

November 12, 2018

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM Washburn City Hall

Present: City Council Members:

Aaron Austin, Jeremy Oswald, Jennifer Maziasz, Karen Spears-Novachek, Linda Barnes, Mary McGrath

Municipal Personnel:

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

Excused Absence:

John Gary

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Avol. Roll call attendance depicted six (6) of seven (7) members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized.

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meetings of October 12, 2018– A motion was made by Novachek to approve the October 12, 2018– minutes, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Public Comment – None

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments- Lake Superior By-Way Committee Appointment; BART Board – The Mayor discussed the need for members to the Lake Superior By-Way Committee and BART Board. The Mayor thanked the election committee members for their work at the November election. The Mayor thanked everyone involved in Washburn’s “Zombie Days”.

Discussion & Action on Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve a Conditional Use Request for Community Childbearing Center and Tourist Rooming House in Accordance with the Regulations of 8-279 and 8-294, Respectively, Out of the Property Located at 418 W. Pine Street – Dr. Erin Tenney, Petitioner – Tony Jennings spoke on behalf of the petitioner. Parking was discussed. Oswald stated that the Plan Commission looked at the parking and they resolved the issue. A motion was made by Oswald to approve conditional use request for community childbearing center and tourist rooming house in accordance with the regulations of 8-279 and 8-294, respectively, out of the property located at 418 W. Pine Street, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve a Conditional Use Request for a Tourist Rooming House in Accordance with Regulations 8-294 out of the Property Located at 614 3rd Avenue East – Sheryl and Radoslaw Oksimowicz, Petitioners – Oswald gave an overview. A discussion was had on property management. It was stated that a neighbor would be watching the property, and a phone number would be provided. A motion was made by Oswald to approve a conditional use request for a tourist rooming house in accordance with regulations 8-294 out of the property located at 614 3rd Avenue East, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Referral to Plan Commission of Request to Vacate the Alley in Block 6 of Vaughn and Austrian Addition to the Townsite of Washburn adjacent to Lots 19 and 20, Stephanie Arntsen – Petitioner – Kluver gave an overview. The petitioner’s garage was discussed. Kluver stated that a portion of the garage is on the neighboring church property, the petitioner’s property, as well as on part of the un-vacated portion of the alley. Kluver stated that before this comes back to council for final approval, the city will want to see an agreement between the petitioner and the church for easement of the property to access the garage. A motion was made by Maziasz to Refer to Plan Commission of Request to Vacate the Alley in Block 6 of Vaughn and Austrian Addition to the Townsite of Washburn adjacent to Lots 19 and 20, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #18-017 Supporting the Eastern Route on the Xcel Energy 2nd Circuit

Transmission Line Project – A discussion took place on what the role of the city is. Kluver stated that the city has no role, that this resolution is a document that states the route the Council prefers. A motion was made by Maziasz to approve Resolution #18-017 supporting the eastern route on the Xcel Energy 2nd circuit transmission line project, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation by Eagle Waste – Jim Whittinghill, Presenting – Jim Whittinghill discussed operations of Eagle Waste, and asked Council if they had questions. No motion was made.

Public Hearing, Discussion & Action – 2018 (payable 2019) Municipal Tax Levy - General Fund, Debt Service & Capital 2019 Budget Matters & Line-Item Adjustments. A motion was made by McGrath to open the floor for the public hearing, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously. - Action on Resolution #18-014 - Adopting the 2018 Tax Levy – Kluver gave an overview. Kluver stated that the levy has increased 3.81%, or \$.36 cents per one thousand dollars of property valuation over the previous year. Kluver stated that if Council wanted to keep it at the current rate, they would need to cut the budget by \$39,563. A motion was made by Novachek to approve Resolution #18-014, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously. Action on Resolution #18-015 - County Library Levy Exemption – No discussion was had. A motion was made by Novachek to approve Resolution #18-015, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action on 2019 Water and Sewer Utility Budgets – Kluver gave an overview. Kluver stated that water revenue has been flat even with more customers and contributes that to customers conserving water, however, the utility is meeting its expenses. Kluver stated the city intends to apply for an inflationary increase with the PSC for the water utility. Kluver stated the last water rate increase was in 2016. Kluver discussed the sewer utility. Kluver stated that while the sewer utility isn't completely healthy, it will likely cash flow in 2019. Capital items for the utility was discussed. A motion was made by McGrath to approve 2019 Water and Sewer Utility Budgets with an inflationary water rate increase, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #18-016 Approving Debt Compliance Policy and Procedures; Approval of Agreement with Ehlers & Associates for Compliance Assistance – Kluver gave an overview. No discussion took place. A motion was made by Novachek to approve Resolution #18-016, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 18-007 Eliminating Parking on North 4th Avenue West between 7th and 8th Streets West – Kluver gave an overview. No discussion was had. A motion was made by McGrath to approve Ordinance 18-007, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Coverage Agreement Between Ashland and Bayfield County Ambulance Services – A discussion was had on billing the requesting service after ten responses for aid in a calendar year. A motion was made by Barnes to approve coverage agreement between Ashland and Bayfield County Ambulance Services, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Bartender License Renewals - #20 -44 Through #20-49 – No discussion took place. A motion was made by Barnes to approve Bartender License Renewals - #20 - 44 Through #20-49, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session – Consideration of Personnel/Finance Committee Recommendation on Compensation to Assistant City Administrator and Treasurer for Temporary Assumption of DPW Director Duties – A motion was made by Novachek to go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for considering employment, promotion, and or compensation for the Assistant City Administrator and Treasurer following which they may reconvene in Open Session to take any action necessary on the closed session items, second by Oswald. Motion was carried unanimously. A discussion was had. A motion was made by Oswald to approve Compensation to Assistant City Administrator and Treasurer for Temporary Assumption of DPW Director Duties, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Novachek to adjourn at 6:28 pm, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Stoltman
Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30PM

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