

City of Blair Re-Organizational Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2021

Council President, P. Syverson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Alderpersons attending: C. Ekern, D. Stephenson, T. Wheeler, J. Anderson, P. Syverson, M. Lisowski, and Attorney M. Radcliffe, D. Fremstad-Treasurer, Deputy Clerk.

Administer Oath of Office to newly elected Mayor and Alderpersons. Mayor-John Rawson, Ward 1-Chris Ekern, Ward 2-Terry Wheeler and Ward 3-Paul Syverson.

Open Meeting Law Requirements were verified.

Present April 2021-April 2022 Standing Committees: Board of Health-P. Syverson, J. Anderson and T. Wheeler. Park & Recreation Commission-J. Anderson, T. Wheeler and P. Syverson. Police & Ordinance-C. Ekern, D. Stephenson and M. Lisowski. Public Property & Buildings-M. Lisowski, D. Stephenson and T. Wheeler. Street, Lights, & Equipment-P. Syverson, C. Ekern, and T. Wheeler. Tax, Finance, & Personnel-J. Anderson, P. Syverson, and D. Stephenson. Water & Sewer/Joint Sewer Advisory-T. Wheeler, M. Lisowski, and C. Ekern. Business & Economic Development-C. Ekern, D. Stephenson and P. Syverson. Library Board Representative-J. Anderson. Fire Department Liaison-T. Wheeler and C. Ekern. Joint Fire Board Representatives-Jay Vehrenkamp and Bill Hamble. **Motion to approve standing committees by J. Anderson, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Nomination of Council President: M. Lisowski nominated P. Syverson. Mayor called 3 times for other nominations, no other nominations. **Motion by C. Ekern to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for P. Syverson, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Presentation of General Offices: City Assessor-Eric Kleven, City Attorney-Radcliffe Law Office, S.C., City Civil Defense Director-Chief K. Johnson, Official Depository Bank-Waumandee State Bank. **Motion to approve as stated by P. Syverson, 2nd C. Ekern. Discussion-do we have an official newspaper-no. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Blair Plan Commission and Zoning Committee Appeals Board Members: Blair Plan Commission: Mayor J. Rawson, J. Anderson-Alderperson, Mike Lisowski-Alderperson, Brian Stenberg, Joe Arneson, Lesley Moen and Rod Anderson. **Motion to approve Plan Commission members by J. Anderson, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Zoning Board: Jim Peterson, Dean Dale, Paul Polege, Carl Axness and Jean Stenberg. **Motion to approve Zoning members by P. Syverson, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Set meeting dates for May 2021 through April 2022: May 3, June 7, July 12, August 2, September 13, October 4, November 8, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 7, April 11 and April 19. **Motion to approve dates as presented by D. Stephenson, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Motion to move the Class of 1978 discussion down on the agenda, until representative arrives by J. Anderson, 2nd P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Police/Ordinance 4/19/2021 Meeting: C. Ekern reported on proposed ATV/UTV change to Ordinance 38-snowmobile & other vehicles. The ATV/UTV route would run on Broadway from Elland Rd to Park Rd, on Park Rd from Broadway to Skumlien Rd, on Skumlien Rd from Park Rd to designated entry/exit point with signage, on Broadway from Park Rd to Pearl St, on Pearl St from Broadway to Center St, on Center St from Pearl to where Center meets State Hwy 95 and then all of Mill Rd. People need to use the shortest and most direct path to the trail. No golf carts. This would be on a trial basis, effective through September 6, 2021, with review and further action needed at that point. First offense violation - \$150; second offense violation - \$250. **Motion to approve creating Ordinance 38.03 relating to All-Terrain Vehicles and Utility terrain Vehicles on certain city streets with Mill Rd addition by J. Anderson, 2nd C. Ekern. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Discussion-Attorney Radcliffe stated that the Mayor and Debi sign ordinance, post, and publish immediately. What about signage, pay out of street sign account? Motion to amend previous motion to include approving ATV/UTV signage, with money coming out of street sign account by J. Anderson, 2nd C. Ekern. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion to approve amended motion by J. Anderson, 2nd C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Class of 1978 Memorial Donation: Todd Beaty spoke on behalf on his classmates regarding an "L" shaped cement pad with solar lights, 2 benches and a tree to be placed behind the Schroeder shelter by the walking trail; will work with Park Superintendent on tree choice and exact placement. **Motion to approve installation of Class of 1978 Memorial by P. Syverson, 2nd M. Lisowski. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Park & Rec Commission 4/19/2021 Meeting: J. Anderson reported on pool planning to open around June 1, 2021. Pool passes recommended at: family-\$125, single-\$60, daily-\$4. **Motion to approve family pass at \$125, single pass at \$60 and daily pass at \$4 by C. Ekern, 2nd M. Lisowski. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Recommend camping remain the same as last year; self-contained units only for now. **Motion to approve camping in park at full capacity for self-contained units and to revisit if COVID cases continue to decrease by C. Ekern, 2nd D. Stephenson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Recommend BTSD residents only at this time with 50% capacity (100-110 people). **Motion to open pool at 50% capacity to BTSD residents, with option to expand later in the summer by M. Lisowski, 2nd C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Recommend pool hours of 1-4:45 pm and 6-7:45 pm, 7 days a week. **Motion to approve pool hours of 1-4:45 and 6-7:45 by P. Syverson, 2nd D. Stephenson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Recommend new hires as follows: Pool Director-Cathy Mathson, Swim Instructor/Lifeguard/Swim Team Coach-Nelly Margan, Assistant Scheduling Director/Lifeguard/Swim Lesson Assistant as need-Gwen Kidd, returning Lifeguards-Jonathan Margan, Isabelle Margan, Lydia Frederixon, Leah Kidd and Lauren Kidd, new Lifeguards-McKenzie Brandenburg, Kierstyn Kindschy, Paige Subra, Deliah Paulson, Emma Nyen and Rafael DaCosta. Would like to see Rafael and Jonathan work opposite each other, so there is always a male lifeguarding. **Motion to approve hires as presented by C. Ekern, 2nd M. Lisowski. Discussion-** D. Stephenson asked if he should abstain from voting, since 2 nieces and a sister-in-law were part of the motion. Attorney Radcliffe said there was no need to abstain. **Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Recommend starting wage of \$8.25 for first year guards, with a 25 cents increase for returning. **Motion to approve starting lifeguard wage at \$8.25/hour with a 25 cent raise per hour each year they return by D. Stephenson, 2nd C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Recommend returning swim lesson instructors J. Beam, L. Kidd, C. Mathson, N. Margan and I. Margan wages of \$12.75 and new instructors R. DaCosta and J. Margan wages of \$12.50. **Motion to approve swim lesson instructors as presented by P. Syverson, 2nd C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Lap swim and swim team will be weekdays from 5-5:45pm. Swimming lessons will be from 8-noon and 5-5:45 in the evenings. The City will order guard suits for the employees. Recommend Pool Director Salary of \$2000, with swim team and swimming lessons being paid separately; all other duties fall under salary. **Motion to hire Pool Directors at an hourly rate of \$12.75 per hour by M. Lisowski, 2nd P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Interviewed Lauren Kidd for Park & Rec Director position with Taylor representation via Zoom. Recommend Lauren for position, split the \$4000 evenly with Taylor. **Motion to approve hire of Lauren Kidd for Park & Rec position with the \$4000 salary split between Blair and Taylor, contingent on the Village of Taylor board approval by C. Ekern, 2nd P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Todd Beaty attended meeting to talk about Class of 1978 memorial in park. Recommend the bathrooms in park be opened like last year with COVID cleaning done and that the showers stay closed at this time. **Motion to approve opening park bathrooms with COVID cleaning done like last year, closing them at 8 pm and revisiting if COVID cases continue to decrease by D. Stephenson, 2nd J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Building Permits: Lannie Howe at 320 S Peterson Ave for fence. Attorney Radcliffe suggested that the pool/fence permit go to our building inspector. There is not enough information on this application to approve; there are rules on pools about distance from building, height requirements, etc.... The City also needs to redo the fencing ordinance; there are conflicts within. The City has a contract with the County for residential inspections and we have hired General Engineering. **Motion to table building permit until May 3 meeting and refer this matter to the ordinance committee to get the ordinance in order by P. Syverson, 2nd C. Ekern. Discussion-**we hired General Engineering Contractors last year, why are they not helping with this? This matter needs to be addressed immediately. **Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Next meeting: May 3, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn by C. Ekern, 2nd P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Yes 6 No 0. Motion approved.