

**CITY OF VIROQUA  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
JULY 27, 2021**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 by Mayor Karen Mischel via online zoom meeting #81415061899 with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Nathaniel Slack, Tanja Birke, Ben Wilson, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Kristal Welter and Steve Willis present. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Utility Clerk Cheryl Purvis, Library Director Trina Erickson, Carrie Leonard, Toby Grotz, Angie Cina and Tim Hundt

**2. Approval of the July 13, 2021 Regular Council minutes** – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the minutes from the previous Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**3. First period for public comment** – Toby Grotz stated he is opposed to UTVs in the city as he doesn't feel they follow all safety standards and are noisy.

**4. 2020 Audit Report with Johnson and Block** – Carrie Leonard presented the 2020 audit report to the Council and answered questions.

**5. Operator license approvals** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Slack to approve the list of operators as presented along with licenses for Kimberly Bloss and Scott Mason that did not go to Public Safety but passed their background checks. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**6. Approval of Temporary Class B beer license for Viroqua Area Pullers for Tractor Pull at Vernon County Fairgrounds July 31, 2021 (Public Safety)**- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the temporary Class B beer license. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**7. Approval of Temporary Class B beer license for Wild West Days on August 20-22, 2021 (Public Safety)**- Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Slack to approve the temporary Class B beer license. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**8. Approval of Temporary Class B beer license for Wild West Days Little Britches Rodeo on September 10-12, 2021 (Public Safety)**- Motion by Alderperson Slack/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the temporary Class B beer license. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**9. Approval of certified survey map – Ted & Elizabeth Harris, 123 Wisconsin Ave (Plan Commission)**- Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Birke to approve the CSM. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**10. Approval of Pay Request #1 – Brickl Bros, City Hall project** – Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Welter to approve pay request #1 for \$163,868.43. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**11. Approval of Pay Request #5 – Fowler & Hammer, Police Station project**- this item was tabled.

**12. Discussion with possible action on expanding scope of building committee to a property maintenance group (Building Committee)** this committee was temporary for the building projects but it was suggested to have it continue in perpetuity to help with ongoing review of the buildings by adding citizens in the trades and expanding the scope of the committee makeup. This would be a non-paid advisory committee. Nate suggested that he and Chief Niedfeldt be removed once the projects are complete. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Thompson to expand the scope of the building committee to a property maintenance group. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. An ordinance establishing the committee and makeup will be the next step.

**13. Possible closed session per Wis. Stats 19.85(1)(c) – considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governing body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – Part-time police dispatch (Public Safety)-** Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to enter closed session at 8:03pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**14. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session-** Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Splinter to reconvene in open session at 8:08pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Slack to approve the hire as discussed in closed session. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**15. Possible closed session per Wis. Stats 19.85 (1)(c) – considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governing body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – Utility Billing Clerk Position (Public Works)-** Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Wilson to enter closed session at 8:09 p.m. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**16. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session –** Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Birke to reconvene in open session at 8:15pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Hubbard to move forward with the hiring as discussed in closed session pending background checks. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**17. Payment of bills (Finance) -** Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the payment of bills on report date 07/23/2021 in the amount of \$322,330.49 and additional bills on report date 7/27/2021 for \$17,286.10. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**18. Second Period for Public Comment –** None

**19. Adjournment -** Motion made by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Splinter to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk