

CITY OF OCONTO FALLS
COMMON COUNCIL
Council Chambers – Municipal Building
500 N. Chestnut Avenue - Oconto Falls, WI 54154

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018 – 7:00 PM
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Brad Rice.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Brad Rice, Aldermen: Kevin Rusch, Jay Kostreva, Devin Wirtz, Marty Coopman, Mathew McDermid, and Tim Holman

Also present: Administrator Vicki Roberts, City Attorney Larry Jeske, Deputy Clerk Nancy Brye, Street Superintendent Terry Magnin, Fire Chief Tim Magnin, Utility Manager Greg Kuhn, and Deputy Treasurer Eve Wallace

Excused: Police Chief Brad Olsen

Others: Warren Bluhm-Times Herald, Mandy Block, Don Heikkila, Christos Anastasopoulos, Bill & Marie Grady, Jean & Tim Lisowe, Tim Grady, Ron & Joan Curran, Troy & Amy Brehmer, Becky Behnke, Keaton & Courtney Kazik, Bart Schindel, Jim VanDornick, Reuben Radke, Loretta Shellman, James Moynihan, Dennis Minten, Keren & Donald Nygren, Danielle Schefdore, Sharon Smaney, Gene Dombrowski, John & Lori Marquardt, Greg & Karen Knoerzer, Susan McDermid, Susan Detjen, Sean Behnke, and John Dessart

Approval of Minutes – Common Council Meeting on July 10, 2018 and Special Common Council Meeting on July 30, 2018.

MOTION: Rusch / Kostreva

Motion to approve the minutes as presented for the Common Council Meeting on July 10, 2018 and Special Common Council Meeting on July 30, 2018.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Treasurer's Report – June

MOTION: McDermid / Wirtz

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for June and place on file.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Bills Payable – July

MOTION: Kostreva / Holman

Motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented for July.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Reports: written reports submitted for review

Administrator Report

Wirtz commented on how nice the newly painted pickleball court looks at Pleasant View Park. When the group informed they would be painting lines for a pickleball court, they made it known that they would share the basketball court and that lines for this sport would also be included. Wirtz noticed some youth playing basketball at the park and that there were no lines painted on the court for this sport. City Administrator will follow up to see that lines are painted on the court to include basketball.

Police Report

Municipal Court Report

Fire Department Report

Street Department Report

Street Superintendent thanked the Utility Department for their assistance with the replacement of the storm sewer behind the Senior Center.

Building Inspector Report

Utility Commission Report/Minutes

MOTION: Rusch / Holman

Motion to place reports on file.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Correspondence/Information - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- Honor Firefighter Charles “Bill” Grady for 50 years of service with the Oconto Falls Fire Department.

Mayor Rice, Fire Chief Magnin, City Administrator, and Council thanked Grady for his dedication to the fire department and presented him with a framed certificate of appreciation.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL - Citizens input will be limited to 3 minutes.

Dennis Minten expressed his concerns with the speed of traffic near his house on the corner of Caldwell Avenue and Adams Street. He asked that the Council consider making this a four-way stop to help slow traffic down. This matter will be brought to the attention of the Police Chief to monitor and if need be, bring back to Council for discussion at a later date.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

Old Business:

A. Memorial Field options.

Re: Council President Kevin Rusch

Rusch informed of the progress being made with an independent contractor hired to design plans for the Memorial Field Park to include areas for multiple sports. The designer is working closely with the city, Youth Football Group, and Panther Pride and will present three plans for the groups to review and discuss. There is no definite timeline set for design completion, but the designs will be made available soon.

NO ACTION TAKEN

At this point in the meeting, Council went out of agenda order to discuss Adams Street sidewalks.

New Business:

D. Adams Street Sidewalks.

Re: Street Superintendent

Prior to the Adams Street project being started, specific sidewalks were marked to be replaced. Property owners were mailed a letter on June 25, 2018; indicating the cost estimate of the portion they were responsible to pay. Since this time, more sidewalks and driveway aprons are in need of replacement because they are getting broken by contractors driving on them with machinery and others are brittle due to just being old concrete. Oconto Falls Utilities and WE Energies have agreed to pay for the ones that were not marked for replacement but destroyed by their machinery. The questions being brought before Council and property owners are: Should all of the sidewalks be replaced; and if so, who would be responsible for the additional cost involved? A few property owners voiced their opinions. Some felt it would be best to replace all sidewalks because within five years the ones left behind would need to be replaced anyway and it would look nicer if they all were new rather than butting new ones up to older concrete. One commented that looking nice shouldn't matter because some of the older sidewalks have nothing wrong with them and would be an unnecessary added expense. Another commented that the general public utilizes the sidewalks and didn't feel that property owners should have to pay for them. If all sidewalks were replaced, the additional costs would be close to \$24,300 of which approximately \$14,000 would be paid for by Utilities and WE Energies. There was lengthy discussion on who should be responsible for this additional cost. Council agreed that the property owner should only be responsible for their portion of the originally marked sidewalks as stated in the June 25, 2018 letter and that additional costs incurred with the removal of the rest of the sidewalks should be the city's responsibility.

MOTION: Kostreva / Rusch

Motion to replace all sidewalks along Adams Street construction project with the property owners only being responsible for original sidewalk costs as stated in the letter sent to them on June 25, 2018.

Roll Call Vote: Kostreva-yes, Rusch-yes, Coopman-yes, Wirtz-yes, McDermid-yes, Holman-yes - **MOTION CARRIED**

At this point in the meeting, Council went back to agenda order.

Old Business:

- B. Property located at 306 Jackson Street; owned by Guy Favour.
Re: Mayor Rice

An onsite inspection was made at the 306 Jackson Street property by City Administrator Vicki Roberts, City Health Inspector Terry Magnin, and Building Inspector Bobbie Krozell. It was agreed that the cat odor has been removed and the house is in acceptable condition.

NO ACTION TAKEN

New Business:

- A. Resolution 18-004; resolution to approve borrowing of \$550,000 from Peshtigo National Bank.
Re: City Administrator

This resolution needs to be in place to approve financing for completion of the current Adams Street project, Cherry Street project, Safewalk Sidewalks project and purchase of a tractor which were all previous discussed in Finance and Council.

MOTION: Rusch / McDermid

Motion to approve Resolution 18-004; resolution to approve borrowing of \$550,000 from Peshtigo National Bank.

Roll Call Vote: Rusch-yes, McDermid-yes, Coopman-yes, Kostreva-yes, Wirtz-yes, Holman-yes - **MOTION CARRIED**

- B. Offer from Kevin W. Rusch to purchase land in the Industrial Park.
Re: City Attorney

The City has a substation on a parcel of land in the Industrial Park. Rusch would like to split this parcel; purchasing half to create a large gravel driveway space behind his business and leaving the other half with the city for their substation. Rusch indicated he would take care of any costs incurred for the sale of this parcel and has offered the going rate for land purchased in the Industrial Park. Land in the Industrial Park is currently priced at \$3,500 per acre; Rusch is purchasing less than half an acre and has offered to pay \$1,700 for the land being presented.

MOTION: Kostreva / Wirtz

Motion to approve the offer from Kevin W. Rusch to purchase land in the Industrial Park as presented.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye; except Rusch who abstained - **MOTION CARRIED**

- C. Temporary Class B License Applications for the Oconto Falls Lioness Club to sell wine at the East Side Beach during Summer Sunset Series Concert – Music by the River on Friday, August 24, 2018.

Re: Deputy Clerk

The Chamber of Commerce holds a Temporary Class B License to sell malt beverages at this event and the Oconto Falls Lioness Club will sell the wine.

MOTION: Coopman / Holman

Motion to approve the Temporary Class B License Applications for the Oconto Falls Lioness Club to sell wine at the East Side Beach during Summer Sunset Series Concert – Music by the River on Friday, August 24, 2018.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

- E. Adjournment.

Mayor Rice asked if there was any further business before the meeting is adjourned. Having no further business, he declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

City Administrator Vicki A. Roberts