

Common Council Meeting minutes, December 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Council attending: J. Tranberg, J. Anderson, P. Syverson, C. Ekern, D. Stephenson, J. Rawson.
Others in attendance: Attorney Mark Radcliffe, Andrew Dannehy-TCT, Charles Pearman-SEH, Andy Graff, Clerk/Treasurer-Debi Fremstad.

Agenda was posted on 11/30/23 at City Hall, Post Office, Waumandee Bank, & City website.

Motion by P. Syverson to approve agenda, 2nd by C. Ekern. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none.

Motion by J. Anderson to approve November 6, 2023 council minutes, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Syverson to place on file the minutes for the 10/24/2023 Water & Sewer meeting, 11/20/2023 Park meeting, 11/28/2023 Streets, Lights, & Equipment meeting 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Payment Application #4 for Broadway/Pearl project – **Motion by P. Syverson to pay application #4 in the amount of \$311,695 to A-1 Excavating, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion: none. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes, J. Anderson-yes, P. Syverson-yes, C. Ekern-yes. Motion carried.**

Motion by C. Ekern to approve a temporary liquor license for the Ice Fishing Contest on January 13, 2024 by the Blair Sportsmen’s Club, 2nd by P. Syverson. Discussion: Application is dated 2023; should be for 2024, correct? Yes. Vote: Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Tri-City Sanitation garbage bin contract. Tri-City requests 3 changes: price of large bins \$13/month, price of small bins \$8/month and PO Box of Tri-City. **Motion by J. Tranberg to approve revision of Tri-City contract, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion: Garbage bags will be used until the end of January. Anyone not receiving a City of Blair water/sewer bill will have to contact Tri-City. Roll call vote : D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.**

Community Center cleaning: Town of Preston is recommending Nicole’s Cleaning from Whitehall at a rate of \$25-30/hour. They will have a meeting on December 11. **Motion by J. Anderson to approve Nicole’s Cleaning for the Community Center, 2nd J. Tranberg. Discussion: none. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.**

Water/Sewer recommendations: P. Syverson stated the sewer line from Tappen to Taft only has three people on the line and the flow isn’t good. Charles Pearman-SEH stated that he felt this is strictly a flow issue and wanted everyone to know that this project will help, but it is not a guarantee to fix the issue. This project would be in conjunction with the Tappen Road County road project.

Bids were received from Davy Engineering and SEH. The construction costs were very close. **Motion by C. Ekern to move forward with Tappen/Taft sewer project and get back to the City with numbers, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion: Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.**

Streets, Lights, & Equipment recommendations: J. Tranberg stated that the committee would like to see CIP money set aside for a street sweeper. Leaves are a big issue. We will be testing out a sweeper this coming spring. Attorney Radcliffe suggested we call Alma Center; they hire it done. A JD 6130R tractor has become available at Tractor Central. This would replace a 2 ½ ton truck. The tractor and blade would be under \$200,000. The blade has wings that would fold in to push snow as well. This money is available in the unassigned general fund. **Motion by P. Syverson to purchase the JD 6130R tractor and blade, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion: CE-is the blade fixed to the under carriage, MR-it's better if it's not attached to the loader arms. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.** The road on Owen Berg's property on Maple has no water or sewer underneath it, it is LRIP eligible and the City has maintained this road for decades. There is a section of road about 30x30 that is owned by the City. It is believed that at one time there was an old well in that area. This parcel needs to be looked into. There are other alleys in the City where there are issues as well. Attorney Radcliffe stated that if you stop maintaining; you lose the rights to the road. Does the fire department need access? The alley between the old A to Z and the Baptist church is in very rough shape. Jeremy would be willing to purchase and turn into a parking lot, since the bank parking lot is always full. Recommend alleyways in the City be sent to the Public Property & Building Committee.

2024-2025 Election Inspector Appointments: Gary Olson, Kandace Witcraft, Carrie Konkel, Kris Johnson, Terry Wheeler, Emma Hertzfeldt, Peggy Hertzfeldt, and Dean Dale. **Motion by J. Anderson to accept Election Inspector appointments, 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion: none. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.**

Information only: GEC building permits

Server license for approval: Cheyenne Milliman and Mandi Rolbiecki. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve applications, 2nd by J. Anderson. Discussion: none. Vote: Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.**

Motion by J. Tranberg to pay the bills (vouchers #61048-61111, R182, V1000-1005, WI 237-238, BT6-2023, ETF12-2023, EFTPS110323-111723, Def Comp 171-172), 2nd by D. Stephenson. Discussion: none. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, J. Tranberg-yes. Motion carried.

Next Common Council Meeting, Thursday, January 4, 2024

Motion by C. Ekern to adjourn at 7:36 pm, 2nd by J. Tranberg. Discussion-none. Vote: Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Debra Fremstad, Clerk/Treasurer