

City of Blair Regular Council Meeting Minutes, September 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Blair, Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, was duly called, noticed, held and conducted in the manner required by the Common Council and the pertinent Wisconsin Statutes on September 10, 2018. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Mayor A. Knutson; Alderpersons-W. Cartrette(few minutes late), T. Wheeler, J. Anderson, P. Syverson, M. Lisowski, C. Ekern, Clerk/Treasurer S. Frederixon, Attorney A. Robertson, Blair Press and Trempealeau County Times.

Public Comment: None

Present minutes for approval: Regular Council Meeting 8/6/2018. **Motion P. Syverson to approve 8/6/2018 minutes as presented, 2nd same J. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Trempealeau Co. District Attorney Candidate, Rick Niemeier will be attending our 10/8/2018 Regular Meeting.

Resolution 09-10-2018 C-We Energies Park Road work easement: request to move current gas lines from behind the houses on Park Road at the Gilbert Street entrance of the Park to the front of the houses along Park Road. This will allow for easier maintenance in the future and is within the City 'right of way'. Clerk Frederixon requested and was assured by We Energies that homeowners would be notified prior to work beginning. The gas line for the new Aquatic Center will also be installed at this time. **Motion C. Ekern to approve as presented, 2nd same T. Wheeler. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 5, No 0. Motion approved.**

Congratulations City of Blair: WI Dept. of Administration notified the City that we were approved for a \$500,000.00 CDBG Public Facility 18-03 grant to be used toward infrastructure and street improvements. Thank you to S.E.H. Engineering for assisting the Clerk's office and working to submit a successful grant application. This work will be done in 2019 and is designated for improvements to our Main and Immell Street waste water infrastructure/Streets and also in the alley between Dover and Urberg Streets. The City is required to match at least the \$500,000.00 as this project is most likely over \$1,000,000. Thank you also to our City council for approving this grant application and the funds needed to submit it.

S.E.H. City Zoning Administrator report on Source Energy mine compliance issues: Michael Nied reported a follow up inspection has been completed on 9/7/2018. In our opinion Source Energy has made some progress, but has not resolved the areas of non-compliance noted in our original May 11, 2018 memorandum. Site practices have continued to create the conditions for, and have resulted in, offsite impacts. It is our opinion that Source Energy should identify whether offsite sediment resulted in wetland impacts, and create a plan for how they intend to remedy the offsite impacts. Source Energy should also continue to work towards resolving the areas of non-compliance. Source Energy representatives explained they are working with land owner to remove all sediment and tomorrow a silt fence is being placed to stop any seepage. We are working hand in hand with DNR to check on any impacts and follow their recommendations on clean up. We had corrections in place but before the areas could get good ground growth, there was a significant rain event. We now have all water diverted into storm ponds and this should never happen again. Discussion about possible penalties to the company. T. Wheeler commented that it seems that there has been much effort put in to remedy the compliance issues. **Motion J. Anderson to allow 30 additional days to improve compliance issues, with another inspection to take place prior to the October 8, 2018 meeting & inspection report to be given at that meeting, 2nd same P. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Source Energy underground slurry status: N. Stobbs reported, still not operating but is very close. We are waiting for a couple small electrical & plumbing items to be completed and we have been working on getting them completed every single day. They are expected to be completed in the next week and the line to be in operation the next week.

S.E.H. CDB Grant Administration Agreement for 2018 Infrastructure Improvements: This agreement is for administration assistance to the City for the recently awarded \$500,000 Grant. This agreement is for \$25,000. The grant allows for grant administration funds of \$28,000 and would come out of grant required City match funds. **Motion J. Anderson to approve as presented, 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

S.E.H. CDB Grant Data Collection, Design, Bidding, Permits, Construction Administration & Staking and Construction project representative services Agreement for 2018 Infrastructure Improvements: This agreement is for engineering assistance to the City for the recently awarded \$500,000 Grant. The amount of this agreement is \$178,800. This grant allows for up to \$180,000 of funds for engineering of the grant and these amount will come out of the City required match amounts. **Motion C. Ekern to approve as presented, 2nd same M. Lisowski. Discussion: Hope is to lesson flooding impacts in those areas. Request to involve Street Committee during this process. Question on 3 (b), would be illuminated if not needed. Reminder that agreement is based on 'time & material' basis, so if not needed will not invoice for it. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

4th & 5th Street stormwater improvement project re-bid: This project was previously approve but no bids were received. The projects were again advertised for a requested completion date of May 31, 2019 and 3 bids were received. Bids ranged from \$16,091.65 to \$23,678.50. **Motion W. Cartrette to approve low bid of \$16,091.65 to Simmons Construction Blair, WI with proper contract & insurance information collected, 2nd same P. Syverson. Discussion: require certificate of insurance for liability and workers compensation coverages; next bidder approved if documents unavailable. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Resolution # 09-10-2018-A: The City's current Fair Housing Ordinance needed to be updated to meet the requirements for the recently awarded CDBG-PF 18-03 Grant. City Attorney worked with S.E.H. and recommends the draft ordinance in your packet for approval. **Motion W. Cartrette to approve as presented, 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Resolution # 09-10-2018-B-Authorizing for Urban Forestry Grant & Urban Forestry Catastrophic Storm Grant Programs – requirement of the approved Urban Forestry Grant Application. **Motion J. Anderson to approve as presented, 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Ash Tree removal bids have been coming in. We have received 4 so far and 2 more plan to submit. These are needed to strengthen our Urban Forestry Grant application. We are also are working on getting re-planting bids from area nurseries; which will also strengthen our application. Grant application needs to be submitted by October 1, 2018. S.E.H. and Clerk are working on and will have completed and submitted on time.

City Building inspector for mid-range projects: Clerk/Treasurer Frederixon explained there are mid-range building projects that happen in our City that do not fall under the County residential or State approved plan inspection process. Clerk has researched with other municipalities and S.E.H. and there are options such as hiring a qualified City inspector for these projects on an as needed basis and the cost amount is passed on to the builder. Suggestion from S.E.H. is for the City to speak with other communities as to what works for them. Clerk will continue to research and bring back information and recommendation at a later date.

Fire Board Meeting held on 8/15/2018 report: T. Wheeler reported the Board discussed spending history, proposed 2019 budget and funding levels. No action was taken. S. Frederixon shared information from Fire Board Chairperson Tim Robertson that currently with the City having 2 representatives from the Council as liaisons it created an imbalance with too many from the City and recommended adjusting that. **Motion P. Syverson to dissolve liaison position and appoint Terry Wheeler as the Joint Fire Board Council representative with the 2 resident members and Chris Ekern as alternate if Terry is unable to attend, 2nd same J. Anderson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Park Committee Meeting held on 8/16/18 report: Chairperson W. Cartrette reported:

Lake Project update: Lots of discussion and complimented S.E.H. for the very helpful information they put together. Out of the discussions came the realization for the need to do DNR required, Wetland delineation work in order to keep the project on track. After review of the agreement, the Park & Lake Committee recommends approval of the 'Lake Henry Dredging Design Agreement which will cover the needed wetland work. This contract is for \$9,500.00. **Motion M. Lisowski to approve as presented with \$ coming out of set aside Lake improvement fund, 2nd same W. Cartrette. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Pool project update: Lots of work has been completed, slide is in. Pool has been filled and hopper concrete strength testing was good. Wanda is monitoring the mortar coloring between the exterior brick work and if needed the contractor will re do. Still a lot of landscaping to be done, but the warranty will not begin until final completion date. Reminder that all the extra exterior esthetic additions were donated by Ron & Joyce Wanek and did not increase the City budget. Wapasha Pool work Application for payment # 8 for \$185,601.50 for work done in July 2018 was reviewed and recommended for payment by Burbach Aquatics. **Motion M. Lisowski to approve as presented, 2nd same J. Anderson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved** Wapasha Pool work Application for payment # 9 for \$379,971.50 for work done in August 2018 was reviewed and recommended for payment by Burbach Aquatics. **Motion M. Lisowski to approve as presented, 2nd same J. Anderson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Change Order –CP 25 for backstroke flags/poles and anchors for \$6,119.00 was presented. Important safety item for swim competitions, but not thought of during the planning stages or project. Anchors need to be installed at this point to allow poles and flags to be installed at any point in the future (if funds become available). **Motion J. Anderson to approve installation of anchor cups only at a cost of \$780.00, which will be covered by the recent 'deduct' related to lifeguard chair change order, 2nd same M. Lisowski. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Peacock, Deer, Campsite expansion were not discussed as only one Committee was able to attend this meeting and will go to future meeting agendas.

Police & Ordinance meeting held 8/28/18: Chairperson, C. Ekern reported, Cheese festival police coverage was discussed. Committee recommends, due to limited officer availability, at least 2 City Public Works Department employees are needed to provide safe coverage of Parade route during the parade. **Motion J. Anderson for all 3 Public Works employees be available to assist, at Police Chief Wheeler's direction, from 12:30 pm to approximately 3:30 pm (or until parade is done). Employees will be paid for this time, 2nd same T. Wheeler. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Ordinance Chapter 19-Solid Waste/Disposal: Committee recommends approval of draft ordinance to include addition of number 4 on page 2 of a permit being required for open burning in City. **Motion P. Syverson to approve Ordinance changes as presented with this to be effective as of 1/1/2019 and to be sent with tax bills fall of 2018, 2nd same W. Cartrette. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** **Motion P. Syverson to set the open burning permit fee at \$10.00 and ok to use the current building permit as an application form, 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Ordinance Chapter 38-Snowmobiles & Other vehicles: Committee reviewed information gathered by Police Chief Wheeler or how other entities handle ATV/UTV vehicles, much of the feedback leaned to the negative side. Things such as noise complaints and accidents. There was discussion about possible agricultural related use being permitted. Therefore, due to no UTV/ATV trails or repair shops in the area and some resident resistance to having ATV's permitted in area, Committee recommends tabling to continue gathering of information and for discussion at later date.

September 2018 Building Permits: Mike and Jessica McHugh @ 956 E. Taft Street for a permanent pool structure. They had gone through the process verbally previously, when initially installed, but did not remember that they needed a permit. The pool is gated and normal entrance would be through the home and deck. They were given

the Ordinance at that time and said they understand them. The pool is permanent, so it does not require an annual permit. No County permit required. MAS Property Investments (NAPA) @ 208 N. Spring Street for replacement of burned building with a 32' x 48 'cold storage building. They are using a licensed contractor and do not require state approved plans. Jessica Howe @ 301 Tenney Avenue for a back yard chain link fence. Jessica has been given and reviewed with Clerk Ordinance guidelines for fences. No county permit required. Brian and Kailee Jahr @ 955 E. Taft Street for a detached garage. They meet the Ordinance requirements on # of accessory structures and height and set back requirements also. County permit & inspection would be required. **Motion J. Anderson to approve all as presented, 2nd same W. Cartrette. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

1998 Chevy Dually 4x4 5 speed, 454 truck with snow plow BID review: 6 sealed BIDS were received. Bids ranged from \$651.00 to \$4,111.00. Discussion was that the truck should be work approximately \$4,200 - \$5,200. **Motion P. Syverson to accept Mr. Gran's bid of \$4,111.00 with the understanding truck is 'as is', 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Hwy 95 Ditch Cleaning Project: S. Frederixon reported since the decision to have the ditch cleaned out, but culverts left, she has been notified by CenturyLink and the D.O.T. the CenturyLink culvert has failed a recent inspection. CenturyLink is good with replacing the culvert at this time, if ok with the City. After some discussion Council verbally agreed to stick with the plan to do the clean out only of the ditch.

Clerk Report: City wide clean up days are set for Wednesday, September 26th and Saturday, September 29th, 2018. Items may be placed on boulevards for 1 week prior to 9/26 and then transported by the resident to the Spring Street City Street shop for disposal; Office is busy preparing for the October 2nd primary election; initiated by a Chamber of Commerce member, Chief Wheeler helped organize an 'active shooter' response training that took place at the Blair Haus Sports Bar on 8/14/2018; speed controlling 'rumble strip' information was shared with Council.

Present Vouchers for review and approval: **Motion P. Syverson to approve the vouchers as presented, 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: P. Syverson-Yes, J. Anderson-Yes, T. Wheeler-Yes, W. Cartrette and M. Lisowski-Yes, C. Ekern-Yes. Motion approved.**

Next Council meeting is October 8, 2018 @ 7:00 pm

Motion C. Ekern to enter into closed session 19.85(1) (f) for purpose of employee personnel & medical leave discussion, 2nd same W. Cartrette. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Motion W. Cartrette to return to open session, 2nd same C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Motion W. Cartrette to approve hiring of Johns, Flaherty & Collins, SC from LaCrosse, WI, Attorney Cheryl M. Gill experienced in Employment Law and Government Relations & Municipal Law, 2nd same J. Anderson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Motion by C. Ekern to adjourn meeting, 2nd same M. Lisowski. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.