

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 11, 2009**

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 Tryggstad, Marc Polsean, Charles Steinhoff, Gary Krause, Weston Mack, Roger Hatlem, John Thompson, Jeff Clifton and Terry Noble present. Also present were Administrator Jeff Gohlke, Assistant Administrator Matt Giese, Clerk John Severson, Police Chief Mark Rahr, Public Works Superintendent Steve Clark, City Attorney David Jenkins, Bret Halverson, Michele Halverson, Jerry Kilmer, Gloria Kilmer and Sue Noble.

2. Approval of the July 28, 2009 Regular Council Minutes

Motion by Alderperson Polsean to approve the July 28, 2009 minutes. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

3. First period for public comment

None

4. Public Hearing and determination of sidewalk assessment on North Washington Ave. between Church St. and Broadway St.

Mayor Fanta called the public hearing to order. Matt Giese reviewed the condition of the existing sidewalk on the block, noting that two properties do not have sidewalk. A preliminary resolution authorizing the assessment process and public hearing was passed by the Council on November 11, 2008. The report of the Department of Public Works specifies 301ft of four ft wide sidewalk. Fourteen feet of existing five foot wide sidewalk recently poured at 521 N. Washington would be replaced with four foot wide and would not be assessed to the property owner. Jerry and Gloria Kilmer, 521 N. Washington Ave, stated that the five foot sidewalk is necessary for wheelchair access to their house and does not want it replaced with four foot sidewalk. Bret Halverson, 403 E. Broadway stated that he does not want sidewalk placed on the Washington Ave. side of his property because it would limit the yard space and reduce the usable space of his driveway. Motion by Alderperson Polsean to table the determination of sidewalk assessment and review the matter at committee. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

5. Resolution authorizing Application for Federal Assistance (Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program)

Jeff Gohlke informed the Council that money is available from USDA through a Rural Business Enterprise Grant to capitalize a revolving loan fund. The City has been approached by the owner of Scenic Valley Green Energy who wants to start a business installing wind generators and is looking for help with startup cost. The grant could provide up to \$100,000 to start a revolving loan fund. Mr. Gohlke answered questions from the Council concerning the operation of a revolving loan fund. Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to approve Resolution No. 09RS010 authorizing application for Federal Assistance. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries

6. Update on NCR building.

Jeff Gohlke introduced Sue Noble, Executive Director of Vernon County Economic Development Association. Ms. Noble reported on the acquisition of the NCR building by VEDA. A planning grant is being applied for to hire a building consultant. The consultant will do a facility assessment and market analysis and assist in determining potential businesses that are a good fit for the building.

7. Payment of bills

Motion by Alderperson Krause to pay the bills as presented on payment reports dated August 7, 2009 and August 11, 2009 in the amounts of \$95,914.60 and \$32,005.46. Seconded by Alderperson Steinhoff. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

8. Second period for public comment

None

9. Adjournment.

Motion by Alderperson Krause to adjourn the meeting until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 11, 2009. Seconded by Alderperson Clifton. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

John Severson, Clerk