

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
December 10, 2013**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Gary Krause, Mark Rahr, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, and Tom Wilson present. Alderpersons Terry Noble and Jeff Clifton were excused. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Fire Chief Steve Skrede, City Attorney David Jenkins, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, and Chad Buros

2. Approval of the November 26, 2013 Regular Council Minutes – Motion by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2013 Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Approval of Johnson Block & Company to perform 2013 audit – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Wilson to approve the agreement with Johnson Block & Company to perform the 2013 audit. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Appointment of election workers for 2014-2015 election cycle – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Krause to approve the list of election workers (attached) for the 2014-2015 election cycle. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Operator licenses (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve operator licenses for Terri Torgerson, Todd Johnson, Allyson Parr, Sharon Engh, Merten Peterson, and Alexandria Beenken. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Approval of agent change on Class A beer & liquor licenses – Walgreens (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve Alexandria Beenken as the new agent for Walgreen's Class "A" beer and liquor licenses replacing Rick Tully. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. 2013 Capital expenditure budget amendment (Finance) – Fanta reviewed the list of budget amendments for the Police/Fire Dept. roof, website, Rock Avenue engineering, and Park & Rec tractor cab for a total of \$118,369. We can get an interest rate of 2.7% locally for a ten year term. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve the budget amendment of \$118,369 and authorize Severson, Polhamus, and Fanta to proceed with borrowing locally for a ten year term with a not to exceed interest rate of 2.7%. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Recommendation for award of Fire Department Aerial bid (Public Safety & Fire Dept.) – Severson stated bid specs were sent out to four companies with only two bidding. The Public Safety committee recommended approval of the Rossenbauer America stepped payment bid of \$882,745. Motion by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve the stepped payment bid of \$882,745 from Rossenbauer America. Roll call vote six in favor with one abstention. Alderperson Thompson abstained.

10. Approval of Vernon Electric Right of Way Easement for Well #6 – Severson stated they are providing power to the well house #6 and this easement is from Washington Avenue to the front part of the well house property for their lines. This was also reviewed by Attorney Jenkins and Engineer Grainger. Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Krause to approve the right of way easement for Vernon Electric. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Resolution accepting a donation of property from Dale and Joan Wright (Plan Commission) – Fanta stated the Plan Commission met and recommended acceptance of the approximately two acres of property appraised at \$53,500 at Linton and Railroad Avenues. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve Resolution 13RS017 accepting a deed of property from Dale and Joan Wright. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Resolution regarding a claim – Kenneth & Angie Frye (Finance) – Severson stated he was contacted by the Frye's regarding acceptance of the offer of \$6000 that the Finance Committee had agreed upon regarding the installation of his wood boiler system and denial of their building permit. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve Resolution 13RS018 regarding a claim. Roll call vote six in favor with one abstention. Alderperson Bekkedal abstained.

13. Resolution authorizing solid waste/recycling charge amendment (Finance) – Severson stated that Southwest Sanitation exercised a cost of living adjustment to their rates as allowed in their contract which resulted in a 10% increase in cost to the City. We pay the utility 5% for putting this on the utility bills. This cost increase would close the gap in costs. Their rate is based on the number of households and the residential increase would equate to \$7.75 for trash and \$1.15 for recycling for a total of \$8.90 with commercial rates going to \$4.75 for recycling only. Motion by Alderperson Wilson/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve Resolution 13RS019 authorizing solid waste and recycling charge amendment. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Payment of bills. – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the payment of bills on report date 12/06/13 in the amount of \$134,766.43 and additional bills report date 12/10/13 in the amount of \$7236.58. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Second Period for Public Comment – none

16. Adjournment -

Motion made by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk