

February 11, 2019

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM Washburn City Hall

Present: City Council Members: Aaron Austin, Jennifer Maziasz, Karen Spears-Novachek, Linda Barnes, John Gary

Municipal Personnel: Mayor Richard Avol, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Assistant City Administrator Dan Stoltman, City Attorney Max Lindsey

Excused Absence: Jeremy Oswald, Mary McGrath

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Avol. 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 Meetings of January 14, 2019– A motion was made by Barnes to approve the January 14, 2019– minutes, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Public Comment – Roth Edwards 221 West 6th Street, spoke on the need for more planning and public input on the development of city land on Omaha Street. Tom Neimes 605 W. 4th St., discussed the Omaha Street development and economic development in the city.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments- Vacancies on Lake Superior By-Way Committee; BART Board; Zoning Board of Appeals; CDBG Housing Committee - The Mayor welcomed new Public Works Director Bob Anderson. The Mayor recognized the life and passing of local resident Bob Ungrodt. The Mayor nominated Tracey Snyder to the Lake Superior By-Way Committee. A motion was made by Novachek to appoint Tracey Snyder to the Lake Superior By-Way Committee, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously. The Mayor nominated Jeffrey Olsen to the Zoning Board of Appeals. A motion was made by Barnes to appoint Jeffrey Olsen to the Zoning Board of Appeals, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously. The Mayor nominated himself to the CDBG Housing Committee. A motion was made by Novachek to appoint the Mayor (Richard Avol) to the CDBG Housing Committee, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation on CORE Community Resources – Ann Bowker, Presenter – Ann Bowker gave a presentation on the activities of CORE Community Resources. No motion was made.

Discussion & Action on Request to Amend Water and Sewer Credit Policy – Sharilyn Sandstrom, Petitioner – Kluver gave an overview. Kluver stated that the Council at the time the original policy was made (2014), kept the dollar amount high to encourage good home ownership and maintenance practices. Kluver stated that the city has had less than ten cases since 2014. Barnes stated that because the city bills quarterly, people may not know they have a problem for months, and she recommends a \$200 dollar increase per service. Novachek stated she would need more information on the impacts of changing the policy before being able to evaluate it. A discussion took place on having a proportional amount between water and sewer considering sewer is more expensive. Kluver stated that if this is a possibility, he suggests keeping the sewer at \$500 and reduce the water to the proportion of volume rate based on that figure. It was stated to carry this item over to the next Council meeting once staff gets more numbers on the impacts of changing the policy to a proportional system. No motion was made.

Discussion & Action on Request by North Coast Cycling Association to have the City Sponsor a Recreational Trails Program Grant for the Resurfacing of the Recreational Trail within the City of Washburn – Nate Swiston gave a presentation. Mr. Swiston stated that the city would need to apply for the grant on behalf of North Coast Cycling Association, but they would be responsible for writing the grant. Kluver stated that he does not object to the request. A motion was made by Novachek to approve the request by North Coast Cycling Association to have

the city sponsor a Recreational Trails Program Grant for the Resurfacing of the Recreational Trail within the City of Washburn, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Park Committee Activities – Jen Maziasz, Presenter – Maziasz discussed activities of the Park Committee. No motion was made.

Discussion & Action on Concept of the City Developing the Omaha Property on Its Own – Kluver gave an overview. A discussion was had on development options. Kluver stated that for the city to develop the property for single family lots to be sold, it would cost the city an estimated \$775,000 to \$850,000 in infrastructure cost, with total estimated cost of \$1,240,000 over a 15 year loan. Maziasz stated she is for single family lots. A motion was by Maziasz to open the floor, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously. Dalton Collins spoke in favor of the Omaha Street development being single family homes. Tony Jennings spoke, Mr. Jennings asked how many building permits the city had last year. Kluver responded that the city had two. Dave Anderson Spoke, Mr. Anderson stated that the Omaha Street property should stay vacant until better options for development come. Roth Edwards spoke, Mr. Edwards discussed the comprehensive plan as it relates to the Omaha Street property. A motion was made by Novachek to close the floor, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously. Austin stated that housing in the community is needed, and low income housing could benefit many in the community. Austin stated that the city doesn't have much land for housing and it's nice that the city does have land like the Omaha Street property available. No motion was made.

Discussion & Action on Listing City Properties for Sale with Tony Jennings of Blue Water Realty –Kluver gave an overview. Kluver stated that he comfortable starting small with a couple of listings and feels it will be beneficial to the city. A discussion was had on listing other city properties. A discussion was had on listing the Brokedown Palace. Kluver stated that before the city would need to conclude all current leads on the property before it can be listed with Blue Water Realty. A motion was made by Novachek to approve the listing of city property lot 15and 24 with Blue Water Realty, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Solicitation of Assistant Administrator Position/Job Description Review – Maziasz stated that she felt adding a park element to the job description should be included. A discussion took place on adding a park element to the job description. Kluver stated that he would prefer to not have a park element to the job description but could include it as part of the job ad. A motion was made by Novachek to approve the solicitation of Assistant Administrator position and job description as it currently is, second by Barnes. Motion carried 4-1 with Maziasz no.

Discussion & Action on Administration Goals and Objectives for 2019, Review of 2018 Goals – Kluver gave an overview. The progress on the Coal Dock was discussed. A motion was made by Novachek to approve the Administration Goals and Objectives for 2019 as presented, second by Gary. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 19-001 Updating the Regulation Governing Excavations and Openings in Streets and Sidewalks to be Consistent with Current Technology – Kluver gave an overview. It was stated to add “or designee” to Sec. 6-2-4. A motion was made by Novachek to approve Ordinance 19-001 with the added “or designee”, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 19-002 Updating the Regulation for the Keeping of Chickens – Kluver stated that an oversight was found that would have allowed free range chickens, and the intention of the ordinance was to keep chickens in their coops and runs. A motion was made by Barnes to approve Ordinance 19-002, second by Gary. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution 19-001 Combination of Wards to Single Polling Place in Spring Election – No discussion was had. A motion was made Barnes to approve Resolution 19-001, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Chamber of Commerce Use of Thompson's West End Park, Wikdal Park, and the Coal Dock; Closure of Portions of Bayfield Street, 5th Avenue West, 1st Avenue West, 2nd Avenue West, and 4th Avenue West; and Relaxation of Open Container and Noise Ordinances all at Certain Times during Brownstone Block Party Activities July 26 through July 28, 2019 & Discussion & Action on Request to Close North 3rd Avenue West from Bayfield Street to the Alley for Dandelion Days on June 8, 2019 – Washburn Chamber of Commerce and Michael McKenna, Petitioners – No discussion was had. A motion was made by Novachek to approve the request by the Chamber of Commerce Use of Thompson's West End Park, Wikdal Park, and the Coal Dock; Closure of Portions of Bayfield Street, 5th Avenue West, 1st Avenue West, 2nd Avenue West, and 4th Avenue West; and Relaxation of Open Container and Noise Ordinances all at Certain Times during Brownstone Block Party Activities July 26 through July 28, 2019 & the request to Close North 3rd Avenue West from Bayfield Street to the Alley for Dandelion Days on June 8, 2019, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Bartender License Applications – #20-51&52 – No discussion was had. A motion was made by Barnes approve Bartender License Applications – #20-51&52, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Items

Personnel Matters – Evaluation of the City Administrator – A motion was made by Novachek to go into closed session at 7:15pm pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute §19.85(1) (c), for 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 Barnes. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Barnes, seconded by Austin—unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Dan Stoltman
Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30PM

Committee Member Karen Novackek and Aaron Austin reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.