

**CITY OF VIROQUA  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
JUNE 30, 2015**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Terry Noble, Mike Bankes, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard, John Montemurno, Todd Sanwick and Jeff Clifton present. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney David Jenkins, Fire Chief Steve Skrede, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Utility Clerk Nancy Bekkedal, Engineer Sarah Grainger, Jessica Anderson, Shawn Engh, Rebecca Clifton, Ray & Cathy Hanson and Paul Grenier.

**2. Approval of the June 9, 2015 Regular Council minutes** – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Sanwick to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2015 meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**3. First period for public comment** – none

**4. Public hearing on conditional use application for 411 S. East Avenue for daycare/Montessori school – Jessica Anderson** Mayor Fanta opened the public hearing at 7:35 p.m. Anderson addressed the Council with an update on her current facility and her plans for the new location. Paul Grenier spoke on behalf of Anderson as a neighbor and he did not have any issues with their current facility and will miss them. Cathy and Ray Hanson submitted a petition from the neighbors at 405 and 409 S. East Avenue, 421 and 427 E. Oak Street and 520 S. East Avenue requesting the Council reject the conditional use application. They are concerned about the infrastructure, traffic and noise in their neighborhood. Rebecca Clifton spoke in favor of the school. Mayor Fanta stated the Plan Commission forwarded this to Council but it was not a unanimous vote. Anderson stated she is willing to open her facility to anyone that wants to visit and is willing to work with the neighbors. Options for traffic speed and safety were also discussed. The public hearing was closed at 8:00 p.m.

**5. Consideration of request for conditional use at 411 S. East Avenue for daycare/Montessori school (Plan Commission)** Motion by Alderperson Montemurno/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the conditional use application for 411 S. East Avenue for a daycare/Montessori school. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**6. Public hearing on conditional use application for 747 S. Main Street for LED sign – Bruce Hill & Shawn Engh** – Mayor Fanta opened the public hearing at 8:00 p.m. The design committee met and approved the sign and the Plan Commission recommended approval of the LED sign with the same conditions set forth on the Royal Bank sign. They will be using the existing sign and the DOT boundaries were discussed. Alderperson Hubbard questioned the hours of operation and feels these should be specified. The public hearing was closed at 8:15 p.m.

**7. Consideration of request for conditional use at 747 S. Main Street for LED sign (Plan Commission)** Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve the conditional use application for a LED sign at 747 S. Main Street with the following conditions: 1) The sign can be used only during normal business hours. (6 am-10 pm) 2) Only static messages will be allowed. Text will not scroll, spin, or otherwise move across the sign face. No background or animated graphics will be permitted, such as flags, clouds, balloons, bubbles, etc. Static graphic representations of product or services may be displayed as part of the message. 3) Color may be used in part of the static message but is limited to a maximum of five colors at any given time. 4) Messages shall be visible for a minimum of three seconds or DOT minimum standards. There will be no dwell time (dark screen) between messages to avoid flashing appearance. 5) No other signs will be permitted to be attached to the main sign or its supports. 6) The light intensity of the sign will be regulated by a light sensing unit so that the sign will automatically dim as ambient light decreases. Voice vote seven in favor, two against. Motion carried. Alderpersons Hubbard and Montemurno voted no.

**8. Temporary Class B license request – Viroqua Area Pullers (July 31-Aug 2, 2015) Truck & Tractor Pull (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve the temporary Class B beer license for Viroqua Area Pullers from July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**9. Alcohol license renewal – RADA Investments, LLC (Public Safety)** RADA Investments LLC was purchased by Anthony Wangen and Joe Vikemyr from Aidee Hoffmann on June 1, 2015 and Wangen is the registered agent on file with the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions. He has filled out the required agent paperwork for

the license renewal. The premise description includes the 12,000 square foot inside bar, kitchen and walk in cooler as well as 1500 square feet under the outside porch inside the handrails. Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the Class B beer and Class B liquor license for RADA Investments, LLC. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**10. Operator license approvals (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Sanwick to approve operator licenses for Isabela Candelaria, Tolla Lepke, Kathleen Rynes, Lynn Zitzner and Sara Meiners. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**11. Authorization to pursue grant for SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) for Fire Dept. (Public Safety)** – Fire Chief Skrede stated the replacement of the SCBAs are in the five year plan and there are federal grant programs available for EMS to upgrade their equipment. The Townships have requested we pursue a grant up to \$300,000 which carries up to a 20% match that would be shared by both the City and Towns. Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Montemurno to authorize Skrede to pursue the grant. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**12. Website maintenance contract (Finance)** – no action was sent forward from the Finance Committee.

**13. Appointment of Weed Commissioner (Finance)** – Motion by Alderperson Clifton/second by Alderperson Hubbard to appoint Co-Weed Commissioners Mike Bankes and Dave Brudos. Bankes will be in charge of the boulevard enforcement of our ordinance and Brudos will be in charge of the other issues including weeds and yard height. The \$1500 compensation for the position will be split between the two. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**14. Rock and NorthEast Avenue bid review (Public Works)** – The City received three bids. Badger Environmental - \$2,774,783.91, A-1 Excavating - \$3,076,976.44, and H. James and Sons - \$3,318,049.49. The recommendation from Public Works was to approve the Badger Environmental bid.

**15. Possible closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. Section 19.85(1)(e) “Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.” Deliberations on Rock and NorthEast Avenue bids** – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Koppa to enter closed session at 8:45 p.m. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. The Council, Mayor, Clerk, Administrator, Engineer, and Utility Clerk remained in closed session.

**16. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Polsean to reconvene in open session at 9:05 p.m. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**17. Resolution to award public construction contract for Rock and NorthEast Avenue (Public Works)** Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Clifton to approve Resolution 15RS009 to award the public construction contract to Badger Environmental & Earthworks, Inc. for the Rock and NorthEast Avenue project at a bid of \$2,774,783.91. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**18. Acceptance of Bond Counsel proposal – Quarles & Brady for water & sewer bond activity (Finance)** Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve the proposal by Quarles & Brady for water and sewer bond activity in the amount of \$7500 for the Water notes and \$7500 for the Sewer Notes for a total of \$15,000. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**19. Resolution amending declaration of official intent for Rock and NorthEast Avenue project (Finance)** This is an IRS requirement if we intend to reimburse ourselves for project costs. This amendment adds the NorthEast Avenue project into the original declaration. Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve resolution 15RS010 to amend the declaration of official intent for the Rock and NorthEast Avenue projects. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**20. Request for additional funds from USDA for Rock and NorthEast Avenue project (Finance)** The original cost estimate was changed and USDA would require a subsequent loan if we needed to pursue additional funding. Rather than pursuing an additional loan the lighting portion of the project will be removed from the USDA fund

request and we will be using TIF funding to cover this with the storm sewer that was already proposed for a total of \$468,000 from TIF.

**21. Library project direct purchase invoices (Finance)** We have seven direct purchase invoices for Gexpro for \$2,963.70 for electric fixtures. These invoices have been reviewed by the electrical contractor and the construction manager. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve the payment to Gexpro for \$2,963.70. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**22. Payment of bills.** – Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the payment of bills on report date 06/26/15 in the amount of \$182,691.23 and additional bills report date 06/30/15 in the amount of \$91,677.45. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**23. Second Period for Public Comment** - none

**24. Adjournment** -

Motion made by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk