

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2015**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Mark Rahr, Cyndy Hubbard, Terry Noble, John Thompson and Mike Bankes present. Jeff Clifton and Marc Polsean were excused. Tom Wilson attended via speakerphone. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney David Jenkins, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Fire Chief Steve Skrede, Engineer Sarah Grainger, Park and Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Jeff Gohlke, LaVon Felton, and Devorah Yahn.

2. Approval of the January 13, 2015 Regular Council Minutes – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting as presented. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Approval of easement for Devorah Yahn on City property off Railroad Avenue (Public Property) – Public Property met twice on this issue and recommended an easement to cross the west one rod of the parcel that is part of Outlot 76 of the Assessor's Plat of the City of Viroqua that is adjacent to the south side of Yahn's property. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Rahr to approve the easement for Devorah Yahn. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve operator licenses for Dana Fischer, Bonnie Zastrow, Danielle Baker, Kim Aardahl, and Tonia Volden. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Approval of Temporary Class B beer license for Viroqua Fire Department on March 21, 2015 (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve a temporary class B beer license for the Viroqua Fire Department annual fundraiser on March 21, 2015. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Resolution accepting a dedication of green space and named streets – Frontier Property Management LLC (Plan Commission) – Jenkins stated this was brought before Council in December regarding the area by the County B mobile home park. We did not have the original document to record at the Register of Deeds so the owners signed a new document to allow us to record the dedication of the green space, Addie Avenue, Delbean Street and Joseph Martin Avenue. Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve Resolution 15RS001 accepting a dedication of green space and named streets. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Resolution accepting dedication of a street – Wheeler property (Plan Commission) – Jenkins stated during research for the USDA loan project, we are required to map all of the utility lines for the City and some cross private property. In 1998 the Wheeler's signed a dedication which we don't show as filed so this resolution is confirming the City's acceptance of the dedication. This area is at the end of Abbey Lane and up to the mobile home park where there is no street currently. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Noble to approve Resolution 15RS002 accepting a dedication of a street. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Recommendation from Viroqua Development Association (VDA) for offer to purchase of 20 acre parcel for expansion of Industrial Park (Plan Commission) – Severson stated there has been a series of meetings with the County Buildings & Grounds Committee and a resolution was passed offering for sale 20 acres across from the County salt sheds which appraised for a little over \$13,000/acre. VDA has met and recommends the purchase and the funds are in place in their building fund. A new industrial TIF district would be set up in this area. The County is also planning on annexing the land around the salt shed as the areas need to be contiguous. LaVon Felton stated this will still have to pass by 2/3 of the County Board on February 5th for final approval. Alderperson Wilson asked how this area would be zoned and Jeff Gohlke stated historically the County property was not zoned when they were annexed but would need to be determined. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson

Hubbard to approve Resolution 15RS003 approving an offer that the City purchase land from the County for the appraised price of \$261,360.00. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Approval for appraisal of old library building (Public Property) - Severson stated Public Property met and recommended an appraisal be done on the old library building. We will talk with appraisers as to when the proper time would be to do it – either before or after they have moved into the new building. Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Noble to approve getting an appraisal of the old library building at a time to be determined. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Approval of Library project direct purchase invoices (Finance) - Polhamus stated we have \$1338.61 in direct purchase invoices to save sales tax on the library project. These are from Gexpro which is part of the electrical package. Both of the invoices have been reviewed by the Construction Manager and are ready for payment. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve direct purchase invoices in the amount of \$1338.61. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Approval of Library Pay Request #4 – Tricon General Construction (Finance) - this pay request includes the change orders previously approved including all the direct purchases. There is only about \$191,000 remaining in the Construction account so this will trigger the first draw on the construction line of credit and all donations received by the Foundation will now go toward paying down the loan and interest each month. We have also submitted the second request for funds from the CDBG grant. Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve Pay Request #4 for Tricon General Construction for \$268,300.09. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. 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/wastewater operator (in training) position offer of employment (Public Works recommendation) Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Rahr to enter closed session. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. The Council, Mayor, Severson, Polhamus, and Grainger entered closed session at 8:05pm.

14. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Hubbard to reconvene in open session at 8:15 pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Bankes to hire Brok Eitsert as Water/Wastewater operator (in training) at a wage of \$17.20/hour with a probationary period of one year and upon obtaining required licenses would receive a wage increase at that time. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Payment of bills. – Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the payment of bills on report date 01/23/15 in the amount of \$37,528.64 and additional bills report date 01/27/15 in the amount of \$10,679.12. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

16. Second Period for Public Comment – none

17. Adjournment -

Motion made by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk