

**CITY OF VIROQUA  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
MAY 8, 2018**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 by Mayor Karen Mischel with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Gregory Splinter, Terry Noble, Tanja Birke, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson and Jeff Gohlke present. Alderperson Sondra Naxi was excused. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney Stephanie Hopkins, Public Works Director/Engineer Sarah Grainger, Utility Clerk Cheryl Purvis, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Library Director Trina Erickson, Angie Cina, Jenny Cain, Toby Grotz, Tom Wilson and Nathan Randall

**2. Approval of the April 17, 2018 Special and April 24, 2018 Regular Council minutes** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Gohlke to approve the minutes from the previous meetings as presented. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**3. First period for public comment** – Toby Grotz inquired about the status of his open records request and stated that there should be access to all public information. Jenny Cain spoke in support of the CAFO resolution.

**4. Approval of Rule Construction, Ltd Pay Request #1 – Wastewater Treatment Facility Contract B (Public Works)** Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to approve pay request #1 for \$71,820.00. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**5. Approval of 3% simplified water rate case (Public Works)** Utility Clerk Purvis stated this rate case would be an inflationary increase since cash flows have not kept up with expenses due to projects and other larger costs since 2015. The average increase on residential would be 55 cents or two cents per day. The fire protection would also increase by 3% or 34 cents a month. We have been pre-qualified by the PSC for the rate increase and it would need to be published and submitted to the PSC by June 1<sup>st</sup> with an effective date for the increase of 8/1/2018. Motion by Alderperson Gohlke/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the 3% simplified water rate case. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. We will monitor the rates going forward at least every other year for more frequent increases to keep up with inflation.

**6. Park & Rec 2017 Annual Report – Dan Stalsberg-** Stalsberg gave a slide presentation for the Council and answered questions regarding operations of the Park & Rec Department for 2017.

**7. Resolution to add Driftless Humane Society as dog licensing agent (Finance)** – this would allow the Humane Society to license dogs that are claimed or adopted without having to charge a holding fee while the resident comes to City Hall to purchase a license. We would still be a licensing agent for the City. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Gohlke to approve resolution 018RS009. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**8. Resolution in support of statewide moratorium on the construction and expansion of industrial-sized concentrated animal feeding operations in Wisconsin-** Alderperson Gohlke stated many Towns have passed similar resolutions and with the Karst topography of our area feels that this is a good idea for the City as well. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve resolution 018RS010. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**9. Payment of bills (Finance)** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the payment of bills on report date 05/03/18 in the amount of \$206,747.21 and additional bills on report date 05/08/2018 in the amount of \$56,690.06. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**10. Second Period for Public Comment** – Tom Wilson stated the Historic Preservation Commission met with a representative from the Wisconsin Economic Development Council Corporation and they have grant funds to help with the bathhouse project and encourages the Council to look at the long-range planning for this area.

**11. Adjournment** - Motion made by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Koppa to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk