

City of Blair – Regular Council Meeting-August 7, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

City Council Chambers at City Hall 122 S. Urberg Avenue Blair, WI 54616

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Knutson @ 7:00 pm

Agenda Amendment: **Motion by C. Ekern to amend agenda to include request to block Broadway street from Gilbert to Pearl, 8/12/17 noon to 8/13/17 noon and to set aside the ‘open container’ ordinance during regular tavern open hours/Action item. Also, to add agenda item of flood update/informational only, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Verification of Open Meeting Law requirements being met by Clerk Frederixon.

Public Comment Session: Greg Mathson, resident of 35 years on Immell Street spoke about the flooding on July 20th. He made a request for City assistance to review the culvert and storm sewer on Main street to see if there is anything that can be done to avoid flooding for the homeowners in that neighbor in the future. Mathson believes the storm sewer should be moved or taken out, it should not be located in a flood plain. He also publically thanked Hegg Contractors, Inc. and Preferred Sands for pumping equipment and manpower to help him and neighbors.

Minutes were presented for review and approval from July 10, Regular & June 6, 2017 Special Council

Meetings: **Motion to approve as presented by J. Anderson, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Server License denial appeal: B. Johnson & P. Stenberg were denied Server Licenses due to incomplete information on form. Form clearly states, incomplete application will be grounds for denial. Police Department checks are done to confirm accuracy of application. If denied, the process is then to approach Council. Both applications were redone accurately. P. Stenberg (did not attend), B. Johnson did attend: Both applicants reported they didn’t understand/remember every item expected to be reported. Discussion centered on the issue of the information left off would not have prevented approval for license. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve Johnson, 2nd by W. Cartrette. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion by W. Cartrette to approve Stenberg, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.** Consider ‘old dump road excavation work/Discussion to excavate the west tree line on the old dump road, since the excavator was in that location it would save costs, in anticipation of future development of that road for truck traffic from businesses in that area. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve work, with estimated \$10,000 costs and to pay out of the General fund until more information related to benefits of using TID 7 vs. Capital Project dollars, 2nd by J. Anderson. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Fire Hydrant Painting update & Hydrant Flag purchase: Fire department is in process of identifying how many of the 80+ hydrants need repainting. So far it is looking like more than ½ will need power washing and painting. We have had interest from the local 4-H club also to assist with this project. During the review it was discovered there are many hydrants that need the weeds trimmed around them, also. The F.D. is also researching which types of flags would be best for winter time hydrant identification. Discussion to let homeowners with hydrants on or near their property to please maintain them.

Township/City Joint Fire Board Members have been appointed by Mayor Knutson. Bill Hamble and Jay Veherenkamp have agreed to be members of this Board.

Hen License Application from D. Wozney @ 121 S. Dover Street. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion: licenses are annual by calendar year. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Public Service Commission Right of Way & Easement request is for .14 of an acre on Grandberg’s Hill. Value is approximately \$100. PSC is offering \$1,500 one-time easement for transmission line placement/right to use herbicides & to cross other city property to access easement area. **Motion W. Cartrette to approve as presented, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Application for Class B Liquor License/Cheese Festival 2017. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve, 2nd by W. Cartrette. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Committee Reports:

S.E.H. Engineering reports: Wildcat Residential Development-restoration of eroded turf areas completed and erosion control installed, still need to locate water service for #18, Request for Payment # 4 not ready at this time, expected by next meeting with finalization close after; Main Lift Station-no updates at this time;

Webster Street Extension-construction continuing, due to weather will need to consider a time extension change order, sanitary sewer main installation completed, working on new 8" water main. D. Pape (owner Bus Building near project) requested we move new water/sewer service north of original position/this will be implemented; Planning Grant-Community Input Meeting scheduled for 8/15/2017 @ 6:00 pm at the Community Center, where a Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats Analysis will be done. Information gathered will be a large part of completing the new Plan; Storm Water runoff project-waiting to discuss, Council a less costly, still effective upgrade for the 5th street issue then work on bid ad; 4th Street Corridor study-drawings showing wetlands, topography and existing streets, existing property owners, etc. are done. Need to review with Committee to discuss potential routes for layout and estimating.

Park-Pool Committee Meetings on 7/19 & 8/2/2017- W. Cartrette Chairperson explained: Committee has been working and reviewing current plans to help reduce costs where possible, they are on version #11. Sand Products WI is working with us on finding aggregate material that might substantially reduce those costs. Planning includes saving of 'Eagle Scout project' seating area, unfortunately a couple of trees may need to go or be relocated, and looking to soon demo the old pool and get ground ready for construction. Committee is working with current timeline of opening new pool July 3rd, 2018.

CDBG Housing Committee on 8/3/2017: T. Wheeler reported that 2 applications were approved. One for furnace replacement - \$6,121 and one 'emergency' application for \$23,505 for home upgrades to clear house of lead related dangers to children in home. A past due loan repayment, after sale of property, due to suspected title insurance error was reviewed.

Deer in Park update Clerk reported the owners tell us our current deer have not been picked up because it is 'unsafe' to move them in the high temperatures of June, July and August. They are planning for a September removal. We have kept in touch with Mr. Fritz, owner of the replacement deer and he agrees it is not good to move them in high temperatures and he will be ready to assist us when we are ready, no rush.

Clerk Report: Police Chief Beatification Ordinance communication printed and ready for mailing; CN Railroad Locomotives engine noise-CN representatives say they are looking for a better place to park engines but difficult with how busy the rails are, but say they will do all they can to address the complaints; also found out the City/Town of Preston does have flood coverage on the Community Center, Fire Station and Ambulance Building and will pursue a claim.

Building Permits: B & J Stenberg @ 656 Sylfest St. for patio concrete, J. Tranberg @ 664 E. Maple St. for pool and deck-no County permit is required as it is not attached to house, B & L Hamble @ Lot 21 Wildcat Development for new home-County permit required, N & C Nyen @ 205 W. 4th Street for new addition to home-County permit required, included with permit is signed approval from neighbor to allow garage to be only 8' feet from property line instead of 10' as setback requires(which is where the current garage is placed and from primary property owner for addition. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve all building permits as presented, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Amendment #1 - Motion by C. Ekern to approve Broadway block off and open container ordinance set aside as described previously with correction on dates to be August 12 and 13th, 2nd by J. Anderson. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

Amendment # 2 - Clerk reported attendance to FEMA meeting, FEMA is expected in Trempealeau County mid-August and we will need to complete all our paperwork for application for assistance done by 8/16 for Emergency Government Coordinator Dan Schriener, who is VERY helpful with this process.

Planning for Combination Water/Sewer & Street, Lights & Equipment Meeting with Township-no date at this time but soon and will add Mathson issue to that agenda.

Present Vouchers: Motion by C. Ekern to approve as presented, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion: W. Cartrette question related to fuel amount, if average or high and why? Clerk will research and report back. Roll call vote taken-all yes.

Motion by C. Ekern to Adjourn, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 5, No 0.

Next Regular Council Meeting Set for September 11, 2017.