

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons Steve Bekkedal, Marc Polsean, Mike Bankes, Terry Noble, Cyndy Hubbard and Jeff Gohlke present. Alderpersons Mike Koppa, Sondra Naxi and John Thompson were excused. Also present were City Administrator John Severson, City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Attorney George Hopkins, Public Works Director/Engineer Sarah Grainger, Utility Clerk Cheryl Purvis, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Karen Mischel, Tanja Birke, Susan & Bill Townsley, Evan Blattner, Kathy Hanson, Dwayne Latzke and Ken Franzen.

2. Approval of the January 30, 2018 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as presented. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Public hearing on conditional use application by Susan Townsley to permit use of property at 414 South East Avenue for a professional office for private psychotherapy with three practitioners- the public hearing was opened at 7:32 p.m. This property is in the R-2 district across from the Montessori School. They would have a private office with three practitioners Monday-Friday from 8 am-7pm with an occasional Saturday. Parking should not be an issue as they have a two-car garage and driveway parking. Alderperson Bekkedal stated the application should contain names as well as addresses. Going forward this will be added to the packets. The public hearing was closed at 7:40 p.m.

5. Consideration of conditional use application by Susan Townsley for use of property at 414 South East Avenue (Plan Commission)- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Gohlke to approve the conditional use application. Roll call vote five in favor, one against. Motion carried. Alderperson Bekkedal voted no.

6. Certified survey map – Mike Tully (Plan Commission)- this item was skipped

7. Consideration of conditional use application by Bug Tussel Wireless to build a 195-foot utility structure/communication tower (tabled from 1/9/2018 Council meeting) Ken Franzen and Dwayne Latzke of Bug Tussel reviewed the federal and state laws regarding what a municipality is not allowed to do to deny their application. They will have a 190-foot freestanding tower that will hold three different entities – wireless internet, FirstNet and AT&T. They will have 12-16 towers throughout the County. They have a 37-year lease with the landowner. They currently have towers in sixteen counties in Wisconsin. They lease property so they are only taxed as personal property. This was presented as a conditional use for a utility structure so we could have a public hearing. If no action is taken in 90 days from application date it will automatically be approved by law. Attorney Hopkins reviewed the changes made in the 2013 State budget on how the City cannot regulate certain items related to these towers and if they are denied a reason would have to be noted in writing. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard to reject the conditional use application. Motion dies for lack of a second. Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to table this until the March 13, 2018 Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Approval of Wapasha Construction Co. Pay Request #17 – Wastewater Treatment Facility project (Public Works)- The amount on the pay request was reduced by \$16,520 because they are holding payment for the fiberglass dome restoration. Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to approve pay request #17 for \$281,790.96. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Resolution to write off outstanding utility balances (Public Works)- Motion by Alderperson Gohlke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve resolution 018RS004 to write off utility bills totaling \$1.79. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Property maintenance violations at 741 S Main St, 202 W. Decker St, and 750 S. Washington Ave (Public Property)- these three properties were discussed at the Public Property meeting and it was recommended for the Council to direct our attorney to draft a letter for cleanup with the potential of going to circuit court if they do not comply. They have received several citations and this does not change the problem. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Noble to send letters to the property owners to comply with cleanup and to authorize sending to circuit court if they are not brought into compliance. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Payment of bills (Finance) – Motion by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Gohlke to approve the payment of bills on report date 02/08/18 in the amount of \$401,750.72 and additional bills on report date 02/13/2018 in the amount of \$1,524,389.55. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Second Period for Public Comment – Tanja Birke thanked the Council for looking at local control issues and there is a meeting on community rights coming up if anyone is interested they can contact her for more information.

13. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Polsean/second by Alderperson Bankes to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk