

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 09/26/2022

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, September 26, 2022. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and the following members were present:

Mayor: Michael Bablick

Aldermen: Chris Hoffman
Dixie Weidman
Michael Mader
Dennis Wartgow
James Corbett
Anthony Thier
Dina Bukachek
Dan Greenwood

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn - excused

City Administrator: Brentt Michalek

Also present: Michelle Smith, Bill Hoffman, Jerry Ernst, Gary Wollerman, Larry Reas, Shannon Greenwood and Jeff Seamandel.

There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Weidman to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

There was a motion by Alderman Bukachek and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve the minutes for The Common Council meeting on August 22, 2022, the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on August 25, 2022, the Personnel meeting on August 31, 2022 and the Committee of the Whole meeting on September 12, 2022. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Mader informed everyone that the Lions Club will be building the new dugouts at the little league fields. The Mayor received some unusual cell phone calls over the weekend, speculating that they were spam calls generated from information that is listed on the City's website. It was recommended that phone numbers be less visible on the website. Kyle Cronan, new Superintendent of Chequamegon School was introduced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance –Alderman Bukachek made a motion and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$469,813.68. Motion carried, 8-0.

Personnel – nothing

Board of Public Works – The Chequamegon School District presented a request to use 9th Street North from the elementary parking lot to the bur turn in location for their homecoming parade. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve this request. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve a driveway permit for 154 Maple Street. Motion carried. Jeff Seamandel presented the MSA report.

Public Services – Alderman Bukachek made a motion and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve the Halloween Trick or Treat hours from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM on Monday, October 31, 2022. Motion carried.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Bablick - Made a recommendation of the following appointments: Dixie Weidman to the Public Services Committee, Finance Committee and the Plan Commission; to remove Fred Lenzen from the Plan Commission and to appoint Tara Tervort and Gary Wollerman to the Plan Commission; and appoint Seth Carlson to the Library Board. Motion by Alderman Wartgow to approve these appointments and seconded by Alderman Mader. Motion carried.

City Administrator Michalek-The WATCO land transfer is now in WATCO's hands. He has applied for the Safe Streets grant in the amount of \$180,000. Demolition of the raze order properties will probably take place the 2nd week in November.

Attorney report – Nothing to report.

Clerk & Treasurer Smith – There is an election coming up on November 8, 2022. The breakdown of the hospital project was handed out and the council was informed that it looks like the City of Park Falls will be receiving 65% principle forgiveness for the Safe Drinking Water loan. The pool had approximately 140 students taking lessons this past summer.

Library Director Hyde was excused.

DPW Director Hoffman – The cemetery received word that the grubs are June bug grubs. The City has already purchased a seed mixture that is supposed to be grub resistant. It will cost approximately \$300/acre. Forestry notices were issued to residents that have dead trees in their yard.

Chief of Police Ernst updated the council that they have placed an ad for the full-time police officer. Body cams are beginning to get purchased with the grant money. Top honor kudos goes out to Dominick Koller who received a 98% on his recent death investigation seminar. There were 64 students present. A formal congratulations will be drafted soon.

Fire Chief Reas reported that the fire department will be having an open house on October 8 and encourages everyone to attend.

At 5:56 PM there was a motion by Alderman Wartgow, seconded by Alderman Thier, to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. (*Regarding Discussion and Consideration of Developers Agreement regarding proposed housing development.*); and pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g)-conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (*Discussion regarding wastewater treatment plant.*). Motion carried, 8-0. Staff remaining included Michalek, Smith, Greenwood, Ernst, Reas, and Hoffman.

At 6:13 PM there was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Thier to reconvene into open session. Motion carried, 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM

Michelle M. Smith
Clerk and Treasurer