

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 01/23/2023

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, January 23, 2023. 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

City Administrator: Brentt Michalek

Also present: Michelle Smith, Bill Hoffman, Jerry Ernst, Shannon Greenwood, Deb Hyde, Dom Koller, Tara Tervort, Matt Brenholt, Anya Brenholt, Victor Ambrose, Jeff Seamandel and Joseph Oskvarek.

There was a motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Mader to move 9.B.1. to after the Board of Public Works and adopt the agenda with that change made. Motion carried.

There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve the minutes for the Common Council meeting on December 12, 2022 and the Special Common Council Meeting on January 17, 2023. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

A retirement plaque was presented to Jerry Ernst for his years of service. Alderman Wartgow mentioned that there is limited access for semis to get through on 9th Street North due to the snow. DPW Director Hoffman responded that they will be working on this issue on Tuesday.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance –Alderman Bukachek made a motion and seconded by Alderman Weidman to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$1,038,915.39. Motion carried, 8-0. There were three expenditures from MSA. \$15,000 for TID No. 6 creation; \$5,000 for 2023 TID services; and \$5,000 for 2023 NON-TID services. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve these expenditures. Motion carried, 8-0.

Board of Public Works – Matt Brenholt and Anya Brenholt from Northern Dynamite asked the council to use the little league fields, softball field and baseball field (outfield only) for a softball tournament on August 11-13, 2023. Motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to approve this request. Motion carried. Ordinance 23-001: Winter Camping was presented to the council. Looking at a 14-day stay in one camping spot. It was recommended to bring this item to the Committee of the Whole in February. There was an increase in the Lumec LED streetlight upgrade. The additional cost share amount would be \$51,000 for retrofit kit or \$66,000 for a full replacement. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Thier to go with the full replacement for \$66,000. Motion carried, 8-

0. The City received a temporary limited easement from the Right of Way Professionals for the upcoming County E/9th Street South project. Motion by Alderman Weidman and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve the easements. Jeff Seamandel gave an update on all of the MSA projects.

Personnel-There was some discussion on double time for Sundays and holidays. There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to go by the handbook for pay on Sundays and holidays. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Weidman to approve the changes to vacation and to grant a floating holiday and sick leave to regular part-time employees. In addition, if a part-time employee gets a clothing allowance, they will get the same as a full-time employee in their department. Motion carried, 7-0-1, with Alderman Greenwood abstaining.

Public Services – Nothing to report.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Bablick – Nothing to report.

City Administrator Michalek-The City now has access to the legal documents listed on the Price County website free of charge. The security button from Per Mar has now been updated in the Clerk and Treasurer's office.

Attorney report – Nothing to report.

Clerk & Treasurer Smith – Informed the council that there will be elections on February 21 and April 4. The following individuals are running for the open positions: Mayor-Tara Tervort and Joseph Oskvarek; 1st District Alder-Daniel Greenwood; 2nd District Alder-no one running at this time; 3rd District Alder-Dixie Weidman; 4th District Alder-Michael Mader and Jesse Meyer.

Library Director Hyde – Norvado will be putting in phone lines at the library this week. The library will be celebrating their 100 year anniversary this year.

DPW Director Hoffman – His crew is trying to keep up with all of the snow. Last of the radio reads are finally in and will be installed in the next couple of months.

Chief of Police– Chief Nevelier was excused from the meeting so Sgt. Koller spoke to the council on the police's recent activity. Officer Dehmlow is currently working on contacting individuals to shovel/clear their sidewalks.

Fire Chief Reas – Nothing to report.

At 6:33 PM there was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to convene into closed session, pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(a) Deliberating concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before that governmental body. (Regarding City of Park Falls Ordinance 11-2-17 Restricted Zone); and pursuant to Wisconsin State 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 discussions with potential manufacturing and employment opportunities on former paper mill properties.) City staff Smith, Greenwood, Koller, Hoffman and Michalek stayed for closed session. Motion carried, 8-0.

Motion to reconvene into open session and take possible action on closed session items by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Mader at 7:17 PM. Motion carried, 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM

Michelle M. Smith
Clerk and Treasurer