

**CITY OF VIROQUA
COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 by Mayor Justin Running at City Hall and via Zoom # 82306880893 with Alderpersons Seth McClurg, Andrew Bergum, Todd Kirking, Todd Spaeth, Cyndy Hubbard (arrived at 6:50 pm), John Thompson, Kristal Welter, and Steve Willis present. Emma Hood was excused. Also present were City Clerk Lori Polhamus, City Administrator Nate Torres, Public Works Director Sarah Grainger, Library Director Trina Erickson, Police Chief Rick Niedfeldt Park & Rec Director Kale Proksch, LaVon Felton and Sean Lentz.

2. Approval of the August 27, 2024 Special Council minutes – Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Kirking to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

3. Council Announcements – Alderperson Willis stated it is Fair week and to stop out and support it.

4. First period for public comment – None

5. Update on operational referendum for Viroqua Area Schools on November 5th – Tom Burkhalter- tabled

6. Viroqua Development Association (VDA) report – LaVon Felton- Felton gave a history of the organization and projects they have been working on. He stated this has been the busiest two years ever.

7. Discussion with possible action on temporary class b beer license for Wild West Days Hispanic Bull Riding Group on September 20th and 21st, 2024- Motion by Alderperson Thompson/second by Alderperson Spaeth to approve the temporary class b beer license. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

8. Review bids and approve resolution issuing \$115,000 General Obligation Promissory Note, Series 2024B- this is for the capital projects borrowing for ten years with a blended payment schedule. We can prepay if we want. The closing date is 9/24/2024. We received four bids with Royal bank being the low bid at 4.79% interest. Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Kirking to approve the bid resolution issuing \$115,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2024B. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

9. Review bids and approve resolution issuing \$580,000 Taxable General Obligation Promissory Note, Series 2024C – this is for the purchasing of the Hanson Farm from VDA on a three-year note. Proceeds from the sale of property will be used to pay this off in Tid 7 and will not be levied for. We received five bids with Royal Bank being the low bid at 5.79% interest. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Welter to approve the bid resolution issuing \$580,000 taxable General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2024C. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

10. Review and approval of comprehensive plan Request for Proposals – Torres and Erickson reviewed the updated RFP with the Council and it will still need a review by our attorney. Motion by Alderperson Spaeth/second by Alderperson Hubbard to approve the comprehensive plan request for proposals contingent on the attorney review. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

11. Discussion with possible action on Chosen Valley Testing Soil Boring proposal for new salt shed (Public Works) – the proposal is for three soil borings and is not the same company that did the Fire Station. Motion by Alderperson Welter/second by Alderperson Thompson to approve the Chosen Valley Testing proposal for \$2970. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

12. Ordinance repealing Chapter 2.06 of the Viroqua Municipal Code confirming discontinuation of Hidden Valleys Municipal Court participation and sending cases to Vernon County Circuit Court – First Reading – we received permission from the district court to follow our plan to leave the municipal court and go to circuit

court. We would be done by September 30th to allow the other municipalities to get their ordinances in place for a non-attorney judge and to set up for their special election they will need to have in April. We have met with the Vernon County Clerk of Court and they are ready to start taking our cases so there is a plan in place. We will still need to find a prosecutor for the city as well. Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Kirking to approve Ordinance 24OR005 repealing chapter 2.06 of the municipal code and waive the second reading. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

13. Payment of bills (Finance) - Motion by Alderperson Hubbard/second by Alderperson Kirking to approve the payment of bills on report date 09/06/2024 in the amount of \$407,409.90 and additional bills on report date 09/10/2024 for \$31,524.17. Roll call vote all in favor. Motion carried.

14. Second Period for Public Comment – None

15. Adjournment - Motion made by Alderperson Willis/second by Alderperson Kirking to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Voice vote all in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Lori Polhamus, City Clerk