

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2021**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 by Mayor Karen Mischel via online zoom meeting #86143159548 with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Terry Noble, Mike Koppa, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Kristal Welter and Allison Sandbeck present. Alderperson Tanja Birke arrived at 7:35 pm. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Public Works Director/City Engineer Sarah Grainger, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Attorney Stephanie Hopkins, Sean Lentz, Randy Skinner, Tim Hundt, Mike Maas, Craig Matthews and Tom Wilson.

2. Approval of the December 29, 2020 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Sandbeck to approve the minutes from the previous Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. First period for public comment – None

4. Approval of certified survey map – James Hanson (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the certified survey map. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Approval of certified survey map – Prairie Wind Community LLC (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the certified survey map. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Resolution Awarding the Sale of \$1,510,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2021A – We received four bids for the twenty-year bond with the low bidder being Northland Securities with a 1.5628% interest rate. Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve resolution 021RS001 awarding the sale of \$1,510,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2021A. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$1,375,000 Taxable General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2021B – this is for the refinancing of three State Trust Fund loans. We received five bids with the low bid from BOK Financial Securities with an interest rate of .9263%. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Welter to approve resolution 021RS002 authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1,375,000 GO Promissory Notes Series 2021A. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Acceptance and approval of construction bid for police department project (Building Committee) – bid day was 12/17/2020 and we received seven bids. Mike Maas from ADCI reviewed the bids with Council with the low bidder being Fowler & Hammer. The building committee recommended acceptance of the low bid with alternates four and five for a total project cost of \$2,208,134. Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the bid from Fowler & Hammer with alternates four and five. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Approval of Pay Request #2 – Fowler & Hammer for Park Bowl Complex Improvement project (Park & Rec) – Motion by Alderperson Koppa/second by Alderperson Sandbeck to approve pay request #2 for \$176,349.42. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Discussion with possible action on creation of Diversity Board – Mayor Mischel asked the Council how they wanted to proceed with this because this needs to be a Council project. This would be an advisory committee to help the Council and Mayor on issues regarding diversity. She would like to be able to pick two Council members at the next Council meeting to help with the setup and review of how this should proceed. Most Council

members wanted to proceed with a Diversity Board but the issue of pay for those on the Board was not accepted by all members. Alderperson Tryggestad was in favor of dropping this issue. Alderperson Welter would like to see a mission statement from this group to bring back to Council to help decide what the purpose of the Diversity Board is. Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Birke to move forward with the appointment of Council members to a committee to work on the set up of the Diversity Board. Roll call vote eight in favor, one against. Motion carried. Alderperson Tryggestad voting no.

11. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the payment of bills on report date 01/12/2021 in the amount of \$1,653,260.81. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Second Period for Public Comment – Tom Wilson stated the diversity board issue needs to have pro-active participation so this issue needs to have the notification made beyond just the normal postings so people attend. Randy Skinner thanked the Council on the efforts being made on the diversity issue.

13. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Welter to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk