

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2022**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 by Mayor Justin Running at City Hall with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Gregory Splinter, Joseph Ahler, Ben Wilson, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Kristal Welter and Steve Willis present. Alderperson Tanja Birke attended via phone. Also present were Administrator Nate Torres (via phone), City Clerk Lori Polhamus, Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Alicia Leinberger, Reed Doerr, Trae Watts, Elias Ellefson and Joe Vikemyr.

2. Approval of the May 31, 2022 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Wilson to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. Council Announcements – Alderperson Welter stated the McIntosh Library will be having a pollinator program on 6/15, 6/22 and 6/30/2022. Alderperson Wilson invited everyone to the Pride Event at Eckhart Park this weekend. Alderperson Willis stated the Bigley Pool is open.

4. First period for public comment – Alicia Leinberger updated the Council on the gathering that was held at City Hall over the weekend regarding gun violence.

5. Public hearing on conditional use application for Culver’s restaurant to permit the use of a LED message board at property located at 1002 North Main Street – the public hearing was opened at 7:11pm. They are replacing the current LED sign with a newer version. It will follow all ordinance limits under the conditional use with limited changes, some animation, no flashing and auto dimming that follows the time zone. They create their own graphics for all stores. The public hearing was closed at 7:20 pm.

6. Review and approval of conditional use application for Culver’s restaurant (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the conditional use application for Culver’s. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Review and approval of extraterritorial certified survey map – Bob Starks (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the certified survey map. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Review and approval of certified survey map – Eric Newman (Plan Commission) – Motion by Alderperson Splinter/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the certified survey map. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Reappointment of Tom Weston to Police & Fire Commission for a five-year term expiring 5/1/2027- Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the reappointment of Tom Weston. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Reappointment of Jess Johnson to Board of Review for a five-year term expiring 04/01/2027 – Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Wilson to approve the reappointment of Jess Johnson. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Review and approval of short line painting quote (Public Works)- Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the quote from Fahrner for \$8976.00. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Operator license approvals (Public Safety)- Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Splinter to approve the operators as presented pending all background checks. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

- 13. Action on alcohol license renewals for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the alcohol license renewals for Wonderstate, Pacifico and Noble Rind as presented. Voice vote eight in favor, one abstention. Motion carried. Alderperson Willis abstained.
- 14. Action on temporary class b beer and wine license for Viroqua Community Theatre at 500 E Jefferson St on July 29-31 and August 5-7, 2022 musical productions (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the temporary class b beer and wine license. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 15. Action on temporary class b beer license for Wild West Days August 19-21, 2022 (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Willis/second by Alderperson Wilson to approve the temporary class b beer license. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 16. Action on temporary class b beer license for Wild West Days Little Britches Rodeo September 9-11, 2022 (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Willis to approve the temporary class b beer license. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 17. Approval of pay request #11 for Brickl Bros. – City Hall project** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve pay request #11 for \$298,781.95. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 18. Possible closed session per Wis. Stats 19.85 (1)(e) – deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – Memorandum of Understanding for Shade Haven** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Ahler to enter closed session at 7:45pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. The Council, Clerk, Administrator plus Joe Vikemyr representing VDA entered closed session.
- 19. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session** – Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Wilson to reconvene in open session at 8:22 pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Alderperson Wilson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve what was discussed in closed session. Roll call vote eight in favor, one abstention. Motion carried. Alderperson Birke abstained.
- 20. Review and approval of annexation ordinance for Bethel Home & Services – First Reading (Plan Commission)** – Polhamus reviewed the area that is being annexed from the Town of Viroqua which includes areas owned by Bethel Home & Services, Croell Redi-Mix, Alan Bennett and Roger and Bonnie Hanson between Chicago Avenue & across to Main Street. The zoning was reviewed for each property and this will be incorporated into ward 9 and conforms to our current comprehensive plan. There are three residents in this area. This will also need to go to the County Board since the county board districts that surround the city do not follow the ward 9 designation. They will be meeting on June 21st. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve ordinance 22OR003 and waive the second reading. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 21. 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 Auxiliary Worker** – Motion by Alderperson Wilson/second by Alderperson Welter to enter closed session at 8:41 pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.
- 22. Reconvene in open session with possible action on items discussed during closed session** – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Willis to reconvene in open session at 8:45 pm. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried. No action was taken.

23. Discussion with possible action on amendment to hiring policy process – instead of requiring existing full-time positions or part-time permanent positions without supervisory responsibility to go to Council for final approval we would change it to the reporting committee instead for final approval. This would speed up the process for the hiring. Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the amendment to the hiring policy process. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

24. Project updates with discussion on setting of current priorities – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Welter to table. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

25. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the payment of bills on report date 06/09/2022 in the amount of \$59,279.23 and additional bills on report date 06/14/2022 for \$143,042.04. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

26. Second Period for Public Comment – None

27. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Willis to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk