

COMMON COUNCIL

11/11/2019

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session in the council chambers of the Park Falls city hall at 5:00 PM on Monday, November 11, 2019. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order and the following members were present:

Mayor: Michael Bablick

Aldermen: Chris Hoffman
Richard Scharp
Michael Mader
Dennis Wartgow
James Corbett
Anthony Thier --Excused
Dina Bukachek
Dan Greenwood

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn

Also present: Jerry Ernst, Pete Maynard, David Dryer, Bonnie Dryer, Deb Hyde, Brentt Michalek, Seth Carlson, Nancy Dehmlow, Paul Ross, Harley Sampson and Mike Boushon.

The minutes of the 10/14/19 Council meeting were presented. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. The minutes of the 10/16/2019 Council meeting were presented. Motion by Alderman Bukachek and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

In communications, Mayor Bablick commended the Chequamegon School District for a great Veteran's Day program. In addition, he informed the council that the police department will be culling 10 deer at the airport. The heads will be given to the DNR for testing and the meat will be donated to the Lord's Cupboard. He let the council know that he will be attending the chamber banquet which so happens to fall on his birthday on the 12th of November. Lastly, he has been elected to the Advisory Committee on Legislation. Alderman Wartgow mentioned that the BART bus will be discussing an option to drive from Park Falls to Minocqua at their November 20, 2019 meeting. City Administrator/Clerk Michalek informed the council he sent a letter to the Price County Health and Human Service Department regarding a fence that is not in compliance with our City ordinance. There is an individual living at this location that received funding for the specific height of the fence and once this person is no longer an occupant at this address, the fence needs to be brought into compliance. If not, penalties will be issued for each day of noncompliance.

In public comment, Chamber President Pete Maynard let the council know that the Park Falls House of Horrors had a record-breaking year and brought in 419 people. He also let everyone know that the Turkey Trot will be starting at St. Anthony's this year.

Under New Business, the council reviewed the Ordinance No. 19-004: Amendment to Section 2-3-7-A and 2-3-7-B which is splitting the Assessor and Building Inspector into two separate positions. Motion made by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Corbett to approve this ordinance. Motion carried. Ordinance No. 19-005: Amendment to Section 2-3-7-A: which is eliminating the position of safety director. Motion made by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve this ordinance. The next items were combined when presented: Ordinance No. 19-006: Amendment to Section 15-1-9: Regulation and Permit for Razing Buildings and Ordinance No. 19-007: Amendment to Section 15-1-9-A: Salvage and Non-structural Demolition. This would exempt residential properties. Attorney Schoenborn presented his data for these two

ordinances and answered any questions that were presented from the council. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Corbett to approve these ordinances. Motion carried. The last discussion item was to talk about the permit fees for the application of Ordinance No. 19-006 and No. 19-007. The minimum is \$40.00 plus \$.05/square feet with a maximum of \$500/building. Motion to approve this fee by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Hoffman. Motion carried, 7-0.

Alderman Wartgow presented the Personnel Committee report. Alderman Hoffman pointed out that the minutes need to reflect him being present at the meeting. There was a motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to approve the personnel minutes of October 29, 2019 with the addition of Alderman Hoffman being present for the meeting. City Administrator/Clerk Michalek informed the council that they will be discussing the LAW negotiations in regard to PFPD during closed session.

Alderman Bukachek presented the Finance Committee report. There was a motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to approve the finance minutes of October 14, 2019. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Scharp to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$439,816.61. Motion carried, 7-0.

For the Board of Public Works, a motion was made by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to send the following two items that were supposed to be discussed at council to the Board of Public Works: review and discuss pool job descriptions and recommend hiring of Frank Lasiowski as pool maintenance manager. Motion carried.

Under Public Services, a motion was made by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve the transfer of the liquor license for R-Store to GPM Southeast, LLC. Motion carried, 7-0. In addition, one of the hangars at the airport was sold and the council looked over the airport hangar agreement. Motion made by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to approve the airport hangar transfer subject to technical corrections. Motion carried.

Under the Mayor's report, Mayor Bablick recommended a motion to appoint Nancy Dehmlow as a part-time police-officer. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to accept this motion. Motion carried. Mayor Bablick informed the council that the highest bidder for the Flambeau River Papers, LLC was Niagara Worldwide for 2.2 million. At this point, there is no known direction as to what will be operating, if anything. Lastly, the Mayor recommended the following members to the Board of Appeals: Chairman Dennis Wartgow; Plan Commission Member Dave Dryer; Citizens Paul Ross, Victor Ambrose and Michele Rhode. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve these appointments. Motion carried.

City Administrator/Clerk Michalek let the council know that he is working with Steve Kubacki on the budget and we are still waiting on numbers from the state. For TIF 5, all paperwork was turned into the state and now is under review. He also informed the council that he is trying to work with the rink for an updated agreement but has not had any luck yet. Lastly, he let everyone know that he is currently planning a holiday party for either December 12th or December 19th at The Lanes.

City Attorney Schoenborn has been very busy but already reported on most of the things he has been working on (see above for ordinances).

Treasurer and Deputy Clerk Smith informed the council that she will start to send emails to the City-provided email addresses now and as of December 1, the council members that sit on the North side of the table can take out nomination papers. In addition, the seat that is currently held by Alderman Greenwood will be up for a one-year term.

Library Director Hyde mentioned that there is a food for fines campaign going on right now through November 22, with all the proceeds going to the food pantry. Every non-perishable item that a patron brings in will count for \$1.00 towards outstanding fines. December 7 will be the annual tree trimming party from 10:30-12:00 and she will be making contact with Santa to make sure he is able to make it.

Police Chief Ernst presented the monthly police department report. He reminded everyone that winter parking hours began on November 1 which is no parking from 2 am-6 am anywhere on a City street. The Police Administrative Assistant gave her resignation and her last day will be November 15, 2019. Until someone is hired, Chief Ernst will be working from 6 am-2 pm Monday through Friday.

At 6:07 p.m., the Mayor relinquished the meeting to Alderman Mader because he had to leave.

Under the Street and Water Superintendent, City Administrator/Clerk Michalek let everyone know that we are accepting applications for the mechanic position and the transfer station upgrade is now complete.

Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (Discussion and potential action on current labor negotiations between LAW and the City of Park Falls). Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to reconvene into open session to take action, if any. Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Alderman Bukachek and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to authorize the administrator to negotiate the contract that was presented with the exception of the 2nd and 3rd year of health insurance, subject to attorney review. Motion carried, 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Michelle M. Smith
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk