendation on purchase of Police dispatch console.

Chief of Police Mark Rahr reviewed the quotes received for the console. The Public Safety Committee was recommending the low quote of NCS in the amount of \$7,310.00. Motion by Alderperson Mack to accept the quote of NCS in the amount of \$7,310.00. Seconded by Alderperson Polsean. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries

17. Appointment of Alderperson representing Ward 8.

Motion by Alderperson Noble to appoint Jeff Clifton as Alderperson to represent ward 8. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

18. Payment of bills.

Motion by Alderperson Frie to pay the bills as presented. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

19. Second period for public comment.

No comments.

20. Adjournment.

Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to adjourn the Council meeting until 7:30 pm Tuesday, June 12, 2007. Seconded by Alderperson Frie. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

John Severson, Clerk