

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 25, 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 Tryggestad, Marc Polsean, Charles Steinhoff, Gary Krause, Weston Mack, Roger Hatlem, John Thompson, and Jeff Clifton. Terry Noble was absent. 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, Kahya Fox and Sue Noble.

2. Approval of the August 11, 2009 Regular Council Minutes

Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to approve the August 11, 2009 minutes as corrected. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

3. First period for public comment

None

4. Public Hearing to discuss a proposed planning effort to address community investment in economic development to facilitate job creation and business activity within the Viroqua Industrial Park

Mayor Fanta opened the public hearing. Jeff Gohlke discussed the need for the planning grant in the amount of \$30,000 to promote business expansion in the former NCR building. Sue Noble, Executive Director of VEDA was present and answered questions from the Council. No citizens were present to be heard. Mayor Fanta closed the public hearing.

5. Resolution authorizing application for Community Development Block Grant (NCR Planning Grant)

Motion by Alderperson Clifton to approve Resolution No. 09RS014 authorizing application for a CDBG-Planning Grant. Seconded by Alderperson Steinhoff. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

6. Recommendation for 2009 CDBG Housing Grant Administrative Services.

The Finance Committee met previously to consider the applications received from Couleecap Inc. and Community Development Alternatives Inc. to provide administrative services for the \$650,000 housing grant that the City of Viroqua has been invited to apply for. Requests for proposals had been sent to MSA Professional Services, CWE Inc., Couleecap Inc. and Community Development Alternatives Inc. The Finance Committee unanimously recommended the proposal from Couleecap Inc. with the low bid of \$79,782 as being the most cost effective for the services being offered. The Council reviewed the proposals. Motion by Alderperson Krause to accept the proposal from Couleecap Inc. for the 2009 CDBG Housing Grant Administrative Services. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

7. Public Hearing regarding proposed application for Community Development Block Grant Funds.

Mayor Fanta opened the public hearing. Jeff Gohlke introduced Kahya Fox, Assistant Housing Director for Couleecap Inc. Kahya Fox assisted the Council in conducting the hearing.

Total potential housing grant funds total \$650,000. Eligible CDBG activities will include housing rehabilitation for qualified owner occupied and rental housing and first time homebuyer assistance.

Coulecap currently has identified 28 homes in need of rehabilitation assistance in the City of Viroqua. Eighty percent of available funds, \$452,174, will be used for housing rehabilitation and twenty percent, \$113,044, for homebuyer assistance. Eligible applicants must meet household income limits to be eligible for assistance. Funding is offered at 0% deferred loans payable when homes are sold or transferred. Though no residential displacement is anticipated, anti-displacement and relocation policies were discussed. Kahya Fox answered questions from the Council concerning qualifications for assistance. No citizens were present to be heard. Mayor Fanta closed the public hearing.

8. Ordinance regarding fair and open housing

Matt Giese presented the ordinance to the Council. Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to approve Ordinance No. 09OR004, an ordinance regarding fair and open housing, and to waive the second reading. Seconded by Alderperson Clifton. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

9. Resolution authorizing application for Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant (Housing program for Small Cities)

Matt Giese reviewed the resolution with the Council. Motion by Alderperson Polsean to approve Resolution No. 09RS012. A resolution authorizing application for Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant (housing program for Small Cities). Seconded by Alderperson Steinhoff. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

10. Resolution adopting a residential anti-displacement and relocation plan

Matt Giese reviewed the Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan with the Council. Motion by Alderperson Steinhoff to approve Resolution No. 09RS013, adopting a residential anti-displacement and relocation plan. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

11. Bid award for Eckhart Park Bathrooms

Bids had been received from Hofer Construction \$61,650 and North Country Contractors \$48,560. Matt Giese and Dan Stalsberg met with North Country Contractors to review their bid and recommended award of the contract to North Country Contractors. Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to award the Eckhart Park Bathroom contract in the amount of \$48,560 to North Country Contractors. Seconded by Alderperson Mack. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

12. Operator licenses and Picnic Licenses

Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve operator licenses for Amanda Ross and Rachel Myers. Seconded by Alderperson Steinhoff. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries. Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad to grant a Picnic license to Driftless Community Radio Inc. for the new exhibit building, Vernon Co. Fairgrounds on September 26, 2009. Seconded by Alderperson Steinhoff. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

13. Payment of bills

Motion by Alderperson Krause to pay the bills as presented on payment reports dated August 21, 2009 and August 25, 2009 in the amounts of \$176,831.13 and \$16,836.82. Seconded by Alderperson Hatlem. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

14. Second period for public comment

None

15. Adjournment.

Motion by Alderperson Polsean to adjourn the meeting until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, 2009.
Seconded by Alderperson Clifton. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

John Severson, Clerk