

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council Held on September 8, 2020 Pursuant to Notice Duly Given:**

1. Meeting called to order by Mayor Heier at 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Al Schreiber (via telephone), Kim Bronikowski, Wes Markusen, Dean Reed, Attorney Calvert, Mayor Heier, Roger Reed, Jean Feldt (via telephone)  
Also Present: Police Chief Mike Rehberg, Park & Rec Director John Bostedt, Fire Chief Josh Bostedt, Building Inspector Joe Last, Sara Perrizo, Administrator and as recording secretary and other interested parties
3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Alderperson Feldt
4. Approval of Agenda  
**Moved by D. Reed, seconded by Bronikowski to approve the agenda. 6 ayes**
5. Approval of Minutes as Presented from City Council and any Special Council Meetings  
**Moved by Markusen, seconded by D. Reed to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried upon verbal voice vote. 6 ayes**
6. Approval of Department Reports as Presented  
**Moved by Bronikowski, seconded by Markusen to approve the department reports. Motion carried upon verbal voice vote. 6 ayes**
7. Correspondence/Public Input.
  - a. Presentation of Rose Awards – awards were presented to MOGA/Marty Saffran and PJ Reed, Mike and Janice Gibeault and Eric Schanau.
8. Discussion/Action on the Following:
  - a. Update from Troy Fonder on 231 Pecor Street Property  
Fonder handed out pictures of the property updated as of this afternoon. Everything on the house is custom, right down to the nails. Fonder has switched gears to siding and windows and stated that the insurance company will not insure the property until the foundation is done. He would like to see the raze order dropped and an extension of five years to complete the house. This was Peter Pecor’s house and is approximately 145 years old. All taxes, utility bills and other assessments have been paid in full. Bronikowski stated that no one else in the city has had nine years to get a house done. She doesn’t want this property to be razed, but we need to come up with a plan. Mayor Heier stated that this is a total rebuild and opined that if the outside can be done within two years it won’t hurt anything to give more time for the inside. Bronikowski doesn’t care how long the interior takes, but wonders if anyone else in the city would get this same treatment. Feldt feels we would grant anyone an extension under these circumstances. Markusen opined that there should be a penalty for not meeting the deadlines as stated in the development agreement. Fonder countered that no amount of fine would be acceptable to him. He is trying to do an excellent job and is already being penalized by having a time frame placed on him at all.  
  
Kathy Olson, 612 Collins Avenue, stated that this is a historical property, like the Beyer Home. History on the Bay is our theme here and there are not many historical properties left. She is asking for patience.

D. Reed has no problem with what Fonder is doing, but Fonder knew early in the year that things were taking longer than anticipated. He would have liked to see Fonder come to the Council earlier. Fonder stated that he did contact Mayor Heier early in the year. Perrizo noted that the current assessed value is \$35,300. Fonder stated that he feels he could have 90% of the outside done within two years. Markusen feels that if we take away the raze order, there is no penalty. We have taxed others at a minimum value if deadlines aren't met. Fonder stated that he's asking to have until 2022 to finish the outside.

Daryl Anderson, 101 Merrill Lane, stated that there was an engineer on site at this property and he said a project like this was done in Marinette and it took ten years. Bronikowski said that if the first agreement was followed, we wouldn't be here. If Fonder would have said ten years from the beginning, there would be less issue. We have agreements with others to tax at a minimum assessed value and we want to resolve this. Bronikowski would like to see the property taxed at \$200,000 at the end of 2022. D. Reed would like to see 80% of the outside complete in two years.

**Moved by D. Reed, seconded by Feldt to give a two year extension to finish the foundation, siding and windows (approximately 80% of the outside).**

Bronikowski asked what would happen if the new deadline is not met. Fonder said he would be happy to have the property assessed at that time.

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone)  
4 ayes, 1 nay (Bronkowski)**

**Moved by Markusen, seconded by Bronikowski to remove the raze order on this property.  
Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

b. Update on Old Hospital Property

Mayor Heier informed that Jim Draeger, who previously worked in Madison dealing with historical properties, said that there is an interested developer who specializes in historical rehabilitation and will be scheduling a site visit soon.

c. Request to Allow Consumption of Alcohol on Main Street Sidewalks During Harvestfest on September 26, 2020

Perrizo stated that this was requested by Jorene LeBreck to serve wine from her shop. Rehberg asked if this will apply to all businesses and bars located on Main Street between the Harvestfest barriers and Perrizo said that it would. Rehberg has no concerns.

**Moved by Bronikowski, seconded by D. Reed to approve the request between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.  
Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

d. Department Reports

i. Building Inspection Report

Last reported that the year-to-date project value of all permits is approximately \$3 million. The home that was lifted on Bayshore Road will now be demolished and a new cottage built there. The second duplex has been started on William Bake Circle and Last expects three more homes to be built in the city this year. The owner of the property

located at 1532 Main Street had agreed to have it cleaned up totally by July 31. That didn't happen, so the City got a court order to clean it up. A salvage crew came in today, but the property owner had started cleaning this weekend, so he was given until Monday to get everything done. Calvert noted that the owner has been assessed \$7,500 in citations and will be further assessed the cost of the salvage crew and a new citation of \$313 per day.

ii. Police and Fire Reports

Rehberg stated that there were 62 ordinance violations and 564 total complaints in August. He has received several calls regarding hunting on the golf course and is looking into the issue. The "Fill the Cruiser" event for the Humane Society was a huge success and the department received a \$1,000 donation for the purchase of equipment.

Josh Bostedt reported that there were 95 EMS calls in August, for a total of 920 year-to-date, which is 116 over last year. There was one training last month. As of September 1, both new firefighters are working shifts. The new ambulance should arrive in mid-September. The MDA "Fill the Boot" event will take place both online and with boots placed in area businesses. Four grant applications have been submitted and a grant was received for \$7,268 for PPE. Finally, there were 12 "all calls" in August.

iii. Park & Recreation Report

John Bostedt stated that park rentals and camping are ongoing. The department passed all fire inspections. Copper Culture tour guides will be working weekends through September. Holtwood Campground numbers look good compared to last year, especially considering the late opening and wet conditions. The "BOGO" event is now going on. The Harbor numbers also look good for the year and 29 of the 31 available docks are rented. He thanked the Fire Department for using their hoses to wash the launch area.

iv. Public Works Report

No report.

v. Administrator Report

Perrizo reported that a refund of \$245,000 was issued from TID #2 to the general fund. Four staff members have been off at various times due to COVID and Carol Stewart was brought in to assist. Starting September 23, one staff member will be off for up to 12 weeks due to surgery and Stewart has offered to come in a few days a week to help during that time. In 2017, the City put an incentive program in place to encourage employees to opt out of the City's health insurance coverage. Employees are paid \$400 per month NOT to take the City's health insurance. In 2020, this program resulted in a savings of \$221,267. Cash and investments as of August 31 were \$5.2 million.

e. Fire Chief Sick Pay

Perrizo explained that the Police & Fire Commission did vote to pay the sick pay and an employment agreement will be executed with Chief Bostedt. With the refund from TID #2 to the general fund, there is money available to payout the accumulated sick pay now.

**Moved by Markusen, seconded by D. Reed to pay out 45 days of accumulated sick pay to Chief Bostedt.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- f. Alcohol Beverage Retail License Application – Wayne’s Family Restaurant and Appointment of Trevor Dobrinska, as Agent

**Moved by Markusen, seconded by D. Reed to approve the application.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- g. Accounts Payable for the Month of July 2020 in the Amount of \$528,580.22, Accounts Payable for the Month of August 2020 in the Amount of \$517,564.78, Payroll for the Month of July 2020 in the Amount of \$260,853.23, Payroll for the Month of August 2020 in the Amount of \$163,365.20 and other Financial Reports as Presented

**Moved by D. Reed, seconded by Bronikowski to approve the accounts payable, payroll and other reports.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- h. Quote from Van Ert Electric Company, Inc. to Purchase and Install Keyless Entry System in City Hall in the Amount of \$23,875 (to be paid for with Routes to Recovery Grant Funds)  
Perrizo explained that the COVID grant money is very restrictive on what it can be spent on. She consulted with all of the department heads and the idea was presented by several to install a keyless entry system. Three bids were received for this project and Van Ert is the lowest bid.

**Moved by Markusen, seconded by D. Reed to approve the quote.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- i. Approval of Invoices from Core & Main in the Amounts of \$5,540 and \$3,862 for Manhole Adjustment Rings

**Moved by D. Reed, seconded by Bronikowski to approve the invoices.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- j. Approval of Invoice from Oconto County Highway Department in the Amount of \$16,366.09 for Cold Patch and Asphalt Paving

**Moved by Bronikowski, seconded by D. Reed to approve the invoice.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- k. Approval of Final Pay Request from DeGroot Construction (to be handed out at the meeting)

**Moved by Bronikowski, seconded by D. Reed to approve the pay request.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

- l. Approval of Certified Survey Map for Bickel Property Located in the City of Oconto

**Moved by Schreiber, seconded by D. Reed to approve the certified survey map.**

**Motion carried upon electronic roll call vote. (Feldt and Schreiber via telephone) 5 ayes**

9. Adjournment.

**Moved by D. Reed, seconded by Markusen to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice vote.**

**5 ayes**

Respectfully Submitted:  
Sara J. Perrizo, Administrator