

August 1, 2022

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM

Washburn City Hall & Remote Call-In

City Council Members:

Present, in-person:

Carl Broberg, Karen Spears-Novachek, Tom Neimes, Dave Anderson

Present, remote:

Jennifer Maziasz

Municipal Personnel:

Present in-person:

Mayor Mary D. Motiff, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Assistant City Administrator Tony Janisch, City Attorney Max Lindsey

Present, remote:

none

Absent:

Mary McGrath, Laura Tulowitzky

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

**Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting of July 11, 2022** - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the July 11, 2022 minutes of the City Council, second by Neimes. Motion carried.

**Approval of Expenditures** – Item tabled for next meeting due to only one Finance Committee member reviewing expenditures.

**Public Comment** – Kellie Pederson, UW-Extension, spoke on behalf of Bayfield Co. for the recent RFP for housing. This development would be for 40 to 60 units of senior and workforce housing, located within the City of Washburn. Ms. Pederson further explained the details of the RFP, with the date of Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> to review the submitted proposals.

**Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments** - The Mayor's only announcement was how great the Brownstone Weekend was. She further stated that with Bayfield St. being open, downtown events attracted those driving through town and the car show was able to expand at its new location.

**Discussion & Action on Resolution #22-004 to Modify the Lake Superior Scenic Byway Location in the City Washburn** – Neimes moved to approve Resolution #22-004, seconded by Anderson. The Mayor stated that this was the start of the process to exempt the downtown and/or industrial areas and allow for more signage along Bayfield St. Novachek stated favor of the motion but expressed caution in a sign ordinance to be thoughtful of the overall look of the downtown. Maziasz echoed Novachek's concern. Discussion continued. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion & Action on Unattended Public Display Policy on City Property** – Broberg moved to approve the policy of Unattended Public Display on City Property, seconded by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion & Action on Goose Control Efforts at West End Park/Treatment Plan Area** – Broberg moved to approve Goose Control efforts at West End Park & the Treatment Plant, second

by Neimes. Attorney Lindsey stated that its Canada Goose, not Canadian Goose as the protocols identify. Discussion occurred. Maziasz suggested to also look for other methods to help deter the resident population, adding that the Parks Committee could look at other vegetative options. Lindsey added the harvest is limited by the DNR at five per day between Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, and three per day after Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> request. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion & Action Proposed Agreement with Bowmar Appraisal Inc. for Assessing Services and Revaluation for 2023 and 2024** – Novachek moved to approve the agreement with Bowmar Appraisals for Assessing and Revaluation services, seconded by Neimes. Novachek suggested informing the public that revaluation will be occurring and that this is a requirement of the State. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion & Action on Ordinance 2022-007 Amending the Conditions Relating to Non-Use of an Alcohol License** – Anderson moved to approve Ordinance 2022-007 amending the conditions relating to Non-Use of an Alcohol License, seconded by Novachek for the purpose of discussion. Anderson stated that some businesses in town are seasonal and the requirement having to be open 180 days is an issue. The Mayor clarified that the ordinance is not being open for 180 days, its being closed for 180 days or being closed for more than half a year in a 12-month period. Anderson further added that if a business was to close for 6-months, for the winter, they would be in violation. And forcing them stay open is not profitable. Maziasz asked for a comparison of other communities with requirements to stay open. Kluver answered that many communities in Wisconsin have a similar or more restrictive requirements. Janisch added that the City of Ashland also has 180 days of being closed, but also require businesses to be open at least 20-hours a week. Discussion occurred. Anderson added that there are few profitable year-round businesses and by allowing some to close, they make the others more profitable. Forcing businesses to be open for half the year make them less profitable, especially without the foot-traffic. The Mayor added that these licenses would be of benefit for businesses that are open year-round. Discussion continued. Lindsey identified special exemptions to a municipality's quota for additional "Class B" hard-liquor licenses, but none currently exist in the City. Discussion continued including the flow of the area tourist season. Anderson amended his motion that a licensee be open for business for 90 days within a 12-month period instead of 45 days, Novachek agreed to amendment for purpose of vote. Motion failed 1-4, Anderson voting in favor.

**Discussion & Action on Authorizing Notice for Karlyn/Yellowbird Gallery, at 318 W. Bayfield Street, for Issuance of a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage License** – Novachek moved to authorize staff to notice for a Class "B" license for Karlyn Yellowbird Gallery, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion & Action on Consideration of Sale and Land Swap of Property (Tax IDs 35809 and 32800) to Mark Bultmann and Jean Underwood** – Kluver stated that this item is free for open discussion or Council could go into closed session as indicated on the agenda. Novachek moved to approve the land swap and sale of property, seconded by Broberg. Discussion occurred. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Tony Janisch  
Assistant City Administrator

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30pm**

Committee Member Karen Spears-Novachek reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.