

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 2022**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 by Mayor Justin Running at City Hall with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Joe Ahler, Tanja Birke Todd Spaeth, John Thompson, Kristal Welter and Steve Willis present. Alderperson Cyndy Hubbard was excused. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, City Administrator Nate Torres, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Fire Chief Chad Buros, City Engineer/Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Park & Rec Director Dan Stalsberg, Library Director Trina Erickson, Kurt Muchow, Tim Hundt, Jake Victor, Jonathon Brinkley, Josh Straka, Aaron Parker and Evan Blattner

2. Approval of the September 27, 2022 Regular Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Spaeth to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. Council Announcements – Alderperson Birke stated they are doing the Legend of Sleepy Hollow at the Commons at the end of the month. Nate Torres stated that the City Hall open house has been postponed until spring and the Chamber Bash is Thursday night.

4. First period for public comment – None

5. Acceptance of resignation of Dave Goss Ward 2 Alderperson – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to accept the resignation of Dave Goss. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Review and discussion on the Main Street Apartments development plan for property located at Broadway & Main Street (former highway shop location) by NorthPointe Development (Plan Commission) – Jake Victor and Jonathon Brinkley gave a slide presentation and answered questions for the Council. Requests were made for copies of all studies that will be done for items such as traffic, market and remediation. They would also like a group to oversee the process during the planning to make sure the city suggestions are incorporated. These cannot be vacation rentals and have no traditional students. Northpointe will own the buildings for at least 15 years with no intentions to sell but the affordable housing goes for 30 years or longer if extended under the tax credit program. The additional property that is north of the public works building as part of the county deal will be given to the city for their use.

7. Review and approval of Dept of Administration grant agreement – Kurt Muchow reviewed the document for the city. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the grant agreement and authorize the clerk to open a separate checking account for the purpose of this grant administration. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Main Street TAP project budget review (Public Works) – Sarah Grainger and Josh Straka explained that this grant was applied for in 2020 and prices have since increased on construction costs. The grant is an 80/20 split with any additional costs being absorbed by the city. With the increases we are more at a 60/40 split now. Items for historical review, construction administration, right of way work and title work were not included in the original budget estimates. The budget in 2020 was at \$281,000 and has increased to \$540,435 in 2022. There is the possibility of additional grant funding we can apply for but is not guaranteed. Torres reviewed the Tid forecasts for Tid 6 to cover the additional cost if grant funding isn't obtained or possibly bond in 2024.

9. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve licenses for Viva MacDougall, Lori Oppert, Wendy Stueland and Mitchell Becker. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Discussion with possible action on temporary Class B beer and Class C wine license for Wild West Days Twinkle Light Village November 25-December 18, 2022 (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second

by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the Class B and Class C temporary licenses for the weekends between November 25th and December 18th. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Discussion with possible action on temporary class B beer license for Artists and Friends Inc. DBA The Commons for Open House on October 16, 2022 (Public Safety)- Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Willis to approve the Class B license. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Discussion with possible action on truck purchase for Park & Rec – the current 2012 truck has a broken frame and is not drivable. Stalsberg looked into electric vehicles which ranged from \$87,000-\$109,000. A 2017 used vehicle was available for \$26,900 with no warranty. Ford is the only dealer that is still offering municipal discounts and there is a 2022 Ford F150 available on the lot for \$41,933.50. If we trade them annually, we can do it for \$1.00 per the Mayor at Sleepy Hollow. Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Thompson to purchase the Ford F150 for \$41,933.50 and go with the \$1.00 trade deal as long as it is available. Roll call vote six in favor, one against. Motion passes. Alderperson Birke voting no.

13. Approval to issue General Obligor promissory notes for 2022 capital borrowing – Sean Lentz with Ehlers reviewed the pre-sale report for soliciting proposals from the local banks on a not to exceed basis for capital items. Our current estimate is at \$200,000 for the vehicle purchases for the police, public works, park & rec and fire department. We would award the sale of the note on November 15, 2022 with an estimated closing date of December 15, 2022. Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve issuing general obligator promissory notes for the 2022 capital borrowing. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Appointment of two council members to Housing Advisory Board – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to appoint Tanja Birke and Kristal Welter to the Housing Advisory Board. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Approval of pay request #12 to Brickl Bros for City Hall project – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve pay request #12 for \$48,543.57. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

16. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Spaeth to approve the payment of bills on report date 10/06/2022 in the amount of \$256,515.61 and additional bills on report date 10/11/2022 for \$13,690.10. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

17. Second Period for Public Comment – Tim Hundt stated the city should be very fortunate this housing project is coming to Viroqua as other communities are also in need. He recommends doing a housing study so you have an inventory.

18. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Spaeth/second by Alderperson Willis to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk