

May 8, 2023

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM

Washburn City Hall & Remote Video Conferencing

City Council Members:

Present, in-person:

Tom Neimes, Jennifer Maziasz, Jared Trimbo, John Hopkins,
Mary McGrath, Tracey Snyder, Dave Anderson

Present, remote:

none

Municipal Personnel:

Present, in-person:

Mayor Mary D. Motiff, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver,
Asst. City Administrator Tony Janisch, City Attorney Max Lindsey,
Police Chief Ken Johnson

Present, remote:

none

Absent:

none

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 of April 10 & 18, 2023; Historic Preservation April 10, 2023 - A motion was made by Neimes to approve the April 10 & 18, 2023 minutes of the City Council as well as the April 10, 2023 minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Public Comment – Bill Bailey, 33430 Whiting Dr., Bayfield, Cheq Bay Renewables, speaking on behalf of Bayfield Co. who is applying for a US Transportation Department Grant for EV charging stations across the county. The County identified 11 sites throughout the county, including Washburn, to receive potential charging stations for electric vehicles. Bailey continued that each site would receive 4 charging stations, the total cost would be \$2-\$3 million and the grant would cover 80% of the costs. In Washburn, the site location that makes the most sense is Hansen’s IGA, it has the required electrical/voltage needs and has available parking space. Plus, it has off-street parking and is in the center of the City. Bailey continued that collecting public input is the next step of the application process and encouraged the City to provide a letter of support.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments

- **Proclamations for National Skilled Nursing Care Week, National Police Week, Emergency Medical Services Week, Historic Preservation Month, and Arbor Day** –

The Mayor began by mentioning a ribbon cutting ceremony earlier in the day at the new business in Washburn, The Wood Bin. She added that the proposed Bayfield Co. housing project was not awarded WEDHA credits and that there is a need for seasonal help at Public Works. The Mayor continued by listing the proclamations occurring in May, including the event for Historic Preservation Month held at the Courthouse this past Saturday (5/13), including canon fire, and the Arbor Day Celebration event with tree planting at Memorial Park this upcoming Tuesday (5/16). The Mayor concluded by mentioning the Rescue Diva’s Camp occurring this summer for girls grades sixth, seventh & eighth.

Election of Council President and Election of Plan Commission Member (2/3 Vote Required)

– Anderson nominated Jen Maziasz for Council President. McGrath moved to close nominations and elect Maziasz for Council President. Motion carried unanimously. Neimes nominated Dave Anderson to continue serving on the Plan Commission. Neimes moved close nominations and elect Anderson for Plan Commission, second by Snyder. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #23-010 Ratifying the Mayor’s Proclamation of April 20, 2023 and Declaring a Disaster in the City of Washburn Due to High Water and Flooding -

Neimes moved to approve Resolution 23-010 ratifying the Mayors Proclamation declaring a High Water & Flooding Disaster, second by Trimbo. Kluver also noted damage at Fur Farm Road, along with Bigelow Street. Maziasz commented that if possible, when repairs are made, they should be upgraded in preparation for future storm events, and that other locations in the area sustained damage again because repairs were not upgraded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Draft Certified Survey Map for a Portion of Lot 52 at S. 8th Avenue West and Holman Lakeview Drive (Tax ID 32922) –

Neimes moved to approve the certified survey map for the portion of Lot 52, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution 2023-009 Terminating TID #2 –

McGrath moved to approve Resolution 2023-009 for the termination of TID #2, second by Neimes. Neimes asked if the funding set aside would still be available. The Mayor responded yes, for a housing project. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Acceptance of Bid for Road Gravel –

McGrath moved to approve and accept the bid from Bob Olson & Co. for Road Gravel, second by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 23-003 Establishing the Process for the Issuance of Provisional Alcohol Licenses -

Janisch stated that Wis. State Statute 125.185 allows municipalities to issue provisional retail alcohol licenses for 60 days because the process receiving a license can take several months. However, the state statute requires that the municipality establish an ordinance and identify who can approve and issue the provisional licenses. A motion was made by McGrath to approve Ordinance 23-003, second by Trimbo. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Authorization of Notice for Class “B” (Beer) and “Class B” (Liquor) licenses to Chequamegon Bait at 10 W. Bayfield Street, Kelsey Lindsey – Agent –

Janisch stated that the Firehouse Bar has sold. The new owner is Chequamegon Bait LLC and they wish to retain the Firehouse as a bar. Anderson moved to authorize city staff to issue public notification and to begin the administrative licensing process, second by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Notice of Annual Alcohol License Renewals –

McGrath moved to authorize staff to begin the alcohol license renewals process, removing Dauson Inc. (dba Firehouse Bar) from the list, seconded by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Special Event Request for Superior Vistas Bike Tour on June 24, 2023 Including Relaxation of Open Container and Noise Ordinances and Sale of Beer at Thompson’s West End Park - Washburn Chamber, Petitioner –

Moved by McGrath to approve the special event request of the Washburn Chamber for relaxations of open container and noise and the sale of beer by South Shore Brewery at West End Park on June 24, 2023, second by Trimbo. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Special Event Request for Closure of Central Avenue on July 29, 2023 – Historic Civic Center Foundation, Petitioner – Moved by McGrath to approve the special event request of the Historic Civic Center Foundation to close Central Ave. on July 29, 2023, second by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Items

- **Discussion & Action on a Personnel Matter involving a City Department Head and an Elected Official –**

A motion was made by McGrath to go into closed session at 6:11PM pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute §19.85(1) (c), for discussion of personnel matters, following which the Council may reconvene in open session to take any action that may be necessary on the closed session items, second by Neimes. Motion carried five (5) to two (2) via roll-call vote, Snyder & Anderson voting against. Anderson excused himself and left the meeting.

Adjourn – Mayor Motiff adjourned the meeting at 6:32 pm.

Tony Janisch
Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30pm

Committee Members Mary McGrath, Tracey Snyder & Tom Neimes reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.