

COMMON COUNCIL 12/13/2021

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 13, 2021. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and the following members were present:

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

Also present: Jerry Ernst, Michelle Smith, Deb Hyde, Larry Reas, Dixie Weidman, Bill Hoffman and Tom LaVenture.

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

Alderman Mader made a motion and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve the minutes for the November 29, 2021 Common Council meeting. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

There was no communications to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance - Alderman Bukachek made a motion and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$492,861.82. Motion carried, 7-0. Resolution 21-017: Refinance water utility note Series 2015 was presented. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve this resolution. Motion carried, 7-0. Rates, fines and fees for refuse, recycling, cemetery and city citations and bonds were discussed. There was a staff recommendation to change the refuse/recycling rates to \$45/unit/quarter, effective January 1, 2022. In addition, the cremains fees would be half of the cost of the full burial. City citations and bonds were reviewed and the recommendation is to stay the same at this time. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Thier to accept these recommendations. Motion carried, 7-0.

Board of Public Works –There was nothing to report.

Public Services – There was discussion on the consideration in joining the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) PFAS contamination lawsuit. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Dryer to join this lawsuit. Motion carried.

Personnel – The mayor appointed the following individuals to the fire department: Louis David, Clayton Rodriguez and Matthew Koerner. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Mader to approve these appointments contingent upon successful background checks and drug tests. Motion carried.

CITY OFFICIALS' REPORTS

Mayor Bablick – Informed the council he is still waiting to hear the results on the YMCA grant application.

City Administrator Michalek – Discussed the city hall remodel and the MSA survey for the park.

Attorney report – Nothing to report

Clerk and Treasurer Smith – Presented the list of election workers for the 2022-2023 election years. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve this list. Motion carried.

Library Director Hyde – There were 71 people that helped with trimming the Christmas tree at the library.

DPW Director Hoffman – The gas meter has been relocated for the address on 3rd Avenue South.

Chief of Police Ernst – Presented his monthly report.

Fire Chief Reas- Some of the members of the fire department will be going to look at the new truck on the 17th of December for a final inspection.

At 6:05 PM there was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g)-conferring with legal counsel for the governing body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Regarding discussion of backup leachate agreement between the City of Park Falls and Park Falls Operator, LLC); and pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g)-conferring with legal counsel for the governing body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Discussion on issues regarding receivership of Park Falls Mill); and pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g)-conferring with legal counsel for the governing body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Issues regarding paper mill liquidation and land transfers) Motion carried, 7-0. Staff remaining included Administrator Michalek, Clerk and Treasurer Smith, Chief Ernst, and DPW Director Hoffman.

At 6:52 PM., there was a motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to reconvene into open session, for discussion and /or to take possible action on closed session items. Motion carried, 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM

Michelle M. Smith
Clerk and Treasurer