

Common Council Meeting minutes, October 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor John Rawson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council attending: T. Wheeler, J. Tranberg, J. Anderson, P. Syverson, C. Ekern, D. Stephenson, J. Rawson. Others in attendance: Attorney-Mark Radcliffe, Trempealeau County Times-Andrew Dannehy, Street Manager-Andy Graff, David Donnelly, Dwight Frederixon, Nathan Stobbs, and Attorney John Behling.

Motion by P. Syverson to approve the 9/12 Common Council minutes and 9/22 Special Council minutes, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: David Donnelly wanted answers on the closed session regarding the Blair Haus and the funds the City was giving them. The Blair Haus received a WI Western Economic Grant from the State in the amount of \$250,000. The Blair Haus received no funding from the City.

Wildcat covenant change request. Dwight Frederixon wants all lots on the Wildcat Development to be able to have duplexes built in them. Attorney Radcliffe will have to research to see if this can go forward. Dwight would need 100% of all land owners on the development to agree to have duplexes on more than just Olson Street. **Motion by C. Ekern to have BIDCO and Attorney Radcliffe look into changing this covenant contingent on all Wildcat landowners agreeing that duplexes can be allowed on Maple Street, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Motion by J. Anderson to approve the Soul Sisters Fall Festival road closure on N. Gilbert from Broadway to the City parking lot on Saturday, October 15, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Blair-Preston Fire Department 2023 budget and mutual aid agreement with Ettrick was reported on by C. Ekern. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve mutual aid agreement with Ettrick contingent on the Town of Preston's approval, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

City of Blair sander equipment issue reported by A. Graff. Do we fix the old sander that's over 10 years old or buy new? **Motion by P. Syverson to order LineX sander and have it installed for around \$9100, with money coming from general funds, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion-future requests need quotes for both new and repairs. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.**

Annexation request from Source Energy. This annexation would be on the November meeting as an ordinance passage. The Town of Preston would be paid 5 years of Real Estate tax by the City. There would need to be a Conditional Use Permit as well. No action at this time.

Source Energy requesting to replace their existing letters of credit with an acceptable alternative form of financial assurance. John Behling explained that BMO holds letters of credit for the City of Blair. Source is asking to substitute credit with cash and pay through a wire transfer. **Motion by J. Anderson to change Source letters of credit of \$4,600,000 to cash**

and transfer via wire contingent upon City attorney's approval and based on Ehler's recommendation, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Stephenson to accept and place on file the Tax, Finance and Personnel minutes from 9/20 and 9/27, the Park minutes from 9/21 and the BBED minutes from 9/22, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Fall clean up scheduled for Wednesday, October 5th and Saturday, October 8th.

Motion by C. Ekern to approve money for sewer lining to come from the general fund, 2nd by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson, J. Anderson, J. Tranberg, T. Wheeler. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Tranberg to approve Amey Knopps liquor application for Broadway Bar & Grill at 228 W Broadway to be published in the paper, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion: John Kauss will need to surrender, in writing, his liquor license before this is issued. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Ekern to approve Class B temporary liquor license for Blair-Preston Fire Department Rib Cook-Off on 10/15/2022 at 105 E Broadway, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Q-Rail sand/salt shed lease agreement work. Attorney Radcliffe needs more information pertaining to the agreement.

Ordinance revisions: Motion by C. Ekern to approve Ordinance 24.05 on curb stops. All duplexes going forward must have the ability to shut each side off independently with regards to water and sewer, 2nd by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Votes: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried. Motion by J. Tranberg to approve Ordinance 38.04 on golf carts. All state requirements must be followed and the cart needs to be registered and inspected with the police department and registration fee paid, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried. Motion by D. Stephenson to table the vagrancy ordinance changes, 2nd by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried. The facility ordinance was disregarded.

Motion by D. Stephenson to approve sever licenses for Brenda Shefelbine, Katlin Hoem, Kayla Knopps, and Amanda Berg, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried. Motion by D. Stephenson to approve Danniell Toth contingent upon him filling out the application properly, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Anderson to go into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e), to deliberate the terms of a possible road use agreement covering portions of Bunyan Road, Helmer's Road, Snake Coulee Road, and Carpenter Bridge Road for competitive and/or bargaining reasons, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Syverson to allow D. Fremstad and A. Graff to stay in the closed session, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Anderson to reconvene to open session, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Tranberg to table road assessment agreement, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Stephenson to go into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c), to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility regarding Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Anderson to allow D. Fremstad to stay in closed session, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Stephenson to reconvene to open session, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by J. Anderson to offer Deputy Clerk/Treasurer position to the person discussed in closed session at the agreed upon wage, if position turned down, move to the second person discussed at the agreed upon wage, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Ekern to approve vouchers, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Syverson to suspend our rules and have the November Council meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2022, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion-none. Vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Ekern to adjourn at 8:48 pm, 2nd by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Debra Fremstad, City Clerk/Treasurer