

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 29, 2016**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Terry Noble, Marc Polsean, Mike Bankes, Mike Koppa, Sondra Naxi, John Montemurno, Todd Sanwick and Cyndy Hubbard present. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney George Hopkins, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Utility Clerk Nancy Bekkedal, Tom Wilson and Marcia Andrew.

2. Approval of the November 1, 2016 Special Council and November 8, 2016 Regular Council minutes –

Motion by Alderperson Naxi/second by Alderperson Montemurno to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2016 and November 8, 2016 Council meetings. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Public Hearing on proposed 2017 General Fund budget – Mayor Fanta opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m. Administrator Severson reviewed the budget by line item and explained changes made since the publication due to the budget expenditure restraint requirements. \$28,000 was removed from the budget capital outlay along with a change in debt service being moved to Tid #6 for the South Rock project. Alderperson Bekkedal updated the Council on the Cemetery request that is being removed for this year regarding personnel issues. Ultimately the Cemetery is a City responsibility so the funding need will still be there. Tom Wilson stated he would like to see the library look into energy savings measures and asked questions from the budget publication. Mayor Fanta closed the public hearing at 8:34 p.m.

5. Vernon County Historical Society 2017 funding request – Marcia Andrew requested \$5000 on behalf of the Historical Society and would like it to be a standing request each year. They receive \$25,000 from the County and they still owe \$12,000 for the elevator project. Our contribution would go towards regular operations of the museum.

6. Viroqua Cemetery 2017 funding request – this item was addressed during the public hearing.

7. Possible closed session per Wis. Stat 19.85 (1) (c) – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – 2017 wage & fringe consideration – Motion by Alderperson Sanwick/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to go to closed session at 8:45 p.m. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Reconvene in open session for possible action on items discussed during closed session – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Montemurno to reconvene in open session at 9:00 p.m. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve a 2% across the board increase in wages effective 1/1/2017. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Approval of the 2017 General Fund budget and 2016 tax levy collectible in 2017 – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve a \$2500 donation to the Historical Society and \$2500 donation to the Smart Bus in the 2017 budget along with approval of a tax levy of \$1,934,211. This also includes approval of all amendments to the budget and capital borrowing and debt service changes from the publication for total debt service of \$540,035 principal and \$144,012 interest - \$684,047. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. The overall mill rate increase equates to .024771223 with all entities, which is an approximate \$50.00 increase per \$100,000 valuation.

10. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Sanwick to approve an operator license for Sierra Doerring. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Approval of temporary Class B wine license for Vernon County Humane Society at Animal Tracks 12/2/2016 (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Naxi to approve the temporary Class B wine license for the Vernon County Humane Society. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Approval of Change Order #4 – Rock Avenue Project (Public Works) – there were changes to the tree order and the remainder is for the closeout of the quantity amounts in the contract. Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve change order #4 for (\$16,454.89). Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Approval of Badger Environmental Pay Request #15 – Rock/North East Avenue project (Public Works) – Motion by Alderperson Koppa/second by Alderperson Montemurno to approve Pay Request #15 for \$93,685.52. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Approval of Change Order #2 – Rusk Avenue project (Public Works) – this change order is for the closeout of quantity amounts in the contract. This also includes quantities for the South Rock project so there is an overall increase of \$32,305.17. Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve change order #2 for \$32,305.17. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Approval of Badger Environmental Pay Request #4 – Rusk Avenue project (Public Works) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Naxi to approve Pay Request #4 for \$18,071.55. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

16. Payment of bills. – Motion by Alderperson Sanwick/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve the payment of bills on report date 11/23/16 in the amount of \$195,793.93 and additional bills on report date 11/29/2016 for \$97,050.29 along with three additional bills for the Viroqua Chamber totaling \$3895.70. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

17. Second Period for Public Comment – none

18. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk