

Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of the City of Chetek held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. (following public hearing), held in council chambers, 220 Stout Street, Chetek, WI and through Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Mayor Jeff Martin.

Present: Jeff Martin, Mark Edwards, Scott Bachowski, Terry Hight, Earl Grover

Approve agenda - Motion by Hight, 2nd by Bachowski. Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Council minutes from July 2021, July claims; Hydroflites temporary class "b" fermented malt beverage license; Motion to approve by Bachowski, 2nd by Hight. Carried.

Tia McCarthy with CBS Squared gave an update on the wastewater treatment project. USDA Rural Development indicated that current project bids have been coming in higher than anticipated and advised that we should consider increasing our request for funds for our project. The increased costs are primarily due to increased material costs and delays in manufacturing. The total funding request will now be \$22,257,819. They are currently in phase 2 of the archeological investigation. The site is not a burial site. Findings will be investigated and cataloged to determine if they need to be listed in the registry or if they are common findings and part of the history that has already been documented. The existing house on the property will need to be removed due to the cost to modify the house to bring it into compliance and the structure would not be ideal for the purpose it would serve. It may be more advantageous to bid out for the removal of the structure in the spring.

Bachowski motioned to approve Joe Atwood's request for outside employment with the City of Barron for building permits/inspections at approximately 2 hours per day from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Joe stated that this will not interfere with his employment here. Barron is currently looking to fill the position and Joe will be helping out until they can fill the full-time building inspection/zoning position. 2nd by Grover. Carried.

Hight motioned to transfer the lease agreement for hangar #54 from Jim Torseth to Salmon Investments, LLC (Mike Miller). 2nd by Grover. Carried.

Alan Olynick addressed the council with his proposed plans to expand his business, Crescent Landscaping. He is looking to purchase additional land in the north industrial park for primarily yard space. He would like the council to consider a 3-year land contract at the current price of \$20,000 per acre. The property is currently zoned light industrial and is limited to 10% of the total acreage to outside storage. The Plan Commission will need to make their recommendation on the sale of the land and discuss the possibility of re-zoning the property.

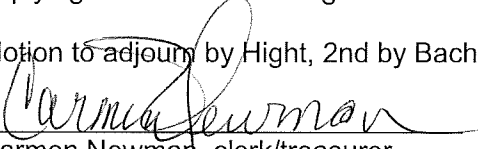
Council members discussed possible uses for the fiscal recovery funds. The total amount received this year was \$109,640.31 with another \$109,640.31 coming next July. The ambulance service has requested 5% of the municipality's recovery funds. Hight has concerns regarding the list of equipment and whether any purchases should be made at this time. He stated the list of equipment far exceeds the amount of the requested fiscal recovery funds and there are issues with the ambulance service revenue and operations. Hight suggested setting aside 5% of the recovery funds for the ambulance service to show that we are in support of the ambulance service. The money could then be distributed once the council felt comfortable with where the money would be spent. Council members discussed options for the remaining funds. Hight stated he would like to see the funds set aside and go towards the water tower project should that end up getting completed. If the water tower project doesn't proceed the money can be re-designated. Earl Grover agreed with that. Bachowski disagreed and felt that the water tower project should be paid for through borrowing as we just lost out on a grant partially due to the fact that the city has minimal debt. He would like to see the money spent on premium pay for essential workers during covid or park improvements. Grover suggested assistance to businesses such as grants or loans. The Mayor agreed with Bachowski in that there are many improvements needed in the city parks.

Motion by Bachowski, 2nd by Grover to approve Resolutions 2021-16, 2021-17, 2021-18, and 2021-19 with resolution 2021-18 designating the fiscal recovery funds into a capital outlay account and 5% of the funds going into a separate capital outlay account for the ambulance service.
2nd by Grover. Carried.

Council members discussed the proposed housing development. The city was not awarded the grant for the water tower project which would have been \$1,000,000 towards the estimated \$2.3 million cost. Grover would like to meet with Northpointe Development again to get some more information as to what they would require from the city. Mayor Martin stated that it's still on us to get back to Swiderski. Bachowski said it comes down to whether we're going to do the water tower or not. He is in favor of proceeding with the new water tower. Grover said he was also in favor of the water tower but would like to see if there will be any additional funding available with the new infrastructure bill being passed. Edwards stated that he feels we should replace the water tower now since there are existing issues and large maintenance costs are coming soon.

Grover will contact S.C. Swiderski to see if they have been working on a new layout for the development and notify them that the cost of the water tower at this point will have to be absorbed through the TID and water utility. He will also contact Northpointe Development to see if Sean can meet with council members to get more information as to what they would require as far as water pressure at that site, other infrastructure costs, and get more information regarding the process for applying for WHEDA funding.

Motion to adjourn by Hight, 2nd by Bachowski. Carried.


Carmen Newman, clerk/treasurer