

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
02/08/2021

The Committee of the Whole met in regular session in the council chambers of the Park Falls City Hall at 5:00 p.m. on February 8, 2021. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the following members were present:

Mayor:	Michael Bablick
Aldermen:	Chris Hoffman-absent Michael Mader Dennis Wartgow James Corbett-on phone Anthony Thier Dina Bukachek Dan Greenwood-excused David Dryer
City Administrator:	Brentt Michalek
Attorney:	Bryce Shoenborn

Also present: Michelle Smith, Jerry Ernst, Larry Reas, Deb Hyde and Don Balczewski

There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Dryer to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

Under communications, the Mayor let the council know that he has been working with two different interested parties for the St. Anthony School building for housing. Chief Reas let everyone know that they have two bids for the fire truck and will be hopefully bringing one forward at the next meeting.

There was no public comment.

Under Finance, there was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Dryer to approve the bills in the amount of \$199,165.49. Motion carried, 6-0. Don Balczewski discussed with the council that he would like the right of first refusal for city property located in the industrial park on Park Lane. Alderman Wartgow made a motion to recommend to the council that the Administrator and Attorney work with Mr. Balczewski to come up with an agreement for the right of first refusal as long as there will be a new building within two years. Motion carried, 6-0. Eagle Audit and Accounting presented a 3-year contract to the City of Park Falls which is for audit services for year ending 2020, 2021 and 2022 for \$19,000, 19,500 and 20,000 respectively. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to accept this contract. Motion carried, 6-0.

Under Board of Public Works, there was some discussion on signage for 5th Avenue North which would only allow for two-hour east side parking from 1st Street N to Hwy. 13 and no parking on the west side. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to recommend approving this signage to the council. Motion carried. City Administrator Michalek showed the council the updated city logo and brand. It was decided that a hexagonal shape was preferred over a badge-type shape and the wording should be on the top of the logo. It was discussed that the council preferred an eagle, grouse, and deer for the animals. Would also like to keep the kayaker in the logo as well. The tagline needs to be addressed so Mr. Michalek stated that the council members can send him their ideas for the tagline. The color outlay on page 11 in the lower left picture was one that was preferred by the council.

There was nothing to report under Public Services.

Under personnel, the Mayor recognized Gene Ellner for 21 years of service. Mr. Ellner retired on January 5, 2021. Mr. Ellner was not present so the plaque will be given to him at a later date. There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Thier to officially recognize Gene Ellner for his 21 years of service to the City. Motion carried. Administrator Michalek informed the council that he has been working on employee evaluations by presenting the evaluation form and will be hopefully starting that process in the next month.

Administrator Michalek informed the council that he is finishing the employee policy handbook and will be having it reviewed by the personnel committee in the next couple of months. The police union contract will be put on hold until the policy handbook is in place. There will be a meeting with the hospital in regard to the ambulance and ambulance garage on Wednesday, February 10. The Public Administration Associates will be working with the fire department starting on Tuesday, February 9 at 1 p.m. Chief Ernst handed out an update on all of the alcohol license establishments located within the City limits.

There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to convene into closed session at 6:21 p.m., pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e)-deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. (Regarding purchase or offers to purchase properties listed: 449 Division Street) Motion carried, 6-0. Michalek, Ernst and Smith stayed for closed session.

Motion to reconvene at 6:41 p.m. by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Wartgow. Motion carried, 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Michelle M. Smith
Treasurer and Clerk