

COMMON COUNCIL 03/28/2022

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, March 28, 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
David Dryer
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, Deb Hyde, Larry Reas, Dixie Weidman, Bill Hoffman, Scott Carpenter, Shannon Greenwood, Jerry Ernst, Deb Richter, Grant Tesnow, Jeff Seamandel and Tom LaVenture.

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

Alderman Hoffman made a motion and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve the minutes for the February 28, 2022 Common Council meeting; the March 14, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting and the March 16, 2022 Public Services meeting. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor received a hand written thank you from the Governor for the warm welcome when he was in Park Falls. Alderman Mader let the council know that the athletic banquet went well.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Grant Tesnow appeared before the council to request 9th Street North be fixed. Direction was given for the DPW Director to take a look at options.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to have the April council meeting take place on April 19 to coincide with the reorganizational meeting that is required by state statute. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance - Alderman Hoffman made a motion and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$98,909.54. Motion carried, 8-0. There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by

Alderman Thier to approve the Dema Dima Properties, LLC Developer's Agreement in the amount of \$95,000. Motion carried 8-0. There was some discussion on the city owned parcels of tax id: 24520, 28017, 28018. A developer is interested in building some 4-plex town homes. There will be a presentation at a future meeting.

Personnel – There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader that the base rate be raised to \$13/hour for the DPW summer crew and lifeguards. Motion carried, 8-0.

Board of Public Works –Stacie Mollman presented 4th of July requests to the Council. Motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to approve these requests. Motion carried. Tara Tervort appeared in front of the council to request alley parking on the west side of the alley adjacent to her property. It was mentioned that before any action can be taken on this item, the City needs to own the whole alley. The municipal signs on the north and south ends of the City were discussed. Flambeau Hydro, LLC would like to enter into a 5 year agreement with \$1/year being the rent for the south entrance sign and the property owned by the Morgans for the north entrance sign would enter an agreement with the City for a five year lease with \$250/year being the cost. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve these two leases. Motion carried, 8-0. It should be noted that there are to be no electronic signs put up as welcome signs. County Road E discussion included the option of the City adding sidewalk along 9th Street South as well as doing a 50/50 split (with the County) for curb and gutter. The council advised the staff to meet with Joe, the Highway Department Commissioner and County Administrator Nick Trimner to discuss the options. The wastewater lagoon baffles were discussed by MSA representative Jeff Seamandel. The current baffles are over 40 years old and need to be replaced. The City does have a sewer replacement fund that currently has a balance of \$279K. This balance can go down to \$120K. The council agreed to have MSA draw up a contract to begin the engineering for this project and to also get quotes for desludging. The baffles would take a couple of weeks to replace once the project begins.

Public Services – MSA updated everyone on the different projects that they have been working on for the City. Boettcher Road utility and street extension project is in the planning stages. The project will be going out for bid in June and it is scheduled to start in the fall. The city hall space needs study is being worked on and will be having a meeting soon. The survey is now closed for the city park master plan & schematic design. Results will be shared at the next meeting. The Case Avenue/Sherry Avenue CSM is still in need of two signatures.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Bablick – Nothing to report.

City Administrator Michalek – There will be two steering committee meetings for the YMCA on the 7th and 12th of April. The steering committee is comprised of Brentt Michalek, Jeff Euclide, Tim Kief, Allie Plessner and Paul Rybak. The City has been awarded the amount of the mill loan and the interest/costs of legal services from the court system regarding the case against Park Falls Development, LLC.

Attorney report – Nothing to report.

Clerk and Treasurer Smith – Reminded everyone there is an election coming up on April 5, 2022 and that all fraud surveys are due a.s.a.p. because the Auditors will be starting their audit on April 7, 2022.

Library Director Hyde – Over 500 patrons visited the library during library week.

DPW Director Hoffman – There are 852 radio installs here for the water department. The crew is installing them. Flushing of hydrants will take place starting on April 25 and the let runs will be ending by April 22.

Chief of Police Ernst –Informed the council that the new squad car will be purchased through Phillips Ford and will have a build date of May 14th.

Fire Chief Reas- Nothing to report.

At 7:02 PM, there was a motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to convene into closed session 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 in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Regarding City owned property and potential housing development); 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 in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Regarding City owned property and lease consideration with Marshfield Hospital) Motion carried, 8-0. Staff remaining included Administrator Michalek, Clerk and Treasurer Smith, Police Chief Ernst, Administrator Assistant Greenwood and DPW Director Hoffman. Dwight Webb and Jeff Seamandel was also present.

At 8:05 PM., there was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to reconvene into open session, for discussion and /or to take possible action on closed session items. Motion carried, 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Michelle M. Smith
Clerk and Treasurer