

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 12/19/2023

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 19, 2023. Mayor Tara Tervort called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and the following members were present:

Mayor: Tara Tervort

Alderman: Dan Greenwood
Dennis Wartgow
Terry Wilson
James Corbett
Anthony Their
Dixie Weidman
Michael Mader
Dina Bukachek

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn

City Administrator: Brentt Michalek

Also present: Shannon Greenwood, Bill Hoffman, Deb Hyde, Marvin Nevelier, Larry Reas, Scott Schultz, Chris Hoffman, Cindy Koller, Mark Koller, Sean Tervort, Greg Geist, Jim Green, Jim Dunn, Mike Weidman, Jane Novitzke, Allie Plessner, Gary Wollerman, Jackie Christopher, Michele Rhode, Judi Grissmeyer, Becky Michels. Sam Pritzl., Rick Svehla, Bonnie Svehla, Karen Langrehr, Greg Langrehr, John Lindberg, Maria Schuelke, Bob Kopisch, Steve Sitte, Skyler Dural-Eder, Josh Wegner, Becky Wegner, Cindy Hinton, Virginia Feit, Bob Brandt, Laura Schultz, Tony Kundinger, Tammy Brandt, Frank Lasiowski, April Lasiowski, Claudia Lasiowski, Linda Fuhrman, Tammy Hastings, Jason Hastings, Lisa Dahlgren, Joe Oskvarek, Michelle Smith.

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

There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Weidman to approve the minutes for the Common Council meeting on November 27, 2023. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Hall will be closed on December 25th and 26th, as well as December 30th and January 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Hastings, Michelle Smith, Lisa Dahlgren, Tammy Hastings, Derek Chambers, Linda Fuhrman, Joe Oskvarek, Jackie Christopher, Cindy Hinton, Laura Schultz, Derek Chambers, Maria Schuelke, and Virginia Feit spoke during public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Weidman to appoint City Administrator Michalek as Clerk and Treasurer. Motion carried, 8-0. County Administrator Nick Trimner and Transit Manager Pat Daoust gave a presentation on the Bay Area Rural Transit program, to include financial and ridership information, as well as services offered. Administrator Michalek gave a presentation on Tax Increment Financing Districts, specifically TID #5, detailing how Cities use them to improve areas, attract residential, commercial, and industrial growth. Discussed how TIDs affect all the taxing jurisdictions in the City. Reviewed how properties are assessed a base value and how the PILOT payments are calculated with the increased value. Discussed the Cornerstone Properties, LLC Developer Agreement, the timeline of the process,

all communications between them and the City, and the extensions that have been issued to date. He stated that this is the only project not completed and it is going on 3.5 years.

Tammy and Jason Hastings described the state of the property when they purchased it and the progress that they have made to date.

At 7:07 there was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to convene into closed session, 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 (Regarding TIF Development Agreement at 219, 229, and 239 2nd Avenue North), and Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Motion carried, 8-0. City staff Michalek, Greenwood, Hoffman, Hyde, Nevelier, Reas, and Schultz present.

At 8:17 there was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Wilson to reconvene into open session, for discussion and/or to take possible action on closed session items. Motion carried, 8-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Alderman Bukachek made a motion and seconded by Alderman Weidman to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$118,897.68. Motion carried, 8-0. Motion by Alderman Wilson and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to approve the Application for Pay #5 to AI Excavating in the amount of \$207,711.36. Motion carried, 8-0. Reviewed communication from Baker Tilly, expect final audit complete soon.

Personnel – Nothing to report.

Board of Public Works – Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Weidman to approve the replacement slide presented for the Southside Park. Motion carried, 8-0. Motion by Weidman and seconded by Alderman Wilson to approve the equipment purchases for Parks and Recreation as presented. Motion carried, 8-0. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve adding the plow truck to the CIP. Motion carried, 8-0. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve an additional \$1,000 for heated windshield in the plow. Motion carried, 8-0.

Public Services – Nothing to report.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor – City Hall renovation to begin in January with a target completion in May. Mayor has been asked to join the League of Municipalities Board of Directors in January.

City Administrator – City received debt forgiveness in the amount of \$572,826 for the 1st and 2nd Avenue water project.

Library Director – January Calendar of events was reviewed. Construction to begin in the Library next month.

DPW Director – 2020 LRIP was never completed, will get reimbursed \$5,200. Resident had sewer issue after the County E project, used camera to find rock pushed through pipe, fixed for the customer with AI acknowledging fault.

Parks & Recreation Director – Winterfest went well with 250+ in attendance.

Chief of Police Nevelier – A search warrant was issued for the 400 block of Sherry Ave and was executed, resulting in the arrest of two males. Officer Deitrich completed his first year of employment. City

Administrator Michalek also identified that it is the one-year anniversary of Chief being promoted to the position.

Fire Department – The Fire Department will be helping Santa’s Elves distribute presents to 26 houses with the fire truck.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Prepared by: Shannon Greenwood, Executive Assistant