

**Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on  
Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 pursuant to notice duly given.**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Heier.
  
2. Roll call: Mayor Heier, Al Schreiber, Dean Reed, Jean Feldt, John Reed, and Attorney Calvert  
Excused: Roger Reed and Kim Bronikowski  
Also present: Fire Chief Josh Bostedt, Building Inspector Joe Last, Parks & Recreation Director John Bostedt, Police Chief Mike Rehberg, Superintendent of Public Works Jeremy Wusterbarth, Administrator Brittney Bickel and as recording secretary, and other interested parties.
  
3. Approval of Agenda  
**Motion by Schreiber, second by J. Reed to approve the agenda as presented.**  
**Motion carried upon verbal voice vote. 4 ayes M/C**
  
4. Correspondence/Public Appearances: Feldt noted that the only complaint she heard regarding the wedding venue on September 25<sup>th</sup> was an issue involving parking, which was in the grassy area behind the yard. People walking to and from vehicles were loud and lights were bright and shining in neighbors' windows. The Mayor stated that the parking was an issue and will need to be moved. It will be discussed at the meeting next week.
  
5. Discussion/Recommendation on:
  - a. Department Reports
    - i. Building Inspection Report  
J. Last reported that there were 36 permits issued in September and 373 total permits were issued year-to-date.  
  
The City takes ownership of 1768 Spies Rd on the October 11<sup>th</sup> closing date. He is working with the Fire Department to get things ready for the future planned controlled burn/fire training.  
  
Al Morin is planning to begin construction in three weeks at the old golf course.  
  
J. Last also noted that he has been receiving a lot of phone calls recently from people out of town looking to move into Oconto to get out of the big city and into a smaller, quieter neighborhood.
    - ii. Police and Fire Reports  
Rehberg reported 47 ordinance violations in September, with total calls for service equaling 529. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, Officer Shearer leaves for Canada to pick up Falco, our new drug dog.  
  
Chief Josh Bostedt reported 120 EMS/Ambulance calls and 17 fire related calls, for a total of 137 calls in September. Year-to-date call volume is 1,140 calls. The Ambulance FAP Funds Application was submitted, and Lt. VandeVoort is working

on the USDA grant. Several trainings were held in September. They also toured the County jail and Courthouse.

44 of the 65 fire inspections were completed this month. The remaining inspections will be completed in October.

iii. Park & Recreation Report

John Bostedt passed around a Thank You card for everyone to sign for PJ Reed for the donation of the new mini ramp at Sharpe Park. He noted that there are still a few park pavilion rentals left for the year. City Park Campground had a couple site reservations last weekend. The Holtwood Campground is still having reservations as well, and the BOGO sale is a success with 143 campers taking advantage of it since September 7<sup>th</sup>.

iv. Public Works Report

Wusterbarth reported an update that Chicago St is completed. Harbor Rd was striped on Thursday, as were Pecor St and McDonald St. The new motor for the leaf sucker was put in.

Wusterbarth also mentioned he, Jeff Belongia, and Brittney Bickel completed the S&P Rating meeting in September. It went well and our rating improved from A-/Negative to A-/Stable.

v. Administrator Report

Bickel confirmed that with the help of Jeremy Wusterbarth, Jeff Belongia, and Scott Sternhagen, the S&P Global Ratings meeting went well. The rating improved from A-/Negative Outlook to A-/Stable Outlook. With an increase to the General Fund the A- can improve at next year's rating.

Bickel reported that last week she met with Jennifer from McClone. The Health Insurance rates usually come out the last week of October, this year she is expecting to get them by the end of this week or early next week, which will be very helpful for 2022 budgets.

We have been trying to contact regarding the Copper Culture Park Agreement but haven't received a response yet.

Ward Redistricting is due to the County on October 18<sup>th</sup>, so the Council will see that updated ward map at next Tuesday's meeting for approval. This happens every 10 years when the Census is done.

Last Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, was Tractor Supply's Grand Opening. It was a good turnout.

Bickel met with Brian with the League of Municipalities on Monday to start getting ready for 2022 insurance rates. Brian let us know we have a check of approx. \$5,400 coming from the League for a 2021 Parks and Recreation Grant. John Bostedt will discuss it at his next Parks and Recreation meeting to decide where to spend the money.

Attorney Calvert also noted that he and Bickel met with Robert E. Lee & Associates to begin the process of closing TIF #3 and opening TIF #5.

- b. Accounts Payable for the Month of August 2021 in the Amount of \$799,571.62, Payroll for the Month of August 2021 in the Amount of \$168,017.01 and Other Financial Reports as Presented

**Motion by Schreiber, second by Feldt to approve the accounts payable, payroll and other reports as presented.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice recorded roll call vote. 4 ayes M/C**

- c. Application for Temporary Class B Retailer’s License – Holy Trinity Parish, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Motion by Schreiber, second by D. Reed to approve the application.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice recorded roll call vote. 4 ayes M/C**

- d. Application for Temporary Class B Retailer’s License – Machickanee Players, October 15<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021; February 25<sup>th</sup> - March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022; and May 13<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

**Motion by J. Reed, second by D. Reed to approve the application.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice recorded roll call vote. 4 ayes M/C**

**Recommendation from Building Inspection Ad-Hoc:**

- e. Ordinance Regarding Revisions to the Animal and Zoning Ordinances in the Municipal Code of Ordinances for the City of Oconto.

Attorney Calvert explained the contradictions between Ordinance No. 1105 Sec. 7-1-12 and Ordinance No. 2019-06 Sec. 13-1-50. The new revisions will clean this up and make it more clean.

**Motion by D. Reed, second by Schreiber to approve the ordinance.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice recorded roll call vote. 4 ayes M/C**

**Recommendation from Board of Public Works:**

- f. Approval of Pay Request #3 to Peterson Concrete for the Reconstruction of Harbor Road

**Motion by Feldt, second by D. Reed to approve the pay request in the amount of \$128,211.17.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice recorded roll call vote. 4 ayes M/C**

- g. Discussion on vacating rights-of-way North of Chicago St. (info will be provided at meeting)

Jeremy provided a map and explained he received a request to vacate Bloemer St and Marshall St, and the dilemma of landlocking parcel #265-31190621715. He recommends vacating Bloemer St and Marshall St and selling Marshall St property at \$0.01 to the property owner so he isn’t landlocked. Jeremy stated that a public hearing for vacating

Bloemer St would need to be scheduled. A public hearing for vacating Marshall St, as well as a CSM would be needed for selling the Marshall St property.

Schreiber asked if the parcel is buildable. J. Last explained yes, it is partially buildable. Frank noted that there are no utilities there at this time, however.

**Motion by D. Reed, second by J. Reed to approve moving forward with the Public Hearings for vacating Bloemer St and Marshall St, and the CSM for the Marshall St property sale.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice recorded roll call vote. 4 ayes M/C**

**6. Motion by J. Reed, second by Feldt to adjourn at 6:31 p.m.**

**Motion carried upon verbal voice vote. 4 ayes M/C**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brittney M. Bickel  
City Administrator