

## COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 05/09/2022

The Common Council of the City of Park Falls met in regular session at 5:00 PM on Monday, May 9, 2022. Mayor Michael Bablick called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and the following members were present:

Mayor: Michael Bablick

Aldermen: Chris Hoffman  
David Dryer  
Michael Mader  
Dennis Wartgow  
James Corbett  
Anthony Thier  
Dina Bukachek  
Dan Greenwood

City Attorney: Bryce Schoenborn

City Administrator: Brentt Michalek

Also present: Michelle Smith, Bill Hoffman, Kevin Damrow, Larry Reas, Jerry Ernst, Bob Anderson, Kurt Boettcher, Deb Hyde, Jon Beidler, Bill Gulish, Pam Gulish, Steven Scherwinski, Lily Scherwinski, Dwight Webb, Katie Riva, Debra Kronberger-Oswald, John Oswald, David Caputo, Teckla Kovarik, Richard Nickerson, Joe Gozdski, Jerry Smart, Bob Hawn, Bob Weber and one other citizen.

There was a motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to move items 8.B.5. to 7.C. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Mader to adopt the agenda with the correction noted above. Motion carried.

### COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor attended a league meeting in Beloit. Alderman Bukachek would like another sign directing individuals to Hines Park.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### NEW BUSINESS

There was a motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Dryer to not proceed with the citizen request to allow pygmy goats and ducks in the city limits of Park Falls. Motion carried. The council discussed 'no mow May'. Enforcement of lengthy grass will not take place until June. The Boettcher Road letter that was sent out to residents was discussed. Kurt Boettcher expressed approval for the subdivision but was concerned about the option of maintaining gravity. Robert Hawn wanted to know if this just was for Boettcher Road or if it would continue on River Road. Bill Gulish stated that he would like to put any infrastructure in now and not wait. There was a motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve a soil evaluation contract in the amount of \$9,160.00 from Howard Brothers. Motion carried, 8-0.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Finance** –Alderman Bukachek made a motion and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve paying the bills in the amount of \$415,171.60. Motion carried, 8-0.

**Board of Public Works** – The council heard a request for a chicken coop permit for 607 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South. Motion by Alderman Wartgow and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to allow this. Motion carried. There was a motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Greenwood to allow a curb cut at 825 Division Street. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Hoffman to approve the North

Star Environmental Testing for microbial assessment on the utility building. Motion carried, 7-0, with Alderman Dryer absent. Motion by Alderman Mader and seconded by Alderman Thier to approve Catkins Animal Rescue request for the use of the fire department building for their spay/neuter clinic on June 21. Motion carried. MRD Group appeared before the council to request a permit to demolish the pulp mill area. Quite a few questions arose and no action was taken at this meeting. There will be a walk through of the property on Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM to discuss any further concerns. At a very minimum, the council would like to have progress on the other demolition sites; a bond amount; and an onsite inventory of all chemicals. DPW Director Hoffman updated everyone that 750 water meter radio reads have been installed. In addition, DPW Director Hoffman let everyone know that spring yard waste cleanup will be beginning on May 16 and will last for two weeks.

**Public Services** – Alderman Wartgow made a motion and Alderman Thier seconded it to grant Third Shift, LLC a liquor license for the period from May 10, 2022 until June 30, 2022. Motion carried. Pool operation was talked about by Clerk and Treasurer Smith and City Administrator Michalek. The pool will be open this summer but will be limited on offering lessons due to staffing issues. Alderman Mader made a motion and seconded by Alderman Bukachek to let the staff bring back a fee schedule and let staff determine schedule for the pool. Motion carried.

**Personnel** – Alderman Mader made a motion and seconded by Alderman Wartgow to approve the following for summer help on the DPW crew: Ian Oswald, Robert Smith and Will Gustafson; and the following individuals for full time lifeguards: Olivia Ocker, Alison Smith, Kristina Peterson and Jacob Hilgart; and the following for part time lifeguards: Claudia Lasiowski, Gabriel Oswald, Aiden Miesbauer, Nathalie Schmidt, Maia Oswald, Maren Folstad, Lexi Schultz and Janessa Chapman. Motion carried.

**Administrator update to Committee of the Whole on general city operations** –Nothing to report.

At 6:54 PM, there was a motion by Alderman Greenwood and seconded by Alderman Thier to convene into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(g)-conferring with legal counsel for the governmental 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 an update on Paper Mill proceedings and update on agreement with current owner of the mill); and 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 in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Regarding City owned property and lease consideration with Marshfield Hospital); and 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 in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Regarding properties owned by WATCO Railroad); and 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 in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Regarding City owned property and potential housing development). Motion carried, 8-0. Staff remaining included Administrator Michalek, Clerk and Treasurer Smith, Chief Ernst, and DPW Director Hoffman. Dwight Webb was also present for one for one of the items.

At 7:46 PM., there was a motion by Alderman Hoffman and seconded by Alderman Mader to reconvene into open session, for discussion and /or to take possible action on closed session items. Motion carried, 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Michelle M. Smith  
Clerk and Treasurer