

Common Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Gwen Katula. Roll call: Jim Kafer, Barb Schmidtknecht, Cheryl Braatz, David Kellam present, Neil Isakson absent.

Public Comment: John Schlessman, as president of the Fountain City Historical Society, reported on the improvements they have made to the building as well as some concerns they will be addressing.

Motion Barb, second Jim to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- a. A draft of Ordinance #65 Dumpsters was discussed, and a final draft will be presented at the next meeting.
- b. Mayor Gwen gave an informational update on the weather sirens. When the new fire station was built, no new sirens were installed as the firemen rely solely on their pagers, so currently there are no weather sirens. The siren at the old fire station is no longer supported. When conferencing with a representative from Federal Signal and the Fire Chief the best placement for a new siren would be at each boat landing due to our topography. A sound map was also reviewed. An estimated cost for each siren & the pole is approximately \$20K, which the fire department will share in that cost. No action required at this time.

New Business:

- a. The Golden Frog requested an "extension" of their liquor license to include the property across the street that they recently acquired. Per the state of Wisconsin, it would be legal to grant that extension per council approval. Without a representative present from the Golden Frog to give specific boundaries and areas to include in the extension, council will postpone making any decisions until they have more information.
- b. Les Duellman from Elmer's Auto reported about the extremely poor condition of Elmer's Road and given the exceptionally busy last season they anticipate, he is inquiring what the city can do at least in the short term to improve the road. Maintenance will look into an estimated cost and report back to council.
- c. A "quiet zone" is being investigated by the Fountain City Business & Community Group (FCBCG), specifically meaning no train whistle at Mill St. At some point the city will have to work with the state and the railroad to make this happen. One cost saving measure is that we would not have to purchase crossing arms as they already exist at that location. An invitation will be extended to a FCBCG member to attend the next council meeting for an update.
- d. A newly surveyed site map of the mobile home park was reviewed & discussed as there is a pending sale on the park. The potential new owner would like to make improvements to the park and be assured that the 37 non-conforming sites can be occupied. Council agrees that improvements and affordable housing options are an asset to the city. Council will physically view the park and a drafted resolution will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- e. Council reviewed the Comprehensive Plan and changes will be submitted for correction. Final draft will be considered once changes have been made.

- f. Implementing an “over/under delinquent tax” policy was discussed; this is a dollar amount that is postponed for payment or refund until the second installment of property tax bills are due. This will prevent very small delinquent tax bills, ie: 0.05 cents, from being sent out to the taxpayer. This was a suggestion made by Buffalo County as they have a policy set at \$5. A draft of the policy will be written and presented to council for review/approval.
- g. Given expressed concerns from residents about the excessive speeding within our city limits, Mayor Gwen researched Speed Feedback Signage. If 3 signs were purchased, one at each entrance to the city, it would cost approximately \$9600, which is a discounted price for multiple unit purchases; this is a non-budgeted item. This is for informational purposes only, however it is something to consider in the future.
- h. The Employee Handbook will be updated to reflect reimbursement to employees for mileage at the current federal mileage allowance. A Mileage Reimbursement Request form has been created and will be required to be completed for mileage to be compensated to the employee. Motion Cheryl, second Jim to update the Employee Handbook. Motion carried.
- i. Motion Cheryl, second Barb to increase the annual employee attire allowance for Public Works Employees from \$75 to \$150. Motion carried.
- j. Motion Barb, second Jim to approve the 2021 Consumer Confidence Report, CCR. Motion carried.
- k. The upper boat landing dock replacement project was deliberated, and more information will be forthcoming once it is received.
- l. Street parking on Cedar and Main Street was discussed; no action required at this time.

Motion Jim, second Barb to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.