

**CITY OF VIROQUA  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 28, 2021**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 28, 2021 by Mayor Karen Mischel via online zoom meeting #86955874773 with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Joseph Ahler, Tanja Birke, Cyndy Hubbard and John Thompson present. Ben Wilson and Steve Willis arrived late and Kristal Welter was excused. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Administrator Nate Torres, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Allison Sandbeck, Randy Skinner, Steve Thompson and Sally Cahalon.

**2. Approval of the December 14, 2021 Regular Council minutes** – Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the minutes from the previous Council meeting. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**3. First period for public comment** – None

**4. Operator license approvals (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve operator licenses for Samuel Balto and Heidi Gilbertson. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**5. Approval of Class B beer and Class C wine license for Noble Rind LLC (Public Safety)**- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the Class B beer and Class C wine license for Noble Rind LLC. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**6. Approval of Class B beer/liquor license transfer for Salt of Viroqua LLC dba Rooted Spoon (Public Safety)** – Allison Sandbeck has a conditional offer to purchase the Rooted Spoon business from Dani Lind. Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the transfer of the Class B beer/liquor license from Rooted Spoon Culinary to Salt of Viroqua LLC dba Rooted Spoon. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**7. Discussion with possible action on options for Fire Chief vehicle replacement (Public Safety)** Chief Buros researched different versions of electric and hybrid vehicles and availability. The electric vehicles do not fit the cost or space needed. The recommendation from Public Safety was to purchase another Ford Explorer Police Interceptor Hybrid. It does cost \$3000 more and with discounts the total purchase price is \$36,598. We could possibly get \$5000-\$6000 for trade in of the current vehicle. If we order now, it could possibly be built in April or May 2022. The cost is also split with the Towns. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Ahler to order the Hybrid Ford Explorer Police Interceptor. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**8. Approval of pay request #6 for Brickl Bros. – City Hall project**- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve pay request #6 for \$298,625.13 with the condition that the retainage amount is confirmed against the contract and to amend the certified amount to include the cents. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**9. 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 – police department employee vacation benefits (Finance/Personnel)** – Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Ahler to enter closed session at 7:22pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**10. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session**- Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Birke to reconvene in open session at 7:39pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to have Nate Torres work with the union rep on the memorandum of understanding for items discussed in closed session. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**11. Payment of bills (Finance)** - Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the payment of bills on report date 12/22/2021 in the amount of \$74,317.62 and additional bills on report date 12/28/2021 for \$121,147.43. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

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

**13. Adjournment** - Motion made by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Hubbard to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk