

**CITY OF OCONTO FALLS
COMMON COUNCIL**

Council Chambers – Municipal Building
500 N. Chestnut Avenue - Oconto Falls, WI 54154

**TUESDAY – AUGUST 10, 2021 - 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: Marty Coopman, Jeff McDonald, Devin Wirtz, Mathew McDermid, Tim Holman, and Ashley Bahrke

Also present: Administrator Vicki Roberts, City Attorney Larry Jeske, Police Chief Brad Olsen, Deputy Clerk Nancy Brye, Street Superintendent Terry Magnin, and Fire Chief Tim Magnin

Others: Michelle Tester, Kevin Kuhn, Barb Salscheider, Stephanie Holman, Paul Ehrfurth, Max Mayer, Briley Schneider, Bart Schindel, Dean Hess, Debbie Woods, and Warren Bluhm-Times Herald

Approval of Minutes – Common Council Meeting on July 13, 2021.

MOTION: McDermid / Wirtz

Motion to approve the minutes as presented for the Common Council Meeting on July 13, 2021.

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

Treasurer's Report – June

MOTION: Holman / Bahrke

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: McDermid / McDonald

Motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented for July.

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

Reports: written reports submitted

✓ *Administrator Report*

Verbally added: Thank you to the Oconto Falls High School football organization and coaches for their help in cleaning up brush and fallen timber on Wisconsin Street, Poplar Avenue, and Milwaukee Avenue. Over 30 loads of brush and timber were removed.

- ✓ ***Police Department Report***
- ✓ ***Municipal Court Report***
- ✓ ***Fire Department Report***
- ✓ ***Street Department Report***

Verbally added: Would like permission to allow residents to dispose of stumps and logs at the landfill. With the latest big storm, there is nowhere to go with this debris. It was agreed to allow.

- ✓ ***Building Inspector Report***
- ✓ ***Utility Commission Report/Minutes***

MOTION: McDermid / Wirtz

Motion to place monthly reports on file.

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL – no citizen in-put

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

Public Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A. Revise the 2021 Main Street Committee Mayoral Appointments.

Revisions being proposed to the 2021 Main Street Committee are to replace Paul Ehrfurth who will be retiring in 2 weeks with his successor, Jayme Sellen and to add Alderman Ashley Bahrke.

MOTION: McDermid / Coopman

Motion to approve the revised 2021 Main Street Committee Mayoral Appointments as presented; replacing Paul Ehrfurth with Jayme Sellen and adding Alderman Ashley Bahrke.

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

- B. USDA Downtown Revitalization Grant.

The City has been working on this project for over two year now. The CDBG Grant was denied for this project. \$29,175 was awarded from a USDA Grant, which is about half of what was asked for. Redevelopment Resources' initial quote was over \$70,000. A few adjustments were made to their initial quote, enabling them to revise it to \$53,375. The difference from awarded grant funds and the revised quote is \$24, 200. The Main Street Committee met and would like to recommend that Council move forward with the downtown revitalization plan, using \$24,200 either from ARPA funds or from the City's general fund balance. Ehrfurth strongly encouraged Council to accept the USDA Grant funds and to follow through with the downtown revitalization plan. He commented the city has

a committed group willing to work and see this project through. It was agreed to discuss where the additional funding of \$24,200 would come from during budget season with the Finance Committee.

MOTION: Bahrke / Holman

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Main Street Committee to accept the USDA Grant and move forward with the downtown revitalization plan using funds in the amount of \$24,200 either from the ARPA funds or from the City's general fund balance.

Roll Call Vote: Bahrke-yes, Holman-yes, Coopman-yes, McDonald-yes, Wirtz-yes, McDermid-yes; - **MOTION CARRIED**

C. Conditional Use Permit for Riverview Alliance Church located at 628 N. Main Street.

The Planning Commission met last week to discuss a conditional use permit for a LED message display sign for Riverview Alliance Church. Tree limbs fell on and damaged their old lighted sign. The replacement sign would be the same size as the old sign and they have agreed to put the lights on a timer so it would shut off at 10 pm as they did in the past. Planning Commission would like to recommend that Council approve the conditional use permit allowing Riverview Alliance Church to install a new sign with LED display with lights to be set on a timer to be shut off from the hours of 10 pm until 7 am.

MOTION: McDonald / Wirtz

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the conditional use permit as presented, allowing Riverview Alliance Church located at 628 N. Main Street to install a new sign with LED display and for lights to be set on a timer to be shut off from the hours of 10 pm until 7 am.

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

D. Ordinance No. 21-001; an ordinance amending Chapter 348; Nuisances.

The Ordinance Committee met prior to Council and unanimously approved the recommendation of this ordinance which would give the police department more leverage and the ability to notify landlords of calls relating to disturbances, domestic disputes, and drug related incidents coming from their rental properties.

MOTION: Wirtz / McDonald

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Ordinance Committee to approve Ordinance No. 21-001; an ordinance amending Chapter 348; Nuisances as presented.

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

E. Ordinance No. 21-002; an ordinance amending Chapter 405; Vehicles, All-Terrain and Utility Terrain.

The Ordinance Committee also unanimously approved the recommendation of this ordinance to keep ATVs and UTVs off public sidewalks. There was some discussion on allowing vehicle operation on Main Street. It was agreed to approve the ordinance as presented and then next month bring back an amendment to adopt Wisconsin State Statute 23.33(11); allowing a city to enact an ordinance to authorize the operation of all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles on a highway.

MOTION: Holman / McDonald

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Ordinance Committee to approve Ordinance No. 21-002; an ordinance amending Chapter 405; Vehicles, All-Terrain and Utility Terrain as presented.

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

F. Ordinance No. 21-003; an ordinance creating Chapter 406; Golf Carts.

The Ordinance Committee also unanimously approved the recommendation of the creation of a golf cart ordinance. It was noted that most golf carts do not have headlights or taillights unless they are custom installed. It was agreed to approve the ordinance as presented and then next month to bring back an amendment of Section 406-3 (b) which references headlights and taillights.

MOTION: Wirtz / McDermid

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Ordinance Committee to approve Ordinance No. 21-003; an ordinance creating Chapter 406; Golf Carts as presented.

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

G. Operator's License Application for: 2 yr – Brianna Jo Kirsch.

The applicant has completed the Beverage Server Class and filed proper application with the City to obtain a license. Chief Olsen completed a background check and has signed off on the application.

MOTION: McDermid / Wirtz

Motion to approve the 2 year Operator's License Application for Brianna Jo Kirsch as presented.

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

H. Temporary Class B License for St. Anthony Church to sell malt beverages a food truck event they are holding on Monday, September 13, 2021 in the church parking lot.

St. Anthony Church is holding a food truck event where they will have multiple trucks serving foods from different cultures. They would like to also sell and serve beer at this event to raise funds for their church. St. Anthony Church has filed proper application with the City for a Temporary Class B license and has found licensed operators to serve at the event.

MOTION: Wirtz / Coopman

Motion to approve the Temporary Class B License as presented for St. Anthony Church to sell malt beverages at a food truck event they are holding on Monday, September 13, 2021 in the church parking lot.

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

- I. Council may go into closed session to discuss matters of employment, promotion, compensation, discipline, or performance evaluation data of public employees pursuant to 19.85(1) Wis. Stats.

MOTION: McDonald / Holman

Motion to go into closed session at 7:18 pm to discuss matters of employment, promotion, compensation, discipline, or performance evaluation data of public employees pursuant to 19.85(1) Wis. Stats.

Roll Call Vote: McDonald-yes, Holman-yes, Coopman-no, Wirtz-no, Bahrke-yes, McDermid-no; - **TIE VOTE**

Mayor breaks the tie. Mayor-yes; MOTION CARRIED

Those remaining in closed session: Mayor Rice; Aldermen: Coopman, McDonald, Wirtz, McDermid, Holman, & Bahrke; Administrator Roberts, City Attorney Jeske, and Police Chief Olsen.

- J. Council will return to open session and may take action on matters discussed in closed session.

MOTION: McDermid /Coopman

Motion to return to open session at 7:33 pm and may take action on matters discussed in closed session.

Roll Call Vote: McDermid-yes, Coopman-yes, McDonald-yes, Wirtz-yes, Bahrke-yes, Holman-yes; - **MOTION CARRIED**

NO ACTION TAKEN

- K. Adjournment.

Mayor Rice asked if there was any further business before the meeting is adjourned. Having no further business, Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

City Administrator Vicki A. Roberts