## CITY OF VIROQUA COUNCIL MINUTES APRIL 8, 2014

## 1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Mark Rahr, Cyndy Hubbard, Terry Noble, Gary Krause, Jeff Clifton, and John Thompson present. Alderperson Tom Wilson was excused. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Police Chief Daron Jefson, Public Works Director Steve Clark, Fire Chief Steve Skrede, Attorney David Jenkins, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Library Director Trina Erickson, Jeff Gohlke, Chuck Steinhoff, Kathy Hanson, Angie Lawrence, Jeff Milliken, Drew Shonka, Robert Swanson, James Olson, and Steve Lawless.

- **2. Approval of the March 25, 2014 Regular Council Minutes** Motion by Alderperson Krause/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2014 Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 3. First period for public comment none
- 4. Resolution authorizing financial support for Viroqua Public Library project & solicit bids Erickson handed out current financials to the Council for the library project showing current amounts raised/committed to the project of \$2,523,711.30 and answered questions. Severson explained that this resolution is asking for an additional \$500,000 to cover the gap between money raised and the estimated construction cost with the understanding there would be continued fundraising and grant exploration. If donations were to exceed the amount needed they would all be put back into the project reducing the tax burden. Severson worked with Ehlers on the debt schedule and with the addition of another \$500,000 to the already pledged amount by the City it would add approximately \$30 - \$35.00 per year per \$100,000 valuation. Combining this with the other obligations already committed such as the fire truck and park & rec building it would be approximately \$65-\$75.00 per year per \$100,000 valuation or .65 mills. Some of our debt will be ending in the next three years which would actually lower the debt service amount. Some items that are driving this timeline are the \$500,000 CDBG grant award will expire this year, the WTC construction schedule, and the donation of land timeline issue. Alderperson Clifton expressed concern that this project should have been an advisory referendum and feels the City should not have to cover the debt when the fundraising fell short. Alderperson Rahr stated that the library is an investment in the community and Thompson stated if we wait and the project comes up again it could end up costing more in the long run by losing the grant and possibly the site location. After all questions and concerns were addressed a motion was made by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve Resolution RS14006 authorizing additional financial support to Viroqua Public Library Project and solicit bids. Roll call vote five in favor and three against. Alderpersons Clifton, Bekkedal, and Polsean voting no. Motion carried.
- **5.** Agreement for grant of entry for library construction project Severson stated the library project is close to the Dahl building and this agreement would grant an easement which in exchange the City would grade and pave an 8x29 foot concrete pad perpendicular from their building for their loading dock at the end of the library project. This agreement only applies if the library is built. The cost of the concrete pad would be approximately \$600 plus the city crew's time. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Krause to approve the agreement for grant of entry. Roll call vote seven in favor and one against. Alderperson Clifton voting no. Motion carried.
- **6. Payment of bills.** Motion by Alderperson Krause/second by Alderperson Polsean to approve the payment of bills on report date 04/04/14 in the amount of \$131,468.91 and additional bills report date 04/08/14 in the amount of \$62,817.68. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- **7. Second Period for Public Comment** Kathy Hanson thanked the Council for their support and consideration for the library project.

## 8. Adjournment -

Motion made by Alderperson Rahr/second by Alderperson Bekkedal to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk