

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 by Mayor Karen Mischel with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Terry Noble, Tanja Birke, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson and Sondra Nazi. Jeff Gohlke was excused. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Interim Police Chief Todd Simonson, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Kurt Muchow, Ruthie & Luke Zahm, Lance & Kyra Eitland, Toby Grotz, Kathryn Brody, Franz Funovitz, Jess Reed and Evan Blatner.

2. Approval of the August 27, 2019 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – none

4. Operator license approvals (Public Safety)- Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Birke to approve operator licenses for Lora Aspenson and Ryan Formanek. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Application for Class B beer license and Class B liquor license for Associates of the Restored Temple Theatre, LTD (Public Safety)- this application falls under the quota exception for “an opera house or theater for the performing arts operated by a non-profit organization” through the Department of Revenue because the City is at quota for liquor licenses. Jess Reed stated they want to bring more revenue into the Theatre but would only be selling before shows and at intermission and don’t intend to open a bar. Lance Eitland stated this would affect his business which is next door as they rely on the Theatre business during the winter months. However, if they draw a larger crowd to the area it could also help all the businesses in the area as Ruthie Zahm stated they all have different objectives but they could all help each other. Alderperson Tryggestad stated it is difficult for a profit business to compete with non-profits in this area as they are not paying the taxes that a for-profit business pays so understands why Tangled Hickory would be upset. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the Class B beer and liquor license. After further discussion the motion and second was rescinded. Alderperson Noble would like to see them apply for Class B beer and Class C wine only and not liquor. Jess Reed stated they would still like the full license. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the Class B beer and Class B liquor license. Voice vote six in favor, two against. Motion carried. Alderpersons Tryggestad and Noble voting no.

6. Application for Class B beer and Class C wine license for Vernon County Shrine Club (Public Safety) – this item was skipped as not approved by Public Safety.

7. Approval of Eagles annexation ordinance for Tid #7 (Plan Commission)- Motion by Alderperson Noble/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve Annexation ordinance #19OR012. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Alderperson Nazi left the meeting at 8:05pm.

8. Approval of resolution approving tax increment district #4 project plan amendment #3- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to approve resolution 019RS009. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Approval of resolution approving tax increment district #5 project plan amendment #2- Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Birke to approve resolution 019RS010. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Approval of resolution approving tax increment district #6 project plan amendment #1- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve resolution 019RS011. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Approval of resolution creating tax increment district #7- Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Noble to approve resolution 019RS012. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Discussion with recommendations on business park evaluation matrix- Torres reviewed the City and County blended matrix and the County was on board with the changes made at the last meeting. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to recommend the evaluation matrix as presented. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Discussion & approval of amendment to City/County Intergovernmental Agreement- the Intergovernmental Commission had their first meeting and they had two candidates for the member at large position that would both bring great things to the Commission. Therefore, they would like to amend the agreement to allow up to two additional members at large instead of one. The candidates were Julie Emslie and Paul Larsen. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the amendment to the agreement allowing up to two additional members at large. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Discussion & approval of small shelter roof replacements in City Parks (Park & Rec)- Stalsberg stated these were part of the CIP plan, however the school Ag Department is willing to do the steel roof replacements if we supply the material. They only do these types of projects in the fall so we would need to approve moving forward with this ahead of the CIP plan approval. The material cost would be \$5800 for the Bigley shelter, Eckhart small shelter and Hanson Park shelter which is a savings of \$12,000 on the project. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the roof replacements with the condition that we check on the insurance coverage. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Approval of construction inspection contract amendment for North Rusk Avenue project (Public Works)- the project is taking longer than originally estimated and the cost of our inspector for an additional 120 hours would be \$10,200. Grainger also reviewed an amendment to the original contract for Vierbicher when Church Street was added which included the original inspector hours for \$37,500 that was already accounted for in the contract. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the contract amendment. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

16. Discussion with possible action on Rock Avenue Project Plan- Torres reviewed the project on where it started and what process was done to this point. Council reviewed various layouts of the project with discussion on whether City Hall should be a part of the overall Rock Avenue project or located elsewhere. The majority consensus was that City Hall should not be located in the project location as presented. Five of the seven alderpersons want to see at least the same amount of parking on Rock Avenue. Alderperson Noble wants to see the connection between Park Bowl as part of the project as well. This project is part of the CIP process so knowing what we want located within the project plan helps Vierbicher identify grants available for this area.

17. Update on Capital Improvement Plan timeline- there will be a public information meeting on 9/23/2019 with another Ad Hoc Committee meeting on 10/7/2019. The Council will review the draft on 10/8/2019 with final approval at the Council meeting on 10/29/2019.

18. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Noble to approve the payment of bills on report date 09/06/19 in the amount of \$175,377.18 additional bills on report date 9/10/2019 for \$73,229.42. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

19. Second Period for Public Comment – none

20. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Koppa to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk