

**CITY OF VIROQUA  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
OCTOBER 25, 2022**

**1. Roll call:**

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 by Mayor Justin Running at City Hall and via Zoom with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Joe Ahler, Tanja Birke Todd Spaeth, John Thompson, Cyndy Hubbard and Kristal Welter present. Alderperson Steve Willis 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, Aaron Parker, Aaron Van Loo, Evan Blattner, Melanie Lendosky as well as others via Zoom.

**2. Approval of the October 11, 2022 Regular Council minutes** – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**3. Council Announcements** – None

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

**5. Appointment of Aaron Van Loo to Historic Preservation to replace Gregory Splinter whose term expires 10/1/2024 and reappointment of Cyndy Hubbard to three-year term expiring 10/1/2025** – Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the appointment of Aaron Van Loo and reappointment of Cyndy Hubbard to Historic Preservation Commission. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**6. Appointment of Aaron Parker and Karen Innis to Historic Preservation Commission for three-year terms expiring 10/1/2025** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to appoint Aaron Parker and Karen Innis to Historic Preservation Commission. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**7. 2021 Audit presentation – Johnson Block** – Melanie Lendosky reviewed the audit report with the Council and answered questions.

**8. Approval of certified survey map for City of Viroqua property located at Railroad Avenue and South Asbury Road (Plan Commission)** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the certified survey map. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**9. Discussion with possible action regarding new city website** – the Chamber will be working on their own website with a timeline of April or May 2023 and Torres would like to follow this same timeline. We will do a request for proposals to find website providers. ARPA funds can be used for this project. Alderperson Hubbard recommended looking at various websites to see what we liked and bring in recommendations.

**10. Approval of authorized representative resolution for Environmental Improvement Fund (Public Works)** – this is for a 2024 application with a list of seven projects going in. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve Resolution 22RS012. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**11. Operator license approvals (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Welter to approve a license for Jess Reed. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**12. Approval of Class B beer and Class C wine licenses for Associates of the Restored Temple, LTD – Historic Temple Theatre (Public Safety)** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the Class B beer and Class C wine licenses. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**13. Approval of Driftless Humane Society contract for 2023** – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the Driftless Humane Society contract for \$17,235.54 for 2023. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**14. Review/discussion/possible action on 2023 draft budget and authorize publication** – Torres reviewed the draft budget for the Council and answered questions. Alderperson Tryggestad does not support the fire dept budget as presented and would rather see the police budget increased. Alderperson Birke would like to see more funding for the parks and library. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the 2023 draft budget and authorize publication. Voice vote six in favor, one against. Motion carried. Alderperson Tryggestad voting no.

**15. Discussion with possible action on General Fund or Tid 6 budget for bathhouse project** – Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Birke to table until the next Council meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**16. Discussion with possible action on ordinance amending Ordinance 22OR003 Annexing Property to the City of Viroqua – First Reading** – The process that we followed on the annexation needs to be amended to add a tenth ward before the County will move the supervisory lines. This ordinance will rescind the old ordinance and correct the location with the new ward boundaries. The area will be represented by the Ward 9 Alderperson and will eventually get consolidated into Ward 9 which was the original intention. Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve Ordinance 22OR006A and waive the second reading. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**17. Discussion with possible action on ordinance amending Chapter 1.08 of the Viroqua Municipal Code of Ordinances regarding City Wards – First Reading** – Motion by Alderperson Ahler/second by Alderperson Welter to approve Ordinance 22OR007 and waive the second reading. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**18. Discussion with possible action amending Chapter 1.10 of the Viroqua Municipal Code of Ordinances regarding Aldermanic Districts – First Reading** – Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve Ordinance 22OR008 and waive the second reading. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

**19. Payment of bills (Finance)** - Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Ahler to approve the payment of bills on report date 10/21/2022 in the amount of \$233,083.94 and additional bills on report date 10/25/2022 for \$142,349.26. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

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

**21. Adjournment** - Motion made by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Birke to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk