

March 14, 2022

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM

Washburn City Hall & Remote Call-In

City Council Members:

Present, in-person:

Karen Spears-Novachek, Laura Tulowitzky, Tom Neimes, Carl Broberg, Mary McGrath, Dave Anderson, Jennifer Maziasz

Present, remote:

none

Municipal Personnel:

Present in-person:

City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Tammy L. DeMars, City Attorney Max Lindsey, Director of Public Works Gerry Schuette

Present, remote:

Mayor Mary D. Motiff,

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Motiff. Roll call attendance depicted seven (7) of seven (7) members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized.

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting of February 7, 2022 - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the February 7, 2022 minutes of the City Council, second by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Expenditures - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the monthly expenditures as reviewed, second by Tulowitzky. Motion carried unanimously via a roll-call vote.

Public Comment – None.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments- The Mayor announced the upcoming referendum, its importance and urged people to get the word out, she also noted there is further information on the city website. Announced the new service Bart Door to Door Service, Bayfield County residents can get a ride to any place in Bayfield County for a reasonable price. There is a vacancy on the Park Board if anyone is interested stop at City Hall for an application.

Presentation & Discussion on Room Tax Collections and Expenditures for 2021 – Room Tax Commission, Presenter – Mary McGrath gave a brief overview of the Room Tax Commission structure and how the money is spent. Questions asked and answered.

Discussion & Action on Contract for Private Redevelopment with The Brewing Badger LLC – Review of Financing – Mayor Motiff gave a statement of her support for the project and asked the Council to carefully weigh their decision tonight. Badger addresses the Council, first showing some updated renderings of his planned project, he then reviewed what he has invested so far, including architectural, attorney fees, brand development and acquired the property adjacent to City property. He is currently reaching out to investors, working with Chippewa Valley Bank and the SBA. Matt Crowell with Chippewa Valley Bank present, he has been working with Badger, has reviewed business plan and have a conditional commitment from the SBA. Considering all his efforts, along with the potential benefits to the city and community combined with a lack of substantial risk to the city Badger ask the Council to consider moving forward with the conveyance of the property. To keep with the timeline set by the development agreement, he needs move forward by securing the building so he can get his investors to buy shares. Discussion occurred. Motion by Tulowitzky to approve the financing documentation provided and to convey the property to Badger, second by Anderson. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Discussion & Action on Terrace Type Selection for Bayfield Street Project and Possible Reconsideration of Decorative Street Light Locations – Motion by Neimes to use colored concrete in terrace are from 6th Avenue West to 2nd Avenue West, second by Novachek. Discussion on extending the colored concrete to 8th Avenue East. Neimes amends motion to extend the colored concrete from 8th Avenue West to 2nd Avenue West, Novachek accepts amendment. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Discussion & Action on Recurring Special Event Request to Temporarily Close Central Avenue from Bayfield Street to the Alley on Wednesdays from 1:00PM until 7:00PM Starting June 8 until October 19 for the Washburn Farmers Market – Aaron Irmiter, Petitioner

Moved by Novachek to approve the closing of Central Avenue North from Bayfield Street to alley on Wednesdays from 1:00pm to 7:00p, from June 8th until October 19th for the farmers market, second by Tulowitzky. Discussion. Approximately 6:45PM, Zoom was hacked and had to be shut down, at this time Mayor Mary Motiff left the meeting and Council President Novachek took over as chair Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion & Action on Renewal of Agreement with Anich, Wickman & Lindsey for Municipal Attorney Services- McGrath moves to approve two-year renewal agreement with Anich, Wickman & Linsey for Municipal Attorney Services, second by Neimes. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 2022-01 to Update the Regulation and Licensing of Dogs – Lindsey explained ordinance change to allow a person to come before Council to request they be allowed to keep a dog that is currently not allowed if it's a therapy dog. Novachek moves to approve updated ordinance 2022-01 Regulation and Licensing of Dogs, 2nd by Tulowitzky. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 2022-02 to Update the ATV/Snowmobile Routes Within the City of Washburn – Moved by Broberg to approve Ordinance 2022-02 updating the ATV/Snowmobile Routes within the City, second by Maziasz. Motion carried 7-0.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Authorization of Notice for Class “B” (Beer) and “Class B” (Liquor) licenses to Superior Shores Eats, Inc dba Patsy’s Bar & Grill; at 328 W. Bayfield Street, Robert Stadler – Agent – Broberg moved to authorize city staff to issue public notification and to begin the administrative process, second by McGrath. Motion carried 7 -0.

Discussion & Action on Consideration of Sale of Property (Portion of Lot 2 – Tax IDs 36422 and 32477) to James Ledin – Moved by McGrath to approve the sale of a portion of Lot 2, seconded by Anderson. Broberg would like to see more discussion on this in closed session. Motion fails 4 to 3.

Motion by Broberg to go into closed session at 7:25PM second by Neimes. Motion pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute §19.85(1) (e), for deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public property and for competitive reasons following which the Council may reconvene back into Open Session to take any action necessary on the closed session items, carried unanimously via roll call vote.

Closed Session – 7:25PM, closed session called to order by Novachek.

Roll Call Present: Karen Spears-Novachek, Laura Tulowitzky, Tom Neimes, Carl Broberg, Mary McGrath, Dave Anderson, Jennifer Maziasz

Municipal Personal Present: City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Tammy L. DeMars, City Attorney Max Lindsey

Motion by Broberg to offer the 1.9 acres to Ledin for the purchase price of \$1,200.00 per acre, contingent on satisfactory understanding his maintenance plan for the property, second by Neimes. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Moved by Broberg to move into open session at 7:49PM, second by Neimes. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Open Session -7:50PM Council convenes in open session, all seven members of the Council, Administrator Kluver, Treasurer DeMars, City Attorney Lindsey present.

Motion made by Broberg to open floor, seconded by Neimes. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Mr. Ledin was asked to give a summary of what his operation and property maintenance would be. Ledin, explained this is a hobby, all the wood will be used, any slabs 6” would be used as siding, smaller slabs as firewood and he gives most of the sawdust away for mulch/compost. There will be no logging trucks, and it will be primarily used in the summer months. Eventually he may like to put a small building for storage. Lindsey suggested if the Council wanted to, and Mr. Ledin agreed there could be a clause in the sale contract that would give the city first right of refusal should Mr. Ledin decide to sell. Ledin had no problem with that if it wouldn't prevent him from passing it onto his children. Ledin was informed that in closed session the Council decided to make a counteroffer of \$1,200.00 per acre of the approximately 1.9-acre lot. Ledin accepted the counteroffer and the city first right of refusal clause, he will also pay for the survey.

Tulowitzky makes a motion to reconsider the motion on using colored cement on the terrace from 2nd Ave West to 8th Avenue West., 2nd by Maziasz. Motion carried 6 to 1 with Neimes opposed. Tulowitzky suggestion was to either extend the decorative lighting to 8th Avenue W along with the cement terrace or stop with the cement terrace on 6th Avenue. Motion by Tulowitzky to rescind original motion and have the concrete terrace from 2nd Avenue W. to 6th Avenue W., second by McGrath. Motion failed 4 to 3 with Broberg, Maziasz, Neimes and Anderson opposed. Original motion stands.

Adjourn – Council President Novachek adjourned the meeting at 8:32PM.

Tammy L. DeMars
City Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30pm

Committee Member Karen Spears-Novachek, & Laura Tulowitzky.