

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 30, 2024**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 by Mayor Justin Running via Zoom # 83072339245 with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Andrew Bergum, Todd Kirking, Tanja Birke, Todd Spaeth, Cyndy Hubbard, John Thompson, Kristal Welter, and Steve Willis present. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, City Administrator Nate Torres, Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Library Director Trina Erickson, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt, Fire Chief Chad Buros, Asst Fire Chief Glen Martin, Angie Cina, Devin Flanigan, Cynthia Cole, Nick Spears, and Carson LaBelle.

2. Approval of the January 9, 2024 Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as corrected. Item # 9 changes U-Tube to You-Tube. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. Council Announcements – None

4. First period for public comment – None

5. Operator license approvals (Public Safety) - Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve operator licenses for Mason Hopkins, Dakota Michek, Holly Geraldson and Nicholas Erlandson. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

6. Discussion with possible action on temporary beer license for Viroqua Fire Department banquet on March 9, 2024 (Public Safety) – Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Kirking to approve the temporary beer license. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Review and approval of RFP for new city website – Trina & Nate incorporated the comments from department heads and council to create the RFP. The security portion was reviewed by Scott Leum. We would send this out on Thursday on Facebook, our website and directly to vendors. At the next council we will set up an interview team. There is an end of September target date for the website. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the RFP for the new city website. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Review and approval of quote for purchase of body cams (Public Safety) – two quotes were brought to Public Safety. They are down to two body cams and would like to use ARPA funds to purchase ten from Axon Enterprises for \$101,843.00. The Technology assurance has a five-year warranty and after five years we would get new cameras and pay for the software services updates in years 6-10. This product has the redacting software with a cloud-based storage. Motion by Alderperson Kirking/second by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the purchase of the body cams for \$101,843 contingent on the final financial review by Ehlers regarding the ARPA funds. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Review and approval of final plan and budget for Viroqua Fire Station project – Devin Flanigan with Keller reviewed the site and floor plans that is about 98% complete. The total project estimate is \$9,925,350 with the city share at \$3,275,350. They plan to have 9-10 bid alternates. The Towns will vote on their contributions at their February meetings. Motion by Alderperson Birke/second by Alderperson Bergum to approve the final plan and budget and give the Mayor and Fire Chief the authority to make minor changes and to go out for bids. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Kirking to approve the payment of bills on report date 01/25/2024 in the amount of \$527,739.60 and additional bills on report date 01/30/2024 for \$320,435.37 and hold the GFL Environmental bill until the next Council. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Second Period for Public Comment – None

12. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Tryggestad/second by Alderperson Willis to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk