

**DRAFT City of Blair Regular Council Meeting Minutes, August 1, 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, 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:** Building permit for WE Energies @ 656 Sylfest-gas service abandonment. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve amendment, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Public Comment:** none.

**Present minutes for approval:** Regular Council Meeting 7/11/2016. **Motion to approve minutes with corrections:** Webster Street project is in TID 7, not TID 3 and a formal motion is needed to approve the street striper and the new dump truck total cost was \$65,805, not \$44,500 **by C. Ekern, seconded by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion by C. Ekern to approve purchase of paint striper, seconded by J. Anderson. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Requests for Temporary Class “B” Liquor Licenses.** Rita Tranberg Memorial - 9/9/16 to 9/11/16 and Cheese Festival of Blair, Inc. – 9/15/16 to 9/18/16. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve both requests, seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**TID 7 Capital Project Financial Review/Discussion:** Brian Reilly, Senior Municipal Advisor with Ehlers handed out a Power Point packet to help with presentation. Brian explained the existing debt profile and the new projects related to TID 7 with respect to financial future considerations. **Motion by T. Robertson to recommend the action of refinancing the 2008 State Trust Fund Loan for approximately \$125,000 and looking for interim financing solutions with hard numbers being presented before a final decision is made, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion-work with Brian to get quotes from banks, determine outlay for interest and repayment. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Committee Reports:**

**Report on Pool Committee Meeting:** W. Cartrette reported on the meetings held on 7/19/16 and 7/27/16. She reviewed the minutes of meetings: they did skits, practiced how to speak to potential donors, and reviewed the time line and their goals. The timeline was revised to allow for more time for construction which will produce more favorable bids. This would mean opening the new pool in June of 2018. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve new pool timeline for the summer of 2018, seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-none. Ayes-4, Nays-1 (T. Wheeler), Obstain-1(T. Robertson).**

**Report on Tax, Finance & Personnel:** J. Anderson reported on the meeting held on 7/20/16. Officer Larson is to receive a 2% increase and Chief Wheeler is to receive a 2.6% increase. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve increases, effective as of August 1, 2016, seconded by P. Syverson. Discussion-questions will be addressed in closed session. Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Report on Police & Ordinance:** T. Robertson reported on the meeting held on 7/25/16. The Committee will be looking into creating a Police Commission for future needs. The police department will be hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> fulltime officer. Chief Wheeler will be in charge of the technical portion of the interview process, with a mixed group of community/council//law enforcement making up the rest of the interview process. The City Clerk and Chief of Police will be creating and placing ads for the 3<sup>rd</sup> officer in all the same advertising that was used when the new Deputy Clerk was hired. **Motion by T. Robertson to proceed with ads for 3<sup>rd</sup> fulltime police officer with a deadline of September 2, 2016, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-none. Ayes-6, Nays-0.** The City of Blair has no residency requirements. On the subject of ordinances, the committee is looking into simplifying and clarifying the permits and fees.

**Consider requiring a deposit for Community Center:** This past year items have gone missing from the Community Center. This would have to be a mutual decision with the Town of Preston. **Motion by T. Robertson to bring before the Town of Preston a \$100 upfront charge for the Community Center with a \$50 return if**

**cleaned properly and all equipment/items are accounted for, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-**do we do anything with the shelters-no. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Clerk Report:** Information from the Wisconsin Rural Water Association – PSC water rate increases in the state are anywhere from 7-61%. UW-Green Bay Treasurers Institute review, training provided many helpful ‘best practice’ ideas for the Blair Office. Mobile Home information. City of Blair water rating update, relating to lead – City of Blair has the best possible rating and testing schedule from the DNR.

**Committee Meeting Request:** Streets (water pooling at 109 East Fifth Street) & Public Property (water runoff into basement on 909 East Olson Street. **Motion by T. Robertson to refer the matter to the Street, Lights, & Equipment and Public Property & Buildings Committees, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Building Permits:** J. & S. Hanson – upgrade to stairway, upstairs wiring to code & new beam in basement @ 312 S. Impel. R. Ekern – demo & replace current porch @ 805 E. Olson. K. & K. Everson – handicap ramp @ 852 E. Broadway. **Motion by W. Cartrette to approve Hanson, Ekern, and Everson permits contingent to county permit, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.** WE Energies – garage gas service abandonment @ 656 Sylfest St. **Motion to approve abandonment by W. Cartrette, seconded by J. Anderson. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Present Vouchers & Application for payment from Gerke Excavating: Motion to approve Gerke payment of \$4881.03 by J. Anderson, seconded by T. Robertson. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.** **Motion by W. Cartrette, to approve vouchers and for T. Robertson to look into fire department possible double payment issue, 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: Motion by C. Ekern to enter into closed session per state statute 19.85(1) (c), seconded by W. Cartrette. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Return to Open Session: Motion by W. Cartrette to return to open session, seconded by C. Ekern. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

**Motion by T. Robertson to adjourn, seconded by T. Wheeler. Discussion-**none. **Ayes-6, Nays-0.**

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Susan Frederixon-Clerk/Treasurer