

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Terry Noble, Mike Bankes, Mike Koppa, John Montemurno, Cyndy Hubbard and Todd Sanwick present. Jeff Clifton was excused. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney David Jenkins, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Utility Clerk Nancy Bekkedal, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Library Director Trina Erickson, Nathan Randall, Kurt Muchow, Tammi Hoefling, Christopher Turner, Angie Lawrence, Tom Wilson, Chris Soltau, Jim Soltau and Jack Rouu.

2. Approval of the September 8, 2015 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2015 meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Public hearing on conditional use application from American Legion Post #138 for use of a LED message board – Mayor Fanta opened the public hearing at 7:32 p.m. This application was sent forward from Plan Commission with six conditions as in previous sign applications. They are planning on having this next to their building with daily specials, events, etc. and it will be off when the Legion is closed. Tom Wilson stated they should check on any restrictions being next to a state highway. The public hearing was closed at 7:36 p.m.

5. Consideration of conditional use application – American Legion Post #138 (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Koppa/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve the conditional use application with the six conditions approved by Plan Commission. 1) The sign can be used only during normal business hours 2) Only static messages will be allowed 3) Maximum of five colors in static message at any time 4) Messages shall be visible for a minimum of three seconds or DOT minimum standards with no dwell time between messages 5) No other signs are to be attached to the main sign or supports 6) Light intensity will be regulated by a light sensing unit so that the sign automatically dims as ambient light decreases. Voice vote six in favor, one opposed, and one abstention. Motion carried. Alderperson Montemurno voted no and Alderperson Bekkedal abstained.

6. Extraterritorial Certified Survey Map approval – Robert Starks (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the extraterritorial certified survey map. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Review and consider adoption of resolution approving tax increment district No. 3 amendment No. 6 – Kurt Muchow reviewed the amendment for the Council. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Montemurno to approve resolution 15RS021 for tax increment district No. 3 amendment No. 6. Roll call vote seven in favor and one abstention. Motion carried. Alderperson Sanwick abstained.

8. Library furniture & fixtures proposal – Severson stated they were able to find almost all the items on the state contracts that were already bid. Some shelving needed to be added and a few items will still need to be found. The total cost with shipping and assembly for the items available was \$204,052.84 with approximately \$5797 left to purchase elsewhere. This was about half of the original estimate and Alderperson Noble commended them for that. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve the furniture and fixtures proposal of \$204,052.84. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Sanwick/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve operator licenses for Jason Coy, Tracy Joholski, Sara Baker, David Micklus, Michael Loeffelholz and Joslyn Olson. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Approval of agent change for Viking Inn Supper Club, Inc. (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Montemurno to approve the agent change from David Tryggestad to Amy Jo Fischer for the Viking Inn Supper Club, Inc. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Re-appointment of Roy Torgerson to Airport Commission for six year term ending 9/1/2021 (Airport Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to reappoint Roy Torgerson to the Airport Commission for a six year term ending 9/1/2021. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Appointment of interim building inspector (Finance) – Wayne Haugrud is willing to continue doing residential inspections until the end of the year. General Engineering has been contacted but they may be too far away. Marc Polsean is willing to issue permits in the interim at \$15 per hour and there will be an on-going search for a replacement. Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Noble to appoint Marc Polsean as interim building inspector at \$15 per hour. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Authorization to submit population estimate challenge form – Polhamus stated Nora Roughen-Schmidt has put together estimates from the school district to submit to challenge our population estimate of 4343 people. The challenge form was due by September 15th so this was submitted upon formal approval tonight. The Department of Administration has reviewed the documents and stated that the school enrollment increase only offsets the decreases in institutional numbers for Bethel Home and the Vernon County Jail. Residents only in the nursing home for therapy and alcohol programs at the jail have both added to the reasons their census numbers have decreased. Overall the state was willing to change our population estimate to 4358 for 2015. We can submit another challenge next year if we feel there are other areas to explore for increase in population. Motion by Alderperson Montemurno/second by Alderperson Hubbard to authorize the submission of the population estimate challenge form. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Approval of City purchase of property in Tid #6 off Rock Street from Vernon Memorial (Former Nuzum lot) (Plan Commission) – The offer of \$87,000 with the 60 day option was accepted by Vernon Memorial. This would be a Tid #6 eligible expense with general fund borrowing. The hope is for a development situation on that lot and the city would be able to offer development incentives. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve the city purchase of property in Tid #6 from Vernon Memorial for \$87,000. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Resolution – Option selection on Wisconsin Public Employers' Group Health Insurance Program (Finance) – The finance committee met and reviewed a presentation on the WEA health insurance consortium with other municipalities that is being developed. We need to send a resolution into the state health insurance plan to withdraw and we will need confirmation in writing that we can rescind the resolution by December 1st if necessary. All areas will need to commit by November 1st so staff will be working on available options for the health insurance including deductibles and co-pays. The retirement and life insurance stays with the state. Motion by Alderperson Bankes/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve resolution 15RS022 to withdraw from the Wisconsin public employers' group health insurance program. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

16. Approval of library change order #8 for library project (Finance) – this change order includes all direct purchases to date of \$36,153.40 plus sales tax savings of \$1988.44 for a total credit of \$38,141.84. This credit will come on the next Tricon pay request. Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Montemurno to approve change order #8 for (\$38,141.84). Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

17. Approval of geo-technical work for waste water treatment facility outfall force main (Public Works) three bids were received for the borings of the discharge pipe to Springville with the lowest bid being from Chosen Valley Testing for \$9180. Motion by Alderperson Montemurno/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the bid from Chosen Valley Testing for \$9180. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

18. Approval of Badger Environmental pay request #3 – Rock Avenue Project (Public Works) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Sanwick to approve pay request #3 to Badger Environmental for \$239,326.93. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

19. Payment of bills. – Motion by Alderperson Montemurno/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the payment of bills on report date 09/24/15 in the amount of \$146,239.32 and additional bills report date 09/29/15 in the amount of \$149,038.70. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

20. Second Period for Public Comment – none

21. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk