

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

**TUESDAY – MARCH 8, 2022 – 7:00 pm
MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by Mayor Brad Rice

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Brad Rice, Aldermen: Jeff McDonald, Devin Wirtz, Marty Coopman, Ashley Bahrke, Mathew McDermid, and Tim Holman

Also present: City Attorney Larry Jeske, Deputy Clerk Nancy Brye, Deputy Treasurer Eve Wallace Street Superintendent Terry Magnin, Utility Manager Greg Kuhn, Library Director Amy Peterson, and Assistant Fire Chief Joel Lavarda

Absent: Administrator Vicki A. Roberts, Police Chief Brad Olsen, and Fire Chief Tim Magnin

Others: Michelle Tester, Jay Conley, Cole Magnin, Dave Alsteen, Joel Schmechel, Patrick Ahlgrim, Gail Yatso, Kevin Rusch, Craig Schuh, Robert Krzyzanowski, James Schmidt, Dave Alsteen, and Warren Bluhm-Times Herald

Approval of Minutes – Common Council Meeting on February 8, 2022

Bahrke noted an error under New Business Item B – Bid Consideration for the Senior Center project; second bullet point whereas it states the council did want to spend any money above the grant amount. It should read that the council did not want to spend any money above the grant amount.

MOTION: McDermid / Holman

Motion to approve the minutes as presented for the Common Council Meeting on February 8, 2022; with the correction to add the word “not” in the verbiage under New Business Item B as stated above.

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

Treasurer’s Report – January

MOTION: Holman / Bahrke

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented for January and place on file.

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

Bills Payable – February

MOTION: McDermid / Coopman

Motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented for February.

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

Reports: written reports submitted

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

Bahrke questioned the high recycling center hours. Street Superintendent explained this was due to working on the brush and chip pile.

- ✓ *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: None

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

Public Correspondence: None

Old Business:

A. Kubota lawn mower

Magnin advised the street department received the new motor and parts yesterday. They hope to have it put together by the end of the week. Council would like to declare the mower as surplus and put up for sale via sealed bids before mowing season is here. The cost of the new motor was \$5,126. A minimum bid was discussed and an amount of \$6,000 was agreed upon. McDonald questioned why we don't put items for sale on WI Surplus. The response was that we have always sold surplus locally with sealed bids and have success going this route.

MOTION: Wirtz / Holman

Motion to deem the Kubota lawn mower as surplus and put up for sale via sealed bids with the minimum bid be set at \$6,000.

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

B. Kiosk consideration for the beaches

Wirtz wanted this item brought back for discussion. He presented a quote from VenTek International for a kiosk similar to one that would be beneficial for our use at the beaches and boat launch areas. Each kiosk would cost \$10,690 which would include 1 year of free software. Each year thereafter, the software charge would be \$1,100 per unit. Wirtz suggested 2 units would be enough for the city. The machine he checked into would accept credit card only and could be set up for daily fees, weekend fees, annual passes, beach fee, and boat launch fee. Funds to pay for kiosks could come out

of the Boat Launch Fund. If solar power was needed, this would be an additional \$5,000 per unit. Citizens would pay for a pass using their credit card and receive a paper receipt. It would be their responsibility to retain the paper receipt or they would have to purchase another pass. There was discussion on how it would be policed to make sure citizens paid for a pass. City Attorney pointed out that the boat launch by the dam and the West Side Beach are located on leased property from Hydro. They can take this lease away from the city at any time. It was agreed this matter should be sent to the Park & Rec Committee for further discussion and possible recommendation.

ITEM TABLED.... Sent to Park & Rec Committee

New Business: *(Items were not discussed in order as the agenda was originally written)*

A. Candidate presentation for Oconto County Judge - Jay Conley

Jay Conley was present to address the Council and audience regarding his candidacy for the April election to remain in his position as Judge for Oconto County.

B. Candidate presentation for Oconto County Judge - Ed Burke

Ed Burke was not present at this meeting but did submit a letter in the council packets regarding his candidacy in the April election for the Oconto County Judge seat.

C. Chamber of Commerce requesting permission to use Eastside Beach facilities for Sunset Concerts in summer of 2022

Gail Yatso explained concerts will be pretty much the same as last year for set up and beverages. Riverview BP is going to be the major food vendor with a variety of menu items and the Chamber will be selling adult beverages. Concert dates and bands that will be performing are:

Friday, June 24 – Subject 2 Change Band

Friday, July 22 – The Bad Mother Truckers

Friday, August 26 – Adam Trask Band

MOTION: Wirtz / McDonald

Motion to grant permission for the Chamber of Commerce to use the Eastside Beach and facilities for Sunset Concerts in summer of 2022 as presented.

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

D. Library Report and introduction

Amy Peterson introduced herself as the new Library Director. She gave a brief history of her past work experience in the library field and handed out a report of current and future happenings for the library.

At this point in the meeting, Council went to Item G on the agenda.

G. Five Bugles Design

Robert Krzyzanowski and James Schmidt from Wendel / Five Bugles Design were in attendance to present their proposal for architecture and engineering services for a new fire station design. The two services being presented were; 1) Programming/space needs and conceptual design - \$9,950 and 2) Geographical Information System (GIS) - \$6,500. The total proposal would be \$16,450. They explained their services, what they have done for other communities, and what they could do for us. Having a design in place is the first step. They informed that you have to show what you want before applying for grants. When the design is done, Wendel would work with Ayres Associates regarding what is available for grant funding. If approved, a presentation could be put together in about 10 weeks.

Bahrke would like to see more funding information before approving the design proposal such as; what grants do they plan to apply for, what are the chances of receiving a grant, and are there any matching funds. She would like to see more homework done before any decision is made on starting the design.

There was continued discussion on whether the new building would house the Fire Department only or include Street Department and Utilities all in one building. Assistant Fire Chief Lavarda commented that some grants allow fire and ambulance services to be combined. Krzyzanowski stated that typically fire and ambulance housing are kept separate from public works departments due to emergency access and response times.

It was agreed by most that they would like to move forward at some point but would like more information on funding before they proceed with any design proposal. This item was not budgeted for and would have to come from the fund balance. The proposal being presented is good for 90 days but Krzyzanowski said they are willing to work with us.

ITEM TABLED.... more information needed

Council returned to Item E on the agenda and remained in order as originally written.

E. Sale of 2014 Unmarked Squad

Coopman explained the Oconto Falls Ambulance Service is interested in purchasing the 2014 unmarked squad vehicle to use for community outreach and help with paramedic intercept. The check engine light is on, it runs rough, and the tires are in fair shape. They are willing to purchase the vehicle as is. They would like the city to purchase and mount new tires, which they would pay for. There was discussion on the sale price and what the value would be if sold as is.

MOTION: Bahrke / Wirtz

Motion to approve the sale of the 2014 unmarked squad vehicle to the Oconto Falls Ambulance Service in the amount of \$4,500 plus the cost of new tires and mounting.

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

F. Brush chips at the recycling center.

\$23,750 was allocated in the 2022 city budget to take care of the brush chip pile at the recycling center. The pile has been chipped at a cost of \$8,500 so far. There are decomposed logs and dirt that still need to be taken care of. Four contractors were contacted to get quotes to bury the decomposed logs and dirt. Only two contractors submitted quotes; Duchateau and Peters did not respond. Street Superintendent opened sealed bids at this time from Duame and Thompson. Quotes received were: Duame - \$7,040 and Thompson - \$5,000.

There was continued discussion regarding having the pile hauled out and removed rather than burying it. It was suggested to contact the DNR to see if it can be hauled and brought to the old city dump. If DNR approves of this, then go back to the contractors and ask for another quote for hauling to old dump.

There was also discussion with regards to selling chips on a regular basis to keep the recycling center chip area cleaned up. Dirt City in Lena has shown interest in purchasing some chips. It was also suggested that an ad be put in the newspaper for the sale of chips.

ITEM TABLED.... until April meeting

G. Terrace Tree Application and Ordinance No. 22-001; an ordinance recreating Chapter 441 - Trees.

ITEM TABLED.... until March 15, 2022 meeting

H. Temporary Class B License for St. Anthony Parish to sell malt beverages at their Food Truck Event on Monday, May 2, 2022 in the church parking lot.

St. Anthony Parish has filed proper application with the city to obtain this license.

MOTION: Wirtz / Coopman

Motion to approve the Temporary Class B License for St. Anthony Parish to sell malt beverages at their Food Truck Event on Monday, May 2, 2022 in the church parking lot as presented.

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

I. 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 8:27 pm.


City Administrator Vicki A. Roberts