

City of Blair Regular Council Meeting Minutes, May 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Ardell Knutson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council attending: P. Syverson, C. Ekern, W. Cartrette, T. Wheeler, J. Anderson, and T. Robertson and S. Frederixon-Clerk/Treasurer.

Open Meeting Law Requirements Met – posted more than 24 hours in advance and in three public places.

Consider an Amendment to the agenda to include “Closed Session” per State Statute 19.85(1)(c): consider employment of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility/Action item. **Motion by T. Wheeler to approve amendment, seconded by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Administer Oath of Office to newly elected Ward 1, 2, and 3 Alderpersons. Ward 1 – Wanda Cartrette, Ward 2 – Jill Anderson, and Ward 3 – Tim Robertson. All 3 were sworn in as Alderpersons for the City of Blair.

Present April 2016 - April 2017 Standing Committee Assignments for approval/action required: Board of Health/Nursing Home – P. Syverson, J. Anderson, and W. Cartrette. Park & Recreation- W. Cartrette, J. Anderson, and C. Ekern. Police/Ordinance- T. Robertson, W. Cartrette, and C. Ekern. Public Property & Buildings- T. Wheeler, W. Cartrette, and P. Syverson. Street, Lights, & Equipment- P. Syverson, C. Ekern, and T. Wheeler. Tax, Finance, & Personnel- J. Anderson, P. Syverson, and T. Robertson. Water & Sewer/Joint Sewer Advisory- C. Ekern, T. Wheeler, and P. Syverson. Library Board Representative- J. Anderson. Ambulance Board Representative- S. Frederixon. Fire Department Liaison – T. Wheeler and C. Ekern. Industrial Development- A. Knutson and T. Robertson. **Motion to approve standing committees by J. Anderson, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Nomination of Council President: Call 3 times for nomination. C. Ekern nominated P. Syverson. No other nominations. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.

Presentation of/Action item: City Assessor – Eric Kleven, City Attorney- Alan Robertson, City Civil Defense Directors – Chief T. Wheeler and S. Larson, Official City Newspaper – The Blair Press, Official Depository Bank – Union Bank of Blair. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve as stated, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Blair Plan Commission and Zoning Committee Appeals Board Members/Action item: Blair Plan Commission – T. Robertson, Brian Stenberg, Rod Anderson, Gary Olson-Chairperson, Robert Tranberg, Ardell Knutson, & Wanda Cartrette. **Motion to approve members by W. Cartrette, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion-thank you to Duane Byom for his years of service. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** Zoning Board – Jim Peterson, Carlyle Helstad, Mike Lisowski, Carl Axness, Gaylord Peterson and Dean Dale. **Motion to approve members by T. Wheeler, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-thank you to Jim and Carlyle for renewing their terms and Keith Mathson for his years of service. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Set meeting dates through April 2017: The 1st Monday of the month will be a regular council meeting, unless it is a holiday. **Motion by T. Wheeler to approve dates with the option to change if needed, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Present minutes for approval: Regular Council Meeting 4/11/2016. **Motion to approve 4/11/16 minutes as presented by T. Wheeler, seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-emailed to council on 4/27/16. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Public Comment: Blair resident expressed concerns about Wildcat Residential Development construction causing large farm equipment to travel on residential streets.

Wildcat Subdivision Update: R. Flege reported that she needs to know if the City wants to pay to bring natural gas to the new subdivision. The City will talk to Brian Reilly about where to money will come from.

Present annual Liquor Licenses for review/publication approval/action: Class B Licenses: Tracy Solberg – Honey Hole Saloon, Corazon Moen – Peterson’s Bar, Steven Swenson – Swenson’s Bar, and Jeremy Tranberg – Blair Haus Sports Bar & Grill. Class A Licenses: Kwik Trip, J & Sales of Chippewa Falls – Express Mart, and

Dolgencorp – Dollar General. **Motion to approve for publication as presented by P. Syverson, seconded by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Update on Grand View Care Center project: A. Robertson presented a 1st draft of an offer to purchase. Al is working on a title commitment. **Motion by T. Robertson to refer to Nursing Home committee, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

CN Wisconsin Central City Railroad Crossing invoice: A. Robertson explained that he thought the agreement between Green Bay Western Railroad and the City of Blair was one-sided. **Motion by T. Robertson to not pay invoice – withdrawn.** Al recommend that the crossing be terminated. **Motion by T. Robertson to terminate contract and authorize City Clerk to negotiate with CN on the bill, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Committee Reports: Park Committee – 4/28/16 – W. Cartrette reported that the pool committee had met with Burbach Aquatics and reviewed the condition of the current pool. The only thing in good shape was the walls of the pool! Options were explained for renovations and for a new pool. Burbach will have estimates and examples at next meeting. **Streets, Lights, & Equipment Committee – 4/27/16 –** T. Robertson reported that no additional lights need to be added along Elland Road, what is there, is sufficient. Discussed the plan for expansion of Webster St. to the north and creating a cross street for future plans. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve plans to extend Webster St. from Broadway north to Allied property line, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-clarification of what plans covered. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion by T. Robertson to authorize funding from the capital road budget to survey and begin gravel/bed/road making process for Webster St. north of Broadway to the Allied property line, and then for the new street east to the dump road, seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** T. Robertson also reported on the idea of an extension plan of Taft St. westbound to Main St. The committee recommended that the City call the railroad and with their permission place a stop sign and a dead end sign on Skumlien Lane. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve signage for Skumlien Lane, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** They also discussed the crack filling process and seal coating projects here in the City for 2016. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve seal coat projects and authorize funding from the capital road budget, seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** The Hickory St. “road” between Taft and Olson was also discussed. The committee suggested putting down gravel and base materials this year and paving in 2017. There also needs to be a stop sign placed at the south side of the Taft/Hickory intersection. **Motion by T. Robertson to authorize funding from the capital road budget to begin the process of paving Hickory from Taft to Olson, gravel and base placed in 2016 and paving, curb, and gutter to match Taft and Olson in 2017. A stop sign and all other appropriate signage should be placed at the intersection of Hickory and Taft to make it a four way stop, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Cheese Fest Board of Directors donation: The Cheese Fest donated the money for ten new picnic tables for the park; they would like those new tables to be placed in the food tent at Cheese Fest time. They are also starting a fund to upgrade to an electronic public sign at the Community Center, they questioned if the City might consider budgeting some money towards the project. **Motion by W. Cartrette to send request to the Tax, Finance, and Personnel Committee, seconded by T. Robertson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Trempealeau County Land Management request: Kevin Lien and Kirstie Heidenreich discussed a land use plan update. They are discussing with each municipality where they envision their residential, commercial, and industrial growth to take place in the future. Land use is what they are projecting in the future. Zoning is what is on the ground today. Kevin suggested annual township meetings. There are lots of programs in place to aid the City.

Building Permits: D. & J. Pape – bus storage barn @ 1008 E. Broadway. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve Pape permit contingent on state approved plans, seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** S. Berg – moving old fence and building new @ 612 E. Broadway and M. Maldonado – fence @ 828 E. Taft. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve Berg & Maldonado permits, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** A & D Getter – demo old porch and add patio @ 128 E. Broadway. **Motion by W. Cartrette to approve Getter permit contingent on county permit, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none, Ayes-6,**

Nays-0. F. Galstad – indoor ramp @ 219 Peterson Ave. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

Clerk Report: Public works daily meeting, Xcel transmission line maintenance, public works staff request to landscape/concrete area between City Hall ramp and building.

Present Vouchers: Motion to approve vouchers by W. Cartrette, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion - none. Roll Call vote- J. Anderson-yes, T. Robertson-yes, T. Wheeler-yes, W. Cartrette-yes, C. Ekern-yes, and P. Syverson-yes.

Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1) (b) (c) related to Personnel issues: Motion by W. Cartrette to enter into closed session, seconded by J. Anderson. Discussion - none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.

Motion by J. Anderson to exit closed session, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion - none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.

Motion by J. Anderson to authorize clerk to contact part time applicants for hire at 30 hours/week at \$10/hour for mowing purposes through September 30, 2016 and to contact last year's field prep help for the summer recreation program, seconded by T. Robertson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.

Motion by C. Ekern to adjourn, seconded by J. Anderson. Ayes-6, Nays-0.

Susan Frederixon-Clerk/Treasurer