

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 30, 2019**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30, 2019 by Mayor Karen Mischel with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Terry Noble, Tanja Birke, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard and John Thompson. Alderperson Sondra Naxi and Jeff Gohlke were excused. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Interim Police Chief Todd Simonson, Public Works Director/Engineer Sarah Grainger, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Attorney Stephanie Hopkins, Kurt Muchow, Dan Johnson, Tonya Wagner, David Levin, Arwyn Wildhack, Jenny Seiler, Roger Call and Rachel Bassett.

2. Approval of the July 9, 2019 Regular and July 23, 2019 Special Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the minutes from the previous meetings. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried

3. First period for public comment – None

4. Public hearing on conditional use application by Dan Johnson/Red Tail Property Mgmt LLC to use property at 741 S. Main St for a distillery and tasting room – the public hearing was opened at 7:31 pm. Johnson updated the Council that he will be producing a wide range of spirits such as vodka, gin and whiskey and have a tasting room. They can serve only what they produce and may consider a Class B beer license in the future. They would be manufacturing Monday-Friday with the tasting room open Thursday-Sunday with possible special events as well. The public hearing was closed at 7:35 pm.

5. Action on conditional use application for 741 S. Main Street (Plan Commission) – there was no quorum for Plan Commission so no recommendation was sent forward, however there were no objections during their public hearing. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the conditional use application for 741 S. Main Street. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Ordinance creating section 17.50 regulation of cell phone transmission towers – First Reading (Plan Commission) – this was drafted from a model ordinance from the League of Municipalities with the maximums of regulation that the statutes will allow and is for privately owned land. The ordinance name will be updated to include mobile service transmission tower siting regulation. The Class 2 co-location maximum amount allowed is \$500. The Council also stated the expanded notification area should be from 100 ft to 1000 ft for the conditional use. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the first reading of the ordinance with the language changes and notification changes as discussed. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Update on landscaping at Rock Avenue Apartments – Torres stated he has been in contact with Premier LLC regarding the weeds and overgrowth and the boulevard area is getting fixed. The new landscaping will be coming August 27th at a bid of \$48-50,000. They would also like to come to a Council meeting in August.

8. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between City and Vernon County – the agreement did not have any main changes since this was last discussed and the County has now approved it at their last meeting. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Approval of Purchase Plan Agreement between City and Vernon County for EDA Business Park – the County approved the agreement with the land being purchased by the City over a ten-year period. The land lease with the farmer for 2019 will continue with the County retaining the rent and then canceled or the City rents out. The other addendum is regarding reversionary interest allowing the County to re-enter upon default of 90 days. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the Purchase Plan Agreement for the EDA Business Park. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Appointment of members to intergovernmental commission for Business Park – the County appointed Adrian Amelse, Rod Ofte and Garrick Olerud. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard

to appoint Michael Corr, Nora Roughen-Schmidt and Karen Mischel to the intergovernmental commission. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Authorization to bid for streets and utilities for EDA Business Park project (Public Works) – the EDA has to give us permission first but this will get us ready once they do to bid. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to authorize the going out for bid for streets and utilities once EDA approves. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Tid No. 4 & No. 5 Three Year Tech College Extension resolutions – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve resolutions 19RS006 and 19RS007 to approve the Tid #4 and #5 Tech College Extensions. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Request for CDBG loan subordination – Austin & Hallie Ashley – the Ashley's currently have a CDBG loan with the City of \$12,420 from 2011. They currently have a USDA loan that they can refinance for a lower interest rate and shorter term if we subordinate our loan. The home appraised with enough equity to cover both loans and the bank and Couleecap are both requesting we subordinate. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the loan subordination for Austin & Hallie Ashley. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Consideration of application for chickens at 614 South Rock Avenue – Bethel Home – the chickens are only there during the summer months and are contained in their courtyard. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the application for 614 South Rock Avenue. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Consideration of application for chickens at 803 Peterson Court – Jenny Seiler – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the application for 803 Peterson Court. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

16. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Birke to approve licenses for Kathy Clark, Brian Turben, Kristi Volden, Rebecca Grimsled, Martha Stussy and Jill Tretsven. A license was conditionally approved for Matthew Gotz upon payment to Municipal Court. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

17. Approval of applications for Temporary Class B beer licenses for Wild West Day events (Wild West Days, Little Britches Rodeo and Gun Banquet) (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the three applications for the Wild West Day Events on August 16-18, August 24 and September 6-8. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

18. Approval of application for Temporary Class B beer & wine license for Viroqua Pride at Eckhart Park on August 24, 2019 (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve the temporary Class B beer and wine license for Viroqua Pride. Voice vote six in favor, one abstention. Motion carried. Alderperson Birke abstained.

19. Change of ownership & agent for Blackhawk Grille (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the Class B beer license for the change of ownership of Blackhawk Grille to Blackhawk Café LLC and agent to Ben Hansen. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

20. Appointment of David Tryggestad and John Spears to Cemetery Board – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to appoint David Tryggestad and John Spears to the Cemetery Board. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

21. Appointment of Tonya Wagner to Board of Review for five-year term expiring 4/1/2024 and Plan Commission to replace Marv McNeal whose three-year term expires 5/1/2020 – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to appoint Tonya Wagner to Board of Review and Plan Commission. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

22. Appointment of Larry Fanta to Board of Review to replace Roger Hatlem whose five-year term expires 4/1/2021 – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the appointment of Larry Fanta. Voice vote was taken and could not determine vote so a roll call vote was taken. Four no votes, three yes votes, Motion fails. Alderpersons Tryggestad, Noble and Thompson voting yes.

23. Appointment of David Levin to Plan Commission to replace Valdo Gilman whose three-year term expires 5/1/2021 – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Hubbard to appoint David Levin to Plan Commission. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

24. Resolution on sidewalk shaving/replacement special charges (Public Works) – the southwest quadrant of the City was done by Safestep. The City will repair sidewalks damaged by boulevard trees. The replacement non-City cost is \$33,000 with the City cost \$6000. The shaving cost for non-City is \$13,000 and City cost is \$3000. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve resolution 19RS008 regarding sidewalk special charges. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

25. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Noble to approve the payment of bills on report date 07/25/19 in the amount of \$211,059.21 additional bills on report date 7/30/2019 for \$126,570.64. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

26. Second Period for Public Comment – None

27. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Koppa/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk