

## City of Blair Regular Council Meeting Minutes, April 11, 2022

Mayor John Rawson called the Community Development Block Grant Public Facilities (CDBG-PF) Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. David Schofield/S.E.H. Engineering explained, about 1 ½ years ago Broadway and Pearl Streets were identified by the City as a project for utility and street improvements that should be considered for a CDBG-PF application. As of May 2021 the City has invested to have 30 % of the plan work completed. CDBG program is a program administered by State of WI to assist low/moderate income communities upgrade utilities and Streets. Because the last Census showed over 51% low/moderate income and Broadway is considered to be a Community asset this project is eligible for CDBG funding. This project will be replacing water and sewer mains and reconstructing the roadway. One of the primary drivers is the water main on Broadway currently is 4", one of only 2 cross mains in the City. 4" water main is significantly undersized, this project will install 8" water mains, which definitely improves our fire protection. **CDBG program does not allow residents to be responsible for any special assessments on this project.** Project cost is estimated a \$2.53 million dollars, CDBG funds, if awarded would cover up to \$1 million of that. There are a number of documents in the packets, one is 'authorization to commit matching funds,' with in that we have contemplated the City would borrow the 1.53 million from Waumandee State Bank, Safe and Clean Drinking Water funds and/or work with Ehlers possibly on a bond issue. If these resolutions are approved tonight, the application will go in prior to May 12, 2022, should know by August if City is selected for funding. Construction would have to start by July 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, completed by October 2024 and paperwork done by December 2024. This same project was applied for in 2021, we were not selected for funding, this is a highly competitive program and it comes down to who applies and where we fit in to that group. **The City of Blair was funded in 2019 with a \$500,000 grant, with an application that scored lower than the one we did not get funded for in 2021, that funding was used on Main, Oak and Immell Streets Utility replacement and road construction. We cannot be funded unless we take the chance and submit the application and \$1 million would make a giant difference to the City and residents.** D. Stephenson asked cost of application. D. Schofield said \$7,000. If project is funded there are 2 additional public hearings required. Mayor asked for any other questions or public comment on this topic. Shannon Moats asked why there is a public hearing half way through the project and who will be doing the project, State or awarded by bids? **D. Schofield said project would be locally advertised for bids, lowest responsible bidder is awarded project. Purpose of the public hearings is to make sure City isn't taking land from a low/moderate income area and displacing residents or businesses. We will also have a public informational meeting, residents are able to talk with your elected officials. Shannon said that answered her questions.** Mayor asked if there are any other public comments on the CDBG-PF topic. Andy Graff/City Street Department Manager asked if there will be additional storm sewers added with this project. **D. Schofield said yes.** J. Anderson asked how comfortable David S. is with the estimated bid for the project with all the changes going on these days. **David S. said he raised the bid about \$300,000 from the 2021 estimated, but even though he has been doing this for more than 20 years, trying to estimate these days is more difficult and subject to many possible changes.** Mayor asked if any other public comment related to grant application. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to close the public hearing. **Motion by J. Anderson to close the CDBG-PF Public Hearing, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Mayor Rawson opened 4/11/2022 Regular Council Meeting and verified open meeting requirements are met.

Roll Call Vote was done by Clerk with all 6 Council Alderpersons and Mayor present. Also present: Attorney Mark Radcliffe, City Engineer, David Schofield, Trempealeau County Times, Clerk Susan Frederixon, Police Chief K. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson, City Street Department Manager, Andy Graff, Resident, Lorraine Wasserburger, Ramon Kohnert, Recently Elected Alderperson, Jeremy Tranberg and resident Shannon Moats. Via Zoom: Erica Anderson/owner of Soul Sister Boutique and Eric Kleven/City Assessor.

**Election results reported/Clerk Frederixon:** Ward 1 Alderperson/Dennis Stephenson 64 votes, on ballot unopposed with no registered write-ins; Ward 2 Alderperson/Jill Anderson-43 and Daniel M. Zawacki-14; Ward 3 Alderperson/David Donnelly-26 and Registered Write-In Jeremy Tranberg-42. Congratulations to Dennis, Jill and Jeremy we are looking forward to working together with you over the next 2 years. **Thank you VERY much to resigning Ward 3 Alderperson, Mike Lisowski whose knowledge, experience and willingness to be involved have been very valuable and appreciated. Best wishes. I also think it is important to thank the challengers on the ballot this Spring for taking an interest in our local government.**

Certificates of Election and Oath of Office is actually to be done at the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting, so was not done.

Public Comment: City resident and Express Mart employee Lorraine Wasserburger spoke: She asked if there are rules or Ordinances restricting elected public officials from using position to influence different things with in the City for their personal benefit? **City Council is unable to comment on ‘public comment’ items due to ‘open records’ requirements, but Clerk S. Frederixon offered to help Lorraine with her concerns in the City office as soon as it worked for her to stop in. Lorraine W. was ok with that.**

Present minutes for approval: Regular Council 3/7/2022 Meeting. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve 3/7/22 minutes as presented in packets, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Stephenson. Discussion: none. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion carried.**

Discuss/Take Action: CDBG-PF Application required Resolutions/All Action items:

- a) Resolution 4-11-2022A to Adopt a Citizen Participation Plan for Broadway & Pearl Streets Improvement Project.
- b) Resolution 4-11-2022B to Commit Matching Funds for Broadway & Pearl Streets Improvement Project.
- c) Resolution 4-11-2022C to Authorize Submission of a CDBG Application for Broadway & Pearl Streets Improvement Project

**Motion by P. Syverson to approve CDBG-PF Application Resolutions, # 4-11-2022A Adopt a Citizen Participation Plan for Broadway and Pearl Streets Improvement Project; # 4-11-2022B Commit Matching Funds for Broadway and Pearl Streets Improvement Project and # 4-11-2022C Authorize Submission of a CDBG-PF Application for Broadway and Pearl Streets Improvement Project, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: D. Stephenson/Yes, C. Ekern/Yes, P. Syverson/Yes, J. Anderson/Yes, M. Lisowski/Yes and T. Wheeler/Yes. Motion approved.**

Introduction of Smart Sand as new owners of Hi-Crush Blair facility/John Behling, Joe Blair POSTPONED

Discuss/Take Action: Delinquent Property Tax issues/**Jeremy Tranberg/City Assessor: Jeremy Tranberg explained he is being charged for 2021 Personal Property Tax for his Blair Haus Sports Bar & Grill business when the business burned in November 2020 and the Property tax should have been discontinued for 2021 until the business would reopen.** City Assessor Eric Kleven explained the State mandates ‘Personal Property Tax’ for certain items related to doing business. There are forms mailed out by Assessor every year to all people on the Personal Property tax list and it is up to each person/business to complete the form if there has been any changes since the prior tax year. There is also a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup> form sent prior to the ‘Open Book’ and Board of Review Assessment related meeting done usually in the Spring annually, where things if identified can be reviewed and changed if needed. None the forms were returned by the Blair Haus management, so the Personal Property assessment bills are sent. Jeremy Tranberg said after the fire, he discontinued the use of his P.O. Box as that is where he had his business mail sent, therefore he never received the forms and did not think

to contact the City office or Assessor to inform that there was no business in 2021 and the City is not entitled to Personal Property tax from him. The City agreed not to pursue the Blair Haus Personal Property Tax 2021 billing as there was no business during that timeframe and waive the requirement of competing forms by business owner, due to extreme circumstances of the fire. **Direction was given to the Clerk to note this in the file to this affect and Jeremy Tranberg notified he does not have to pay the 2021 Personal Property tax for Blair Haus Sports Bar and Grill.** It should be noted that the City Office had noticed this and had already informed the Assessor the Blair Haus should be off the Personal Property Assessment list until further notice.

Discuss/Take Action: Resolution #04-11-2022D Adopting a Building Permit & Inspection Fee Schedule: **Motion by M. Lisowski to approve Resolution # 04-11-2022D Adopting a Building Permit & Inspection Fee Schedule that now includes G.E.C. assuming general zoning review, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Discuss/Take Action: Temporary Street Closure Applications/Soul Sisters Boutique May 7 and Wheel-R-In Event June 9<sup>th</sup> 2022. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve both Street Closure Permits as presented and setting aside the Open intoxicant ordinance for both events in the street closure permit areas only, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Wheeler. Discussion: J. Anderson wonder about setting aside the ‘open intoxicant’ ordinance for both events. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved. Clerk noted that Soul Sisters will be credited for their next Street Closure Permit amount as the Fire Department already had paid for the same permit.**

Discuss/Take Action: Application Temporary Class B Liquor License for June 7, 2022 Fire Department event/Motion by C. Ekern to approve as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Committee Meeting Minutes Reviewed: Blair Business Development Group Meeting, March 17, 2022, Tax, Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting, March 22, 2022. **Motion by J. Anderson to accepted minutes in packets as presented and place ‘on file’, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Discuss/Take Action on all items below: 3/22/22 Personnel/Finance Comm. meeting recommendations: Consider purchase of Street Sweeper: **Motion to table and send to Street, Lights & Equipment Committee for review, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Wheeler. Discussion: Equipment Committee members felt it was important they are able to review information and recommend to full council now that finance information has been presented. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.** Clerk/Treasurer return to ‘hourly’ pay schedule per personnel policy, Council did not follow City Personnel Policy that states all employees will be paid hourly when they changed Clerk and Treasurer position to exempt/salary as of January 1 2022: **Motion by M. Lisowski to follow the personnel policy and change Clerk and Treasurer position from ‘salary pay schedule’ which was mandated 1/1/2022 by City Council and return them to being paid on an ‘hourly wage schedule’ and to pay them retroactively for any overtime hours worked from 1/1/2022 to current, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Anderson. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: D. Stephenson/Yes, C. Ekern/Yes, P. Syverson/Yes, J. Anderson/Yes, M. Lisowski/Yes & T. Wheeler/Yes, No 0. Motion approved.** Street Department Manager 6 month evaluation/wage increase: (Dennis S. removed himself from the meeting during the discussion and voting to avoid any possible conflict of interest). Committee met with Andy Graff and believe he is doing a very good job and are recommending he receive his 50 cent successful completion of probation period increase when due, approximately May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve Andy Graff 6 month increase of 50 cents per hour the first full pay period, at end of 6 month probation period, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: C. Ekern/Yes, P. Syverson/Yes, J. Anderson/Yes, M. Lisowski/Yes and T. Wheeler/Yes. D. Stephenson not present for voting. Motion approved.** Updates to Personnel Policies: Public Works Steel toed shoes required to be worn during work hours; Move II ‘Termination of Employment’; 3s using abusive or improper language to an ‘immediate termination q;

medical documentation is required for any/all light duty assignments; After much discussion to clarify that use of improper/abusive language ‘MAY at council direction’ be considered for automatic termination/Attorney Radcliffe reminded we have to be aware of the difference between ‘public employee using bad language, the City needs to be much less tolerant of improper/abusive language for liability reasons. Jill also added there was a numbering correction made to the previous policy document. **Motion by P. Syverson to approve the changes to personnel policy related to ‘steel toed shoes’, abusive/improper language and light duty assignments requiring medical documentation and require all employees review updated policy, sign and have placed in file, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Stephenson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Discuss/Take Action: 2022 Season Lifeguard wage/J. Anderson, after review of neighboring cities with pools lifeguard/swim teacher wages, we are low at approximately \$8.00 per hour with 25 cent increase each returning year. We currently have zero lifeguard application for the 2022 pool season. Adjusting the wage may assist with application submissions. Research provided by Clerk was researched by Park Committee and shared with full Council. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve increase hourly wage for Blair Municipal Pool lifeguard positions to \$10.00 starting wage and \$1.00 for every year they return to employment, 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Syverson. Roll Call Vote: D. Stephenson/Yes, C. Ekern/Yes, P. Syverson/Yes, J. Anderson/Yes, M. Lisowski/Yes and T. Wheeler/Yes. Motion approved.**

J. Anderson shared Source Energy Services donated \$1,500 toward our Park and Recreation programs toward ball program fees for kids.

Discussion and Action on a Resolution # 12-06-2021-2 confirming the Developers Agreement with Blair Meat Market, LLC and authorizing the payment called for therein/Attorney Radcliffe shared this was approved verbally in closed session, the contract has been signed just needs to be approved in open session. **Motion by D. Stephenson to approve Resolution # 12-06-2021-2 as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern. Discussion: None. . Roll Call Vote: D. Stephenson/Yes, C. Ekern/Yes, P. Syverson/Yes, J. Anderson/Yes, M. Lisowski/Yes and T. Wheeler/Yes. Motion approved.**

Discuss/Take Action: 2022 Road Use Agreement Condition Assessment/Clerk Frederixon has 1 estimate and waiting for 2<sup>nd</sup> estimate, hope to report at May 2, 2022 Council Meeting. **No Action.**

Discussion: Trempealeau Co. Hwy Dept. 2023 repave project for CTH S/City portion considered/P. Syverson: Trempealeau Co. Hwy. Department informed City that in 2023 they are planning to repave CTH S starting at stop sign at Broadway and heading south out of City to Joe Coulee Road. When they get in the City, the City is responsible for all costs outside the middle 24’ of roadway (the parking lanes). This length from Broadway to the south where road is wider than 24’ and City would be responsible is 1100’ long. The road is about 42’ wide, so you would be responsible for 18’ width x 1100’ length = 19,800 SF of pulverizing, excavation and asphalt paving, estimated at about \$30,000. City needs to inform Co. Hwy department if we wish this work done, if not County will just do the middle 24’. Current City CIP street project budget is \$120,000. Andy Graff/Street manager wondered about considering concrete curb and gutter as the current black top curb is crumbling, corner by 706 Taft St. is concrete, it would be nice to start tying that all in. Also, Graff reminded Council of issues with the culvert in that area, would be a very good time to improve or replace at that time to improve drainage. Council agreed should be looked into, Paul Syverson said he would ask Hwy Commissioner to talk with Street Manager.

Discuss/Take Action: Consideration of forming of City “Police & Fire Committee”/Attorney Radcliffe explained that currently the City has a 1 person (Jon Seifert) Police/Fire Commissioner (option B of Ordinance), Jon S. said he would stay on as City Police & Fire Board Commissioner until the City discussed and was able to find another 1 person Commissioner or form a committee of not less than three members (option A) of Ordinance , because we are under 4,000 population and we have an Ordinance that talks about establishment of a Police & Fire

Commission, to be able to take up any issues that fall into that Commission's duties. City of Blair Ordinance says we need to do one of the following:

- (A) Establishes a committee of not less than three (3) members, none of whom may be an elected or appointed official of the City or be employed by the City. The committee shall act pursuant to Section 62.13(5), Wis. Stat., in place of a Board of Police Commissioners. The City Council may provide for some payment to each member's cost of serving on the committee at a rate established by the City Council.
- (B) Appoint a person who is not an elected or appointed official of the City and who is not employed by the City. The person shall act under Section 62.13(5), Wis. Stat., in place of the Board of Police Commissioners. Such person may be a hearing examiner employed by the Wisconsin Division of Hearings and Appeals. The City may provide for compensation to serve in this capacity at such rate established by the City Council. Should the person selected be a hearing examiner, such reimbursement would be paid to the State consistent with their requirements.

Attorney Radcliffe explained the option the Council has is to find another single person Police & Fire Commissioner or form a committee of not less than 3 member Police & Fire Commission. Most of the Committees you are going to find have a more than 1 person Committee so **I would recommend you consider a 3 person Committee**, with 3 members it may offer chance of additional opinions on issues, this is something you should have in place to handle any issues that can only be handled by a Police & Fire Committee, and hopefully there is never a need. If you decide to create a P & F Committee, would also need to decide if and how much to compensate members when needed and set a term. City has used a 3 person panel in the past, but on an 'as needed' basis, never setting up a Committee per the Ordinance. C. Ekern asked if the current Fire Board could be considered as a Police and Fire Committee for these purposes. Clerk Frederixon say that Board is for City interaction with our Volunteer Fire department, does not meet the requirements/purpose of a 'Police and Fire Committee'. Attorney Radcliffe reminded the Council if they do not set a Committee or Commissioner, you cannot act when something happens that can only be handled by a P & F Committee/Commission, you end up scrambling and forced to be reactive instead of handling a situation professional per Ordinance language. Question from Alderperson Stephenson: This Committee is only used when a need arises, not meeting on regular basis? /Attorney answered would only meet when there was a need. This Committee by statute is supposed to be independent of the City Council, don't do what Council tells them, they review information and make own decisions. Many times this Committee will hire their own legal counsel, paid for by the City of Blair, so if they have legal questions they don't use City Attorney, need independent legal advice. Alderperson Stephenson asked if 100% of the time Communities have a Police/Fire Committee. Attorney Radcliffe said most communities do have them otherwise they/us have to be 'reactionary' instead of prepared to handle issues such as these. Difficult to adequately address issues if not prepared. Attorney restated he believes we should have a Police and Fire Committee set up, a group that is independent of the Council set up to assist on issues needed to be handled by a committee like this that cannot be handled by the Council. Council can't tell them what to do, when an issue comes up and is referred to them, they take over. Alderperson Stephenson said the current Commissioner agreed to stay on until we do something...Attorney Radcliffe said only until we can replace him. Stephenson said that could take years. Alderperson Ekern said we didn't have too much trouble finding 3 people to sit on a Police and Fire Committee last time we needed them did we? Clerk Frederixon and Personnel Chair said we had MUCH difficulty...it was a very difficult process and took a long time. Alderperson Anderson suggested if we decide to form a P & F Committee we should consider staggered terms so there is some experience always on the Committee.

**Motion by P. Syverson that City of Blair form a Police and Fire Commission, consisting of 3 members, appointed by Mayor on a staggering 3 year term schedule, example 1 one (1) year term, 1two (2) year term and 1 three (3) year term and paid a 'per diem' equal to what a Committee member gets for meetings at this time it is \$30 per meeting and also paid mileage at the annual IRS standard rate, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Anderson. Discussion: Alderperson J. Anderson asked if Committee members need to be of legal standing, Attorney Radcliffe said 'No'. Question from D. Stephenson, so we will have 3 people appointed from the City of Blair to sit on this Committee? Attorney Radcliffe clarified, they do not have to be from the City of Blair. Clerk clarified last time they were not from the City in an attempt to provide possibly more independent review. Question from C. Ekern, just one person is choosing these members, Mayor said no, Mayor will appoint and then bring back to this Council for approval same as done with the normal Committee appointments. Question from D. Stephenson: so we are thinking of \$30 per meeting + mileage, what are we paying Mr. Seifert? Answer was 'an hourly rate for the attorney.' Time frame would be as soon as Mayor can complete the Committee member appointments for consideration. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, M. Lisowski-yes and T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.**

Discuss/Take Action: Designating City Attorney as having authority to make decisions related to City Citation processing/Attorney Radcliffe and Mayor: Attorney Radcliffe explained, the Council has never discussed with me what they want me to do as far as prosecuting City citations. Process is if a citations is issued, the person pleads guilty and pays it, City Attorney never sees it. Only way City Attorney knows a person pleads 'not guilty', is the Clerk of Court processes that and gets e-filed in to City Attorney's email and is set for an automatic pre-trial conference. Conference is used to talk about citation, see if there is any way to solve issue without trial. City Council has 2 options on these citations, 1) It doesn't matter what the pre-trial conference discussions are, Council directs Attorney to say they plead guilty and pay ticket or it goes to trial, 2) Council directs Attorney on a case by case basis, to decide what is best in that case and City Attorney makes a decision whether to go to trial or solve through alternate methods. Difference is (option 1) City will be billed for Attorney fees associated with all legal action required including trails. (Option 2) City tells City Attorney to use his experience and judgement to decide what is best on a case by case basis in order to have all citations fairly researched and defendants informed on what they will have to do related to their citations. Question is: what is the City of Blair Council direction to Attorney, option 1 or option 2? Motion by J. Anderson to move this topic to a Police/Ordinance Committee Meeting for further review and a recommendation to the full Council at a later meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Syverson. Discussion: Alderperson Lisowski commented about the Police Departments thoughts on this. Police Chief Johnson said himself and Attorney Radcliffe had talked about this and decided if there was a case he had suggestions about reducing or dismissing a citation he would talk over with the Chief first to see if further background of the case may be helpful. That is how we have been handling, with only 1 email about 1 case. Mark Radcliffe said as a prosecutor, he has to make decisions on his cases at all times and always takes in consideration Police Department information. Question still remains: What is the Council's direction as far as City Attorney prosecuting citations/cases? Alderperson P. Syverson said he believes we need to do what our agenda item says, designate the City Attorney to make decisions related to City Citation processing. Alderperson C. Ekern said we addressed this topic related to not so long ago with discussions to give authority to the Police Department on how to handle City Citations as far as prosecution. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Discuss/Take Action on hiring/naming an Assistant Police Chief/Attorney Radcliffe & Mayor: Attorney Radcliffe said there was a request he look into if we can designate an assistant Police Chief, our Ordinances do not have that position, but could be amended if Council chose to. Motion by C. Ekern to refer this topic to Police and Ordinance Committee for review and recommendation to full council at later date, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.

Discuss/Take Action on Personnel Policy change of Police Chief 'Work Hours' policy/Mayor Rawson said it has been brought up to consider going back way it used to be, when Chief worked nights once in a while if needed to cover shifts? Wondering how Council views that idea and if changes might be helpful to cover shifts? Currently the department is down one officer and I am throwing out that idea for consideration. Chief Johnson stated "when he was hired he was told his schedule was flexible day shift hours Monday through Friday". Alderperson D. Stephenson said he doesn't recall discussion this at any Personnel Committee meeting...and where is all this stuff coming from. Personnel Chairperson J. Anderson this information falls under the Job description. Stephenson clarified his question was related to the multiple Police department agenda items that hadn't gone through committee. C. Ekern also thought this should be reviewed by Personnel or Police Ordinance Committee or both and then back on a full Council agenda. Clerk Frederixon said she thought that was the purpose of having them on this agenda, was to have Council consider topics going to Committee for further review. **Motion by D. Stephenson to refer this matter to the Police & Ordinance Committee for review and recommendation to full Council at future meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Discuss/Take Action on Server License Permit Applications: City Attorney Radcliffe; Diane Nilsestuen and Carolann Noack background checks show no potential indicators for denial of license. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve both Nilsestuen and Noack applications as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Wheeler. Discussion: None. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved.**

Building Permits report was distributed with 0 permits approved in March, informational only.

Clerk Report: WEDC grant notice-underwriting department notified us the Blair Haus Sports Bar & Grill application for the \$250,000 Community Development Improvement grant has been accepted. Meaning that the application is complete and there are funds in the program to meet the request. Contract still needs to be signed to be FINAL.

Sewer Utility heading in right direction financially: The Sewer rate increase was studied and an increase was decided on and in effect as of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2021. The December 2020 financial statement showed the sewer utility at (\$ 144,602) loss. We just received the December 2021 financial statement that shows our sewer utility at only a (\$13,188) in 3 quarters we made up \$131,414. This puts us much closer to being in compliance.

Spring clean-up is set for Wednesday, May 4 from 3 pm to 7 pm and Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm. @ the Spring Street City Street Shop location near NAPA store.

I completed the annual Non-metallic Reclamation report for all 3 mine sites before the March 31<sup>st</sup> due date and also the 2% Fire Dues report before the March 31<sup>st</sup> due date

Thank you Terry Wheeler for your donation of time, energy and equipment to water our city flowers in the downtown district again this summer.

Thank you also to Orville Greenwold who has offered to adopt the downtown district by picking up stray trash that gets blown downtown, in an effort to keep things looking nice.

Thank you to this City Council and Mayor group for another year of duty to the City. Your checks for your service will be available on 4/22/2022 with the normal payroll date, for tax purposes.

Joshua Greenwold has completed one of the two part of his water training, 6 days of Distribution and ground water training through the Eau Claire Technical College, he is reviewing and planning for his testing as soon as he is allowed.

Discuss/Update Council: Police & Ordinance/ C. Ekern said wanted this on agenda since he has had many inquiries about our Police Department, Chief was gone for a while and now is back people are looking for an update and gave the floor to Kent Johnson. Johnson shared: “working on catching up on items not done during my absence; he has no idea what Officer Potts status is; Officer Kokott is working now and at times picking up some extra hours; Officer Jensen will also fill in some”; Chief brought up concerns about department not being in CJIS (Criminal Justice Information Systems) compliance. He will be working with the state, City Mayor, Attorney and Council to work on getting the department in to compliance as soon as possible; “I am working with D.O.T. on a proposed speed reduction on Hwy. 95 from Mill Road to where current speed limit sign of 30 MPH is posted. Currently that area is 40 MPH. Goal is to lower speed limit for safety concerns. I drafted a letter, went over with Mayor and Street Manager and sent off to D.O.T. requesting a study be done to consider lowering the speed limit in area letter is requesting. I have a training conference coming up/WI integrated threat and active response; Theodore Sales local resident has graduated from recovery court a program that helps recovering drug addicts, I attended his graduation ceremony.

Present Vouchers for review and approval: **Motion by C. Ekern to approve the vouchers as presented in packets, 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Lisowski. Discussion: None. Roll call vote: D. Stephenson-yes, C. Ekern-yes, P. Syverson-yes, J. Anderson-yes, M. Lisowski-yes and T. Wheeler-yes. Motion carried.**

**Next Council meeting is April 19, 2022 Re-Organizational Meeting @ 6:30 pm. and May 2, 2022 @ 6:30 pm**

**Motion by J. Anderson to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> C. Ekern. Vote: Yes 6, No 0. Motion approved. Time 8:34 p.m.**

Susan Frederixon, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer