

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
September 24, 2013**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 2013 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Gary Krause, John Thompson, Cyndy Hubbard, Marc Polsean, Mark Rahr, Tom Wilson and Jeff Clifton present. Alderperson Terry Noble was absent. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Public Works Director Steve Clark, Fire Chief Steve Skrede, City Attorney David Jenkins, Sheriff John Spears, Dan Jefson, Dorothy Jasperson, Mitch Hundt, and Brad Mashak.

2. Approval of the September 10, 2013 Regular Council Minutes - Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2013 Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – Steve Clark stated the Water Department received a Small Systems Excellence Award from the Wisconsin Water Works Association this week. We were nominated by our local DNR representative. There were six nominations throughout the state.

4. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve operator licenses for Tasha Foss, Dawn Bakkestuen, Jody Carson, Jennifer Smart, Jessica Hooper, and Richard Fleeharty II. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Change of Agent approval for Class A beer/liquor licenses – Wal-Mart (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Wilson/second by Alderperson Krause to approve the change of agent for Wal-Mart from Tanya Kangas to Richard Fleeharty II for their Class A beer and Class A liquor licenses. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Resolution accepting donation of WTC property for library site to City of Viroqua (Plan Commission & Library Board) - Severson stated the Plan Commission and Library Board have reviewed the documents and covenants and recommend approval. The negotiated date of start of construction is 8/1/2015. Motion by Alderperson Krause/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve resolution 013RS013 accepting a deed of property from Western Technical College Foundation, Inc. for the new library site. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Request from City of Westby to form a multi-jurisdictional committee to explore the possibility of a police department merger with the City of Viroqua – Mayor Fanta stated he was contacted by Westby's Mayor Dan Jefson regarding the possibility of forming a committee to look into merging police departments. Dan Jefson addressed the Council stating budgets are tight and this may not work but would like to explore the idea of combination of services to save money and share resources. Westby's City Council voted 4-2 to start a committee. Sheriff Spears stated that the Vernon County Sheriff's Department should also be included in the committee as the City doesn't have 24 hour coverage so the County dispatch would be involved. Alderperson Wilson feels the committee should include members of all police forces, as well as possibly citizens at large, along with Board members. Public hearings in both cities may be needed as well. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Krause to approve the multi-jurisdictional committee. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Payment of bills. – Motion by Alderperson Krause/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the payment of bills on report date 09/20/13 in the amount of \$149,999.25 and additional bills report date 09/24/13 in the amount of \$22,213.59. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Second Period for Public Comment – Alderperson Wilson met with a renewable energy group representative and suggested sending the idea of passing a resolution regarding third party financing to the Public Works committee or another ad hoc committee regarding renewable energy performance contracting.

10. Adjournment -

Motion made by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk