

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

07/13/2020

The Committee of the Whole met in regular session in the council chambers of the Park Falls City Hall at 5:00 p.m. on July 13, 2020. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the following members were present:

Mayor:	Michael Bablick
Aldermen:	Chris Hoffman Richard Scharp Michael Mader Dennis Wartgow James Corbett ---via phone Anthony Thier---via phone Dina Bukachek Dan Greenwood
City Administrator:	Brentt Michalek
Attorney:	Bryce Shoenborn

Also present: Michelle Smith, Jerry Ernst, Scott Hilgart, Ruby May (at 5:15 p.m.), Pat Skalecki from Graef and via phone Mike Boushon, David Dryer, and one unidentified caller

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

Under communications, Mayor Bablick informed the council that he and Administrator Michalek went to Forward Bank in Marshfield and seen the plans for their new building that will be constructed in Park Falls. He also spoke of the AWSC Snowmobile Friendly Community Award that the City received. Administrator Michalek handed out an article he had wrote titled "Roles of Elected Officials in Zoning". Alderman Bukachek inquired as to why the public wasn't allowed to use the bleachers during the 4th of July fireworks. Chief Ernst responded that it was due to safety. Alderman Greenwood questioned if the water/sewer bills had an increase this past quarter. Treasurer Smith stated that the only increase was the refuse/recycling charge that was approved by the council and to please have the residents call city hall with any concerns they are having with their bills. Chief Ernst informed the council that the police department would only be doing motor vehicle registrations on Wednesdays and Thursdays by appointment only from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Under public comment, Mike Boushon had a concern in regard to a notice that was posted on facebook in regard to masks.

Under Finance, Alderman Hoffman made a motion to pay the bills of \$291,856.66. Seconded by Alderman Greenwood and motion carried, 8-0. Administrator Michalek informed the council that he looked over the parcels that are on the 2020 Price County land auction and he is recommending not to proceed with purchasing of any of the parcels. The 2020 pool budget was discussed with regard to the pool not being open this summer. Alderman Bukachek suggested possibly using the money for some repairs but the repairs that are needed are way over the budget amount that is available. The Mayor suggested possibly having a budget amendment to reappropriate for paving of Hines Park. This will be an action item on the council meeting on July 27, 2020.

Under Board of Public Works, there was an action item to award the bid for the downtown redevelopment site demolition and site preparation package. Pat Skalecki was present from Graef to present the bids that the City received and to recommend that the bid go to Veit & Company, Inc. for a bid of \$420,000. The other bids were from Eckert Wrecking, Inc. for a bid of \$438,000; Huotari Construction for a bid of \$452,400 and LinnCo, Inc. for a bid of \$497,069. There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve the awarding of the bid to Veit & Company, Inc. for a bid of \$420,000. Motion carried, 8-0. The final completion date is scheduled for September 25, 2020. Work should begin towards the end of July/beginning of August. Alderman Mader made a motion and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve the following paving projects, not to exceed \$161,525.62: Alley starting from 6th St. N. to Division St.; Section of 4th St. N. from the alley to 2nd Ave. N.; A section of 3rd Ave. N.; All of Hines Park; And the City Municipal parking lot by the American Legion. Motion carried, 8-0. Administrator Michalek informed the council on the progress of the ATC Tower Agreement and he presented the council the agreement to approve. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve this agreement, motion carried. Julie R. Groskreutz (now known as Ruby May) appeared before the council to request a "privilege" under Wis. Stats. 66.0425 to use street right of way at 698 6th Avenue South. After some discussion, there was a motion from Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to deny the request. Motion carried. There were two addresses that were requesting permission to place a chicken coop at their residences. 698 6th Avenue South requested a coop of approximately 64 square feet and 869 1st Avenue North requested a coop of approximately 21 square feet. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve these requests. Motion carried.

Under Public Services, Administrator Michalek updated the council on the seaplane base. The company that originally had submitted a bid is no longer able to complete the task. Right now, Administrator Michalek is looking at grants that would be available in helping with the cost that is associated with cutting the stumps, which is roughly \$50,000.

There was nothing to report for personnel.

Administrator Michalek let the council know that there will be a special meeting on July 20th at the library to receive input from the council members and the public on the design concepts from Graef in regard to the city center park. He also informed the council that talks for the 2021 budgets are starting to take place. Hopefully, by the next council meeting (July 27th), he will have the wage scale information from PAA. He will also be handing out a priority survey to the council members to see what they would like to see for the 2021 budget. Department heads will be receiving budget comparisons in the next couple of weeks to help them prepare their budgets for the upcoming budget year.

There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Corbett to convene into closed session, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e)-deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. (Regarding the purchase of property: 172 2nd Avenue North and regarding blighted properties within the City limits.) Motion carried, 8-0 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to reconvene at 7:07 p.m. by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Greenwood. Motion carried, 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Michelle M. Smith
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk