

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Mark Rahr, Cyndy Hubbard, Jeff Clifton, Tom Wilson, John Thompson and Mike Bankes present. Terry Noble was excused. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney David Jenkins, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Ben Wojahn, Tom Lukens, Lila Cina and Paul Devine.

2. Approval of the November 11, 2014 Regular Council Minutes – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2014 as presented. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried. Alderperson Hubbard thanked Clerk Polhamus for the additional information being added to the minutes.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Discussion on apartments/senior apartment options – Lila Cina – Cina stated she and others she has spoken with have noticed that Viroqua does not have any senior housing available. Viroqua has some low income housing but this would be for seniors that are looking for apartments with garages to rent where they would not need to do the maintenance nor purchase them. Something similar to the Nordic Village in Westby would be ideal. Cina has spoken with Nordic Village and Bethel Home and neither have intentions to build in Viroqua and there are areas around Viroqua that would be ideal for this type of housing. Many seniors want to stay in Viroqua and there is a need. Severson stated the City can get the word out to developers regarding this need. Cina also wanted to thank the City workers for picking up her lawn waste and that they are doing a good job.

5. Support of Sidie Hollow Lake Planning Grant – Tom Lukens, Kickapoo Valley Stewardship Network – Assistant County Conservationist Ben Wojahn stated that Sidie Hollow Lake has had increased sediment due to the flooding in recent years and they are applying for a DNR lakes planning grant to help install best management practices in the Sidie Hollow Watershed Area. They had previously done one for Jersey Valley. Phase I is to collect data. Phase II is to identify rural landscape best management practices and cost effective areas. Phase III is applying for CDBG grants and Implementation grants to install practices and find funding sources. Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Wilson to send a letter of support for the Sidie Hollow Lake Planning Grant to the DNR. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Re-appointment to Tourism Committee for two year term expiring 12/1/2016 – Ted Parrish – Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Hubbard to re-appoint Ted Parrish to the Tourism Committee. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Approval of Certified Survey Map – Chatrine Marit Sherry Trust (Plan Commission) – Attorney Jenkins stated the page numbering appears to be off on the maps and has contacted the surveyor. Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the Certified Survey Map upon further review of the page numbering by the surveyor. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Approval of Quarles & Brady for bond counsel services (Public Works) – this is a USDA requirement for the proposed issuance of water and sewer system revenue bonds. Their proposal is a cost of \$8000 for the water and \$8000 for the sewer bonds. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve Quarles & Brady as bond counsel services for \$16,000 (\$8000-water, \$8000-sewer). Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Rescinding of Historic Designation – Bennett House, 322 N. Dunlap Avenue (Historic Preservation) – Alderperson Wilson stated Historic Preservation held a public hearing with no comments received. Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Bankes to rescind the Historic Designation at 322 N. Dunlap Avenue. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Five year step increases – Dave Brudos, Nate Noggle (Finance) Severson stated these were increases from the former union contract that were missed during the original budget discussions. Noggle's increase was included;

however it should have happened in 2014. Brudos' is effective in 2015 but probably can be absorbed within the public works budget line items. The amounts would be \$2.00/hour increase for Dave Brudos 1/1/2015 and a \$2.00/hour increase for Nate Noggle retro to 1/1/2014 that would come from reserves. Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the five year step increases for Dave Brudos and Nate Noggle. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Request for donation by Vernon County Historical Society (Finance) Severson stated the original request was for \$5000, however there is only \$3300 remaining in the 2014 donation account. They are requesting the money for window upgrades for the side of the museum that faces Main Street. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve the donation of \$3300 to the Vernon County Historical Society. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Approval of Library project direct purchase invoices (Finance) Polhamus stated we have \$75,358.20 in direct purchase invoices to save sales tax on the library project. These range from insulation to drywall and they will come back as change orders on the project. The first of the change orders will be coming to the December 9th Council. We currently have \$448,668.70 remaining in the construction fund. We have submitted the first draw to the CDBG grant for \$86,875 and according to the building committee the project is about 50% complete. All the direct purchase invoices have been reviewed by the construction manager and are ready for payment. Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the direct purchase invoices for \$75,358.20. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Payment of bills. – Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the payment of bills on report date 11/20/14 in the amount of \$123,914.94 and additional bills report date 11/25/14 in the amount of \$92,752.70. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Second Period for Public Comment – none

15. Adjournment -

Motion made by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk