

COMMON COUNCIL

4/26/2021

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, April 26, 2021. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and the following members were present:

Mayor: Michael Bablick

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

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn

City Administrator: Brentt Michalek

Also present: Jerry Ernst, Michelle Smith, Bill Hoffman, Deb Hyde, Deb Perkins, Phil Bochler, Patricia Bochler, Tonya Kozuch, Mario Altuzar from the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue and two unidentified callers.

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

There was a motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to approve the Common Council meeting minutes of March 22, 2021, the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of April 12, 2021 and the Common Council Organization meeting minutes of April 20, 2021 with a correction being made to the April 20 minutes with David Dryer's name replacing Richard Scharp's. Motion carried.

Under communications, there was a moment of silence for Mark Weddig, Superintendent of the Chequamegon School District, who passed away suddenly.

There was no public comment.

Under Old Business, Mayor Bablick presented his library board appointments to reestablish the library board. The following individuals will be receiving a one-year term: Michael Homann, Edward Busby, Marcia Lalonde and Michael Mader. The following individuals will be receiving a two-year term: Kate Dirrigle and Wendy Rebne. The following individuals will be receiving a three-year term: Marlys Alberg and Susan Reinecke. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve the Mayor's appointments as presented. Motion carried.

Under New Business, Mario Altazar from the DOR Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement was present to explain the duties of the Council in regard to issuing an alcohol license and to answer any questions about license revocation and/or not renewing certain licenses. Any citizen can file a written formal complaint against an establishment. For suspending a license, the Council can suspend for not less than 10 days and not more than 90 days. They can revoke a license for a full year.

Under Finance, Alderman Hoffman made a motion and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$300,487.61. Motion carried, 8-0. Alderman Greenwood made a motion to approve the TIF Development Agreement for \$80,000 for property located at 334, 338 and 340 Division Street. Motion carried, 8-0.

Under Board of Public Works, Alderman Wartgow made a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Plan expenditure for a street sweeper from MacQueen Equipment in the amount of \$210,158. After Alderman Hoffman seconded it, the motion carried, 8-0. MJ Electric would like to temporarily use City property located at 801 Park Lane for \$500/month for storage of merchandise and supplies owned by MJ Electric and Xcel Energy. Motion to approve this request by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Thier. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve the two year right of first refusal for city property located at 801 Park Lane to IKS. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to approve the upgrade to the direct digital control system in the library in the amount of \$39,985. This will be an expense out of the capital improvements plan. Motion carried, 8-0. The Chamber had a letter requesting the use of Triangle Park for the flea market for the 2021 year. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to deny this request. Motion carried. The Chamber presented a list of requests for the upcoming Flambeau Rama celebration from July 24, 2021-August 3, 2021. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to deny the first two requests that deal with Triangle Park. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve the remaining requests as listed on the agenda. Motion carried.

Under Public Services, Core and Main had an estimate for a new meter reader system. The total cost will be \$187,000. The money for this service will be coming out of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve this expenditure. Motion carried, 8-0.

There was nothing to report under Personnel.

Mayor Bablick had nothing to report.

City Administrator Michalek updated the council on the raze order properties. Five properties will be taken down by June 11th, 2021. The US Forest Service Highway 13 sewer extension project has been signed by both parties. The 9th Street North road maintenance bid request will be on the May 10th, 2021 committee meeting of the whole. Mr. Michalek has met with the Town of Lake in regard to the fire truck funding and will be meeting with the Town of Eisenstein on May 10th.

Attorney Schoenborn had nothing to report.

Clerk and Treasurer Smith had nothing to report.

Library Director Hyde informed the council that she is hoping to reopen the library to the public on either May 17th or May 24th. She is waiting for her employees to get their second shot. The library will keep the hours of 10 a.m.-5 p.m. until Labor Day. 3rd Floor will remain closed until after Labor Day.

Interim DPW Director Hoffman informed the council that the pavers for Saunders Avenue would be in the City starting on May 11th for pulverizing.

Chief of Police Ernst let the council know that Officer Dominick Koller has now completed the DARE training in the State of Iowa.

Fire Chief Reas was not in attendance at this meeting.

There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to convene into closed session at 7:00 p.m. 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 discussion on current status of Park Falls Development, LLC, in relation to existing loan and water use agreement); and pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(e)-deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, (Regarding contracts, sale, existing bills, and/or other potential uses relate to the use and function of the Ambulance Garage); and pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(e)-deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. (Regarding property within the City Limits, for consideration of Eminent Domain. { Krist Oil Co. Inc. } Motion carried, 8-0. Staff members Smith, Michalek and Perkins stayed for closed session.

There was a motion by Alderman Bukachek and seconded by Alderman Thier to reconvene into open session at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried, 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Michelle M. Smith
Clerk and Treasurer