

**CITY OF OCONTO**  
**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
City Hall – Council Chambers  
1210 Main St, Oconto, WI 54153  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 - 6:00 PM**

Draft for Approval

**Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm by Mayor John Panetti**

**Roll Call –**

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

Also Present: City Administrator Brittney Burrueel also as recording secretary, and other interested parties

Excused: --

**Approval of Agenda –**

**MOTION: Sowle / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve the agenda as presented for the COW meeting on March 12, 2024.*

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

**Correspondence –**

- Alderperson Sowle thanked the Council on behalf of the Tourism Committee for increasing their 2024 budget from \$22,500 to \$33,500. He thanked Neroco Engineering for their \$10,000 donation for the Waterfest 2024 fireworks. He thanked the Harbor Commission for their promise to match this donation for Waterfest 2024.
- Mayor Panetti spoke on their visit to Neroco and thanked them for their \$10,000 sponsorship for the Waterfest 2024 fireworks. He read a letter from a Stockton, California man that included a 1910 postcard with a picture of the Oconto Superior Ave Bridge. The Mayor sent back a thank you, money for postage, and a City of Oconto commemorative coin.
- Alderperson Mehlberg asked about the status of the Resolution for increasing the number of Council members. Attorney Calvert stated it will be on the Council agenda for approval.

**Public Input –**

- Steve Brazeau, 301 First St, thanked those responsible for having the docks in at the City of Oconto Harbor.

**Discussion/Recommendation on –**

**a. Department Reports:**

- i. Police Report was handed out by Chief Kassie Dufek, who was excused from the meeting.
- ii. Fire Report - Chief Josh Bostedt was excused from the meeting.
- ii. Park & Recreation Report - Parks & Recreation Director John Bostedt was excused from the meeting. He will submit his report for the Council meeting.
- iii. Utility Report was handed out by Utility Manager Mathew Beekman. Administrator Burrueel read the report aloud for individuals present at the meeting.

- iv. Public Works Report was handed out by Superintendent of Public Works Jeremy Wusterbarth who was excused from the meeting. Administrator Burruel read the report aloud for individuals at the meeting.
- v. Administrator Report: City Administrator Brittney Burruel spoke about her meeting with S&P Global for the city rating. She will report when the results come back. Clifton Larson Allen is in the office this week conducting their annual audit.

**MOTION: Stock / Bake**

*Motion to approve the department reports as presented.*

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

- b. Approval of Application for Temporary Class “B” Retailer’s License from Machickanee Players for 12 Angry Jurors on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve the application as presented.*

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

- c. Approval of Application for Temporary Class “B” Retailer’s License from Knights of Columbus Council 6689 for WUMPA Truck Pull on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**MOTION: Stock / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve the application as presented.*

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

- d. Approval of Application for Temporary Class “B” Retailer’s License from Oconto Sportsmen’s Club for the Sportsmen’s Club Perch Derby on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**MOTION: Bake / Sowle**

*Motion to approve the application as presented.*

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

- e. Approval of Application for Temporary Class “B” Retailer’s License from First Presbyterian Church Oconto for the Community Craft Event on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**MOTION: Bake / Mehlberg**

*Motion to approve the application as presented.*

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

Recommendation from Finance Committee:

- f. Approval of Accounts Payable for the Month of February 2024 in the amount of \$1,461,277.25, Payroll for the Month of February 2024 in the amount of \$151,480.27, and Other Financial Reports

**MOTION: Sowle / Wittkopf**

*Motion to approve the A/P, payroll, & others as presented for February 2024.*

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

**Closed Session –**

Committee voted at 6:45 pm to convene into Closed Session pursuant to notice duly given and as allowed by Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) and by Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g) for the following items:

- i. Update on City Attorney

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Mehlberg**

*Motion to convene into closed session at 6:45 pm.*

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

Roll Call: Mayor Panetti, Attorney Calvert, City Administrator Burruel, Patsy Bake, Bob LeBreck, Butch Mehlberg, Riley Sowle, Steve Stock, and John Wittkopf

**Open Session –**

Committee voted to reconvene into Open Session at 6:55 pm pursuant to notice duly given and as allowed by Wis. Stat. 19.85(2) for discussion/recommendation from Closed Session.

**MOTION: Mehlberg / Wittkopf**

*Motion to reconvene into open session at 6:55 pm.*

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

**Adjournment –**

**MOTION: Wittkopf / Stock**

*Motion to adjourn at 6:56 pm.*

**Voice Vote: 6 ayes MOTION CARRIED**

Minutes submitted by City Administrator Brittney M. Burrue