

**CITY OF OCONTO**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
City Hall – Council Chambers  
1210 Main St, Oconto, WI 54153  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023 - 6:00 PM**

**Minutes of the Public Hearing before the City Council Held on June 20, 2023, Pursuant to Notice Duly Given:**

**Public Hearing called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor John Panetti**

**Roll Call:** see below.

1. Petition for Zoning Amendment from Galik Enterprises, LLC to Amend the Zoning for Parcels #265-31191771833B (705 Farnsworth Ave) and #265-31191771833C (703 Farnsworth Ave) from General Industrial (IG) to Single & Two Family Residential (R-2)

**Public Input –**

- Bill Galik, 4691 Cty Rd S, Pensaukee/property owner/Galik Enterprises, LLC, explained this is on the agenda again per his request to be sure to cross his T's and dot his I's.

Mayor Panetti called three times for public input, hearing none.

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Bake** *Motion to close the public hearing at 6:03 pm.*

**Voice Vote:** 6 ayes - **MOTION CARRIED**

**Minutes of the Public Hearing before the City Council Held on June 20, 2023, Pursuant to Notice Duly Given:**

**Public Hearing called to order at 6:03 pm by Mayor John Panetti**

**Roll Call:** see below.

1. Zoning Ordinance Text Revisions - Permitted Uses/Conditional Uses in Recreational Zoning for Beer Gardens

**Public Input –**

- Darrell Anderson, 101 Merrill Lane, asked if the proposed Ordinance Text Revisions could be explained. Attorney Calvert explained the text revisions are to add “Beer Garden” to Conditional Uses in Recreational Zoning, currently Beer Gardens are undefined in Recreational Zoning.

Mayor Panetti called three times for public input, hearing none.

**MOTION: Mehlberg / Stock** *Motion to close the public hearing at 6:05 pm.*

**Voice Vote:** 6 ayes - **MOTION CARRIED**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council Held on June 20, 2023, Pursuant to Notice Duly Given:**

**Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Mayor John Panetti**

**Roll Call –**

Present: Mayor John Panetti, City Attorney Frank Calvert, Alderpersons: Butch Mehlberg, Steve Stock, John Wittkopf, Patsy Bake, Riley Sowle, and Bob LeBreck

Also present: Police Chief Mike Rehberg, City Administrator Brittney Bickel and as recording secretary, and other interested parties

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Alderperson Patsy Bake**

**Approval of Agenda –**

**MOTION: Mehlberg / Wittkopf**

*Motion to approve the agenda for the Council meeting June 20, 2023.*

**Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Approval of Minutes –**

**MOTION: Stock / Bake**

*Motion to approve the minutes as presented for the Council meeting on May 16, 2023.*

**Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Correspondence –**

- Jayme Sellen, OCEDC, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Oconto County Housing Market Study and Needs Assessment.
- Bob Detrick, Newcap, gave a presentation on the property at 852 Smith Ave and Newcap's plans to purchase, move their current facility, and build single family homes as well as 45 units of 202 Housing.

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Sowle**

*Motion to send a possible rezone to Plan Commission. Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED*

- Mayor Panetti spoke on the success of the Falco Golf Outing, Thanked the Lions Club for the clean-up of Harbor Rd, and the success of the Little League Tourney at our world class facility.
- Administrator Brittney Bickel read an email from the League of Wisconsin Municipalities on Shared Revenue increase that was signed into law this morning.
- Administrator Brittney Bickel read an email from Anita Jensen, owner of Oconto Riviera, 1240 McDonald St, who was unable to attend the meeting.

**Public Input –**

- Ed Whealon, Oconto Yacht Club, spoke on agenda item 10a.
- Courtney Sowle, 712 McDonald St, spoke on agenda item 10a.
- Jeremy Wusterbarth, 260 William Bake Circle, owner of Boo's II, spoke regarding his business plan and agenda item 10a.
- Jamie Younger, 518 Fourth St, spoke on the importance of transparency and honesty.
- Steve Brazeau, 301 First St, asked about the health and sanitation requirements for businesses/bars.

- Eric Schanau, 3002 Windross Ln, Little Suamico, owner of Nautical Bar, spoke regarding his business and agenda item 10a.
- Shannon Osmon, 818 Park Ave, spoke regarding agenda item 10a.

**Consent Agenda –**

- Approval of Department Reports as Presented
- Approval of Accounts Payable for the Month of May 2023 in the amount of \$304,416.14, Payroll for the Month of May 2023 in the amount of \$153,276.56, and Other Financial Reports as Presented
- Denial of an Ordinance Regarding Revisions to the Government and Administration Ordinance in the Municipal Code of Ordinances for the City of Oconto - Introduction of Ordinances
- Approval of invoice from Robert E. Lee in the amount of \$26,350.57 for the WWTP Upgrades
- Approval of invoice from WI DNR in the amount of \$7,096.60 for 2023 Environmental Fee
- Approval of invoice from Midwest Meters in the amount of \$64,800.00 for Utility Meters
- Approval of invoice from FSO in the amount of \$8,371.20 for Spring Sludge Hauling

**MOTION: Sowle / Wittkopf**

*Motion to approve the consent agenda.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Discussion/Recommendation on –**

- Approval of Alcohol Beverage License Applications and Appointment of Agents

**MOTION: LeBreck / Wittkopf**

*Motion to go down the list and vote on each individual application separately.*

**Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: LeBreck / Stock**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Angie's Sidetrack, LLC and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Stock**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Tracy Bostwick - BJ's and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Bake / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for JK Squared Corporation - Brother's Three and appointment of agent as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: Bake / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Crivello's Main Street Bar & Grill and appointment of agent as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: Mehlberg / Wittkopf**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Julie's Supper Club and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Stock / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Jeffrey Turecek - Log Jam Saloon and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Bake**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Los Tres Magueyes and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: LeBreck / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Michael Erickson - Mookie's Pub and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Stock**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Nautical of Oconto, LLC and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 1 nay (LeBreck), 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Oconto Elk's Lodge 887 and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Mehlberg / LeBreck**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Walter J. Kowalczyk - Play By Play, LLC and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Stock / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Earl Uhl - Shiloh Lounge and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Bake / LeBreck**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for The Dockside, Inc and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Corinne J. O'Neil - The Garage and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Bake / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Good Place Lanes, LLC and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Stock**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Courtney Sowle - The Yard and appointment of agent as presented.*

**MOTION: Stock / LeBreck**

*Motion to AMEND THE MOTION TO: Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Courtney Sowle - The Yard and appointment of agent as presented, contingent that a Conditional Use Permit is applied for and a fire inspection is completed. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 4 ayes, 1 nay (Wittkopf) 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Stock / Bake**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Courtney Sowle - The Yard and appointment of agent as presented, contingent that a Conditional Use Permit is applied for and a fire inspection is completed. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 3 ayes, 1 nay (Wittkopf), 2 abstain (Mehlberg & Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve Combination Class B Tavern License application for Jeremy Wusterbarth - Boo's II and appointment of agent as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED*

**MOTION: Mehlberg / Wittkopf**

*Motion to approve applications and appointments of agents for Combination Class A Liquor for Thompson Discount Liquor, Krist Food Mart #84, Wagner Shell, Dollar General store 6588, Kwik Trip 233, and Oconto BP; Class A Liquor for Jorene's Le Cuts; Class B Fermented Malt Beverage for River City Diner & Smokehouse and The Ruins Mini Golf; and Class C Wine for The Ruins Mini Golf as presented. Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED*

- b. Approval of an Ordinance Regarding Revisions to the Government and Administration Ordinance in the Municipal Code of Ordinances for the City of Oconto - Standing Committees - Adding Wage & Personnel and Finance Committees

**MOTION: LeBreck / Sowle**

*Motion to approve the ordinance as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

- c. Approval of an Ordinance Regarding Revisions to the Government and Administration Ordinance in the Municipal Code of Ordinances for the City of Oconto - Finance Committee

Sowle wants it to be on record that he wants the Finance Committee to be reinstated, but he is voting "no" because he does not agree with having 4 Alderpersons on the Committee, he wants it to be 3 Alderpersons.

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Stock**

*Motion to approve the ordinance.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 nay (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED**

- d. Approval of an Ordinance Regarding Revisions to the Government and Administration Ordinance in the Municipal Code of Ordinances for the City of Oconto - Wage and Personnel Committee

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve the ordinance as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Recommendation from Plan Commission:**

- e. Approval of Petition for Zoning Amendment from Galik Enterprises, LLC to Amend the Zoning for Parcels #265-31191771833B (705 Farnsworth Ave) and #265-31191771833C (703 Farnsworth Ave) from General Industrial(IG) to Single & Two Family Residential(R-2)

Administrator Bickel explained this agenda item has already been approved at the May 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The Galik's were concerned because the parcel numbers and addresses changed/were assigned when the lots were split and the CSM was approved. The Galik's requested the process be redone to avoid any issues in the future.

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve the petition for zoning amendment as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

- f. Approval of Zoning Ordinance Text Revisions - Permitted Uses/Conditional Uses in Recreational Zoning for Beer Gardens

**MOTION: Stock / Bake**

*Motion to approve the ordinance as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes, 1 abstain (Sowle) - MOTION CARRIED**

- g. Approval of Certified Survey Map for Linda Norman located in the City of Oconto

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Sowle**

*Motion to approve the CSM as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Recommendation from Board of Public Works:**

- h. Approval of invoice from Wisconsin Department of Transportation in the amount of \$83,839.55 for Arbutus Ave reconstruction

**MOTION: Stock / Wittkopf**

*Motion to approve the invoice as presented.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Closed Session –**

Council voted at 7:35 p.m. to convene into Closed Session pursuant to notice duly given and as allowed by Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) for the consideration of employment and by Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(e) for competitive or bargaining reasons for the following items:

- i. Hiring of chosen candidate for Public Works Mechanic
- ii. Refuse & Recycling Services

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to convene into closed session at 7:35 pm.*

**Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Open Session –**

Council voted to reconvene into Open Session at 7:52 p.m. pursuant to notice duly given and as allowed by Wis. Stat. 19.85(2) for discussion/recommendation from Closed Session.

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Sowle**

*Motion to reconvene into open session at 7:52 pm.*

**Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Sowle**

*Motion to hire the chosen candidate for Public Works Mechanic.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION: Wittkopf / LeBreck**

*Motion to keep the refuse and recycling services in house.*

**Voice Recorded Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED**

**Adjournment –**

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Sowle**

*Motion to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Voice Vote: 6 ayes - MOTION CARRIED*