

**CITY OF VIROQUA  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 by Mayor Karen Mischel with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Gregory Splinter, Terry Noble, Tanja Birke, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Sondra Naxi and Jeff Gohlke present. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Attorney George Hopkins, Assistant Police Chief Todd Simonson, Public Works Director/Engineer Sarah Grainger, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Tim Hundt, Angie Cina and Tom Wilson

**2. Approval of the February 12, 2019 Regular Council minutes** – Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as presented. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**3. First period for public comment** – Tom Wilson stated he appreciates the work that our road crews have been putting in this winter and that he is in support of the designation of 606 E Court Street as a historic landmark as a member of the Historic Preservation Commission.

**4. Approval of conditions of sale of property at 116 S Rock Avenue (Rock Avenue Apartments) and assignment of bond/development agreement** – the information that was discussed at the last meeting was distributed to the Council for their review along with a listing of reviews from current tenants of PRE/3 locations. Alderpersons Hubbard and Koppa stated there are concerns that should be addressed regarding absentee landlords. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to reject the sale of property at 116 S. Rock Avenue. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**5. Approval of temporary Class B beer license for Viroqua Area Fire Department Annual Fundraiser March 16, 2019 (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the temporary Class B beer license for the Fire Department on March 16, 2019. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**6. Approval of temporary Class B beer and wine license for Viroqua Masonic Lodge on March 3, 2019 (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the temporary Class B beer and wine license for the Masonic Lodge on March 3, 2019. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**7. Approval of temporary Class B beer and wine license for Viroqua Area Rotary Club at Temple Theatre on March 31, 2019 (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the temporary Class B beer and wine license for the Viroqua Area Rotary Club on March 31, 2019. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**8. Operator license approvals (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Gohlke to approve operator licenses for Emily Dahl, Vanessa Marcil, Joseph Ecklund and Kristopher Ness. A conditional approval was given for Jamie Johnson upon payment of amount owed to municipal court. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**9. Designation of property at 606 E Court Street as historic landmark (Historic Preservation)** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the designation of 606 E Court Street as a historic landmark. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**10. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between City, Tourism Commission and Viroqua Chamber Main Street to facilitate Tourism promotion services (Finance)** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the MOU between the City, Tourism Commission and Viroqua Chamber Main Street. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**11. Ordinance amending Section 17.08.020 of municipal code adding brew pubs & distilleries as conditional uses in B-1 Central Business District, B-2 Commercial District and B-3 Industrial District – Second Reading**

**(Plan Commission)** – during the process of drafting this ordinance a public hearing was not done and there was an addition to the ordinance that Plan Commission did not recommend. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Naxi to refer this ordinance back to Plan Commission to have a public hearing at both Plan Commission and City Council in March. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**12. 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 performance review and Mechanic compensation consideration (Public Works)** – Motion by Alderperson Bekkedal/second by Alderperson Hubbard to enter closed session at 8:04 pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**13. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session-** Motion by Alderperson Gohlke/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to reconvene in open session at 8:14 pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Gohlke to approve the compensation proposal outlined by Public Works Director Grainger in closed session. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**14. Payment of bills (Finance)** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Noble to approve the payment of bills on report date 02/21/19 in the amount of \$115,157.37, additional bills on report date 2/26/2019 for \$48,647.21. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**15. Second Period for Public Comment** – none

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk