

**Regular Council Meeting
December 5, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Ottie (Robert) Baecker.

Roll Call: Deb Marsolek, Tim Hanson (Arrived @ 5:52pm), Cleo Skroch, Linda Longmore, Randy Symicek. 5 Present, 1 Absent. Jason Ekern was absent.

Others Present: Attorney Laverne Michalak, Deputy Clerk Dawn Abrahamson, Elaine Conrad, Lois Boe (Historical Society), Andrew Dannehy (Trempealeau County Times newspaper) Police Chief James Waniorek, Officer Brock Olson, Officer Eddie Hernandez, Officer Josiah Vogt and Kayla Mathson (Librarian).

Deputy Clerk Dawn Abrahamson verified proof that public notice was given.

Approval of Agenda: Randy Symicek motioned to amend Agenda and move Item 6-A to 4.5, 2nd-Longmore, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Minutes – November 4th, 2024

Motion to approve- Symicek, 2nd – Skroch, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Public Comments

None

Licenses and Permits

Elk Rod & Gun Club- Motion to Approve- Skroch, 2nd- Symicek, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Old Business

Lake Dredge Update- Nothing to Update.

Historical Society/City Hall Basement Update- Jim went over notes from State of WI Inspector- Brent. Laverne would like to speak to the inspector. Historical Society- Knows there is a lot to go through and knows they are on hold hopefully until spring but would hope to get access by Independence Days.

Committee Reports

Police Dept. Employee Introductions- Chief Waniorek introduced the part-time Officers- Brock Olson, Eddie Hernandez and Josiah Vogt. Mayor Baecker questioned the hire of a new full-time officer. Chief advised Whitehall is also hiring, so we will be competing with them. Would like to have posted to WILENET for a month. Will need to be discussed at the next Law Enforcement/ Personnel.

New Business

Open Public Hearing on the 2025 City Budget- Mayor Baecker opened public Hearing for 2025 Budget.

2025 Wage Approval- Motion to approve all City Workers as proposed except Water & Sewer Department until their next meeting- Symicek, 2nd- Longmore. Roll Vote, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

Discussion with Possible Action SEH Contract with Alley- Motion to Approve Contracts- Symicek, 2nd- Marsolek, Roll Vote, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Motion Carried.

Discussion with Possible Action Elk Rod & Gun Club Use of Old Fire Station- Motion to Approve the use of the Old Fire Station/Closing of 2nd Street- Skroch, 2nd- Marsolek, Ayes: 4 Nays: 0, Motion Carried.

Discussion of Canoe Sign at Park-table until February or March 2025.

Discussion of the Possibility of the Un-Annexation of Former Mine Areas- Laverne looking into statues. Table until next month.

Discussion Title 6 Flexible Alternate Side Parking for Snow Removal Ordinance- No discussion needed.

Possible Action Approval of Title 6 Resolution and Ordinance of Flexible Alternate Side Parking for Snow Removal- Motion to Adopt Resolution-Skroch, 2nd- Longmore, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Motion Carried.

Discussion with Possible Action Parsons Energy Group LLC Bond Cancellation- Motion to cancel Bond- Symicek, 2nd- Skroch, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Discussion with Possible Action Employee Resignation- Motioned to accept Natalie Landrum resignation- Hanson, 2nd- Skroch, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Motion Carried.

Close Public Hearing on 2025 City Budget/ Discussion with Possible Action on 2025 City Budget- Motion to close and Accept 2025 City Budget- Marsolek, 2nd- Symicek, Roll Vote, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Motion Carried.

Library Community Center Grant Updates and Possible Actions- Motion to come back now that Kayla arrived-Hanson, 2nd- Skroch, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, motion carried.

Library Community Center Grant Updates and Possible Actions- Kayla gave an update on the progress of the Library Community Center. No Actions taken.

Correspondence:

Mayor Baecker gives thanks to Wayne Palkowski, Lions Club and Kayla Mathson for the Night of Lights. Linda gave thanks to Deb for her photo services during Night of Lights. Mayor Baecker stated that there is a company looking to invest in the Hi-Crush Area.

Approval of Invoices and Payments:

Motion to approve paying the bills by Skroch and 2nd Symicek, Roll Vote, Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Future Agenda:

- Lake Dredge Update
- Historical Society/City Hall Basement Update
- Library Community Center
- Un-Annexation of Former Mine Areas

Future Meeting Dates:

- December 12th @ 4:30pm- Law Enforcement/Personnel
- December 19th City Audit
- January 6, 2025- Council Meeting @ 6:15pm

After having completed all matters before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Dawn Abrahamson, City Clerk/Treasurer Assistant