

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
October 27, 2020**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 by Mayor Karen Mischel via online zoom meeting #82726893821 with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Terry Noble, Tanja Birke, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Kristal Welter and Allison Sandbeck present. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Al Larson and family, Joe Vikemyr, Mike Maas, Allison Starn and Tim Hundt

2. Approval of the October 13, 2020 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the minutes from the Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – None

4. Recognition of Al Larson’s retirement and 42 years of service with the City Public Works Department – Sarah Grainger, Mayor and Council thanked Larson for his dedicated years of service.

5. Extraterritorial Certified Survey Map approval– David & Cheryl Bean (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the extraterritorial certified survey map. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Approval of application for chickens – Kendra Avery – 526 E Jefferson St. – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the application for chickens. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Birke to approve operator licenses for Melinda Longmire, Luis Parra, Daniel Nielsen and Stacie Sanborn. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Approval of Class B beer and Class C wine license application for Twelve Twelve LLC DBA Maybe Lately’s Food & More – 117 N Main Street (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the Class B beer and Class C wine license contingent upon the building and health inspections being completed. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Review and recommendation on Arena Drive project design – Vikemyr/Wangen – Joe Vikemyr asked for clarification on the concerns that were expressed by the Council on the design. The ten duplexes will be on 3.6 acres and have full basements. Vikemyr shared pictures of what a building would look like and they would be rented prior to being built. Alderperson Hubbard expressed concerns about the steps, garages in the front and the cost of the rent. Alderperson Splinter would like to see the garages pushed back instead. Alderperson Tryggestad stated that these rentals could open up other homes in town for others to purchase. Vikemyr does not want to put more money into this project if the Council wants too many changes and may look elsewhere. Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the project design as presented. Roll call vote five in favor, four against. Motion carried. Alderpersons Splinter, Koppa, Hubbard and Sandbeck voting no.

10. Approval of City Hall Design Development Plan (Building Committee) – Torres and Mike Maas reviewed the changes in budget numbers from the schematic design to the design development phases which included a \$440,000 increase in cost. The Building committee was able to remove some items to save cost and there could be additional savings from contractor pricing and favorable bids. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the Design Development Plan for City Hall. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Review and authorization of draft lease and submission of USDA application for City Hall project (Redevelopment Authority) – this item was tabled.

12. Approval of Pay Request #8 – A1 Excavating for Viroqua Business Park EDA project (Public Works) – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Birke to approve pay request #8 for \$151,136.28. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Discussion with possible action on purchase of exercise equipment (Public Safety) – These were items in the new Police Department facility that can be used by all City staff. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Koppa to approve the purchase of the exercise equipment from Vernon Memorial for \$3500. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the payment of bills on report date 10/23/2020 in the amount of \$172,932.11 and additional bills on report date 10/27/2020 for \$711,912.44. 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 8:57 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk