

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
October 30, 2012**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on October 30, 2012 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Chuck Steinhoff, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Jeff Clifton, Gary Krause, Mark Rahr, and Terry Noble present. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, DPW Steve Clark, Fire Chief Steve Skrede, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Utility Clerk Nancy Bekkedal, Margaret Thielke, Kelvin Rodolfo, Joel Gordon, Stephen Walker, Beth Walker Stephenson, Peg La Martina, Kathy Crittenden, Joan O'Connor, Arwyn Wildhack, Vicki Ramsay, Angie Bernstein, and Shauna Anderson

2. Approval of the October 9, 2012 Regular Council Minutes - Motion by Alderperson Steinmetz/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2012 regular Council meeting. Alderperson Hubbard stated that under item seven it should be added that the letter was emailed to Council members for review prior to being sent. Voice vote all in favor with the correction added. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment

Arwyn Wildhack presented the Council with a letter expressing concerns regarding the recent boulevard letter that was sent out and offered reasons why having only grass and approved trees was limiting and asked if variances could be an alternative. Vicki Ramsay stated she would like to see an update to the noxious weed ordinance regarding what is considered a noxious weed. Peg LaMartina stated it would be nice to find a middle ground between the ordinances and the boulevard plantings by working together. Severson stated that these items can be brought up at the next Public Property meeting when scheduled.

4. Presentation on Karst Project – Margaret Thielke & Kelvin Rodolfo – tabled until the November 13, 2012 meeting.

5. Operator License (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Krause to approve an Operator License for Erin Varney at the Viroqua Food Coop. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Application for Class “B” beer and “Class B” liquor license – Tangled Hickory Wine Bar at 120 S. Main Street, Karya Powell, Agent (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Krause to approve the Class “B” beer and “Class B” liquor license for Tangled Hickory Wine Bar with the condition that they return the “Class A” liquor and “Class C” wine licenses they were already issued. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Update on Well #5 (Public Works) – Clark stated the pump and wire are back in the ground and they should be able to start pumping late on Wednesday, and once a safe sample is received they hope to be back online by the end of the week.

8. Possible closed session per Wis. Stats 19.85 (1) (c) – “considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governing body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility” – Water Operator/Foremen, Director of Public Works
Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Krause to enter closed session. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session

Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Krause to reconvene in open session. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson Krause/second by Alderperson Steinhoff to approve a \$5000 one-time wage adjustment to Greg Marsh, Water Operator/Foreman effective 1/1/2013. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve a \$5000 one-time wage adjustment to Steve Clark, Director of Public Works effective 1/1/2013. Roll call vote with six yes votes and three no votes. Motion carried. Alderpersons Rahr, Hubbard, and Noble voted no.

10. Authorize publication of proposed 2013 General Fund Budget and set date for public hearing

Severson stated that he checked with the auditors and Sean Lentz regarding assigning administration costs from the General Fund to the TIF districts in the amount of approximately \$4000 to be split among the TIF districts as this is common practice in other municipalities. The Park & Rec budget revenues were also increased by \$5000. Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve a 2% increase in General Fund wages for 2013. Roll call vote with eight yes votes and one no vote. Motion carried. Alderperson Polsean voted no. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Steinhoff to approve publication of the proposed budget immediately with a public hearing date of November 27, 2012 at the regular Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Payment of bills.

A motion was made by Alderperson Krause to approve the payment of bills on report date 10/26/12 in the amount of \$131,980.89 and additional bills report date 10/30/12 in the amount of \$181,141.08/second by Alderperson Steinhoff. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Second Period for Public Comment – none

13. Adjournment -

Motion made by Alderperson Steinhoff/second by Alderperson Polsean to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk