

**Minutes of the City of Chetek Common Council Meeting held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 in the council room, 220 Stout Street, Chetek, WI. Also posted live on the City Facebook page**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Martin at 6:00 p.m.

Members in attendance: Mayor Martin, Scott Bachowski, Earl Grover, Terry Hight, Thea Hempel

Bachowski motioned to approve agenda- 2nd by Grover. Carried.

Public comments - John Henneman, David Horton, Alicia Jenneman, and Kelly Gillett spoke against the rezoning of the property at 1415 8th/814 Dallas petitioned by Mark Bush, agent for Dollar General.

Grover motioned to approve the consent agenda items: city claims and minutes from July; accept and place on file committee minutes: Library board minutes-March through June, Plan commission-July; Housing Authority-May, Street committee-July. Accept resignation from Carmen Newman effective December 31, 2023. 2nd by Hempel. carried.

Parks committee members, Donna Bachowski, Mark Etten, and Jim Metcalf advised the council of their proposed change of plans to locate the pickleball courts to the current wastewater treatment plant area versus at Gotham Park. The estimated cost from Rettler Corporation was \$800,000 after scaling down from \$1.3 million. The committee feels that moving the location will cost less and be a better area for the courts. The parks committee will pursue plans for the revised location and bring the plans back to council.

Ordinance 790A- reestablishing the airport committee. The committee will serve as an advisory committee to the council. The ordinance language shall be revised to include changing the board to consist of 7 members versus 5, and under section 2-401 (1) shall read: organize, make recommendations in the management and operation of an airport for the city. Motion to approve - Bachowski/Hight. Carried.

Mayor Martin announced the appointment of Mike Kutrieb, Judd Koenitzer, Steve Lind, Dr. Howard Thalacker, Shawn Ayers, Tim Esselman, and Scott Bachowski to the airport committee. Motion to approve - Hight/Grover. Carried.

Hempel updated the council on the discussions between the street committee and residents regarding the private street maintenance for Sumner Court and Pinegrove Court. The committee determined that garbage service will remain the same for these streets. The issue is with the snow removal - particularly Sumner Court as there are complicated property lines. Most of the "road" is privately owned. The committee is recommending that the city pursue having the property deeded from the property owners to the City (creating alleys) or liability waivers will be needed to continue snow removal. Council members agree that it would be less expensive to have some type of legal agreement between the city and the property owners. Legal counsel will be sought to assist with agreements.

Mark Dobberful approached the council regarding the Barron County Historical Society's proposal to construct a new building to house the Pioneer Village Museum. The museum serves the surrounding communities with school activities, special events, and is visited by many tourists. They are requesting that the city consider an annual donation of approximately \$5,000. Hight explained that the city previously denied donating to the Chetek Historical Society for the Chetek museum due to budget constraints. Council can consider whether or not to donate when the budget process begins for 2024.

The Chetek Hydroflites requested to close the boat landing for the Water Mania event to be held on August 12th and 13th and for the tournament to be held on September 9th. Hight motioned to approve, 2nd by Bachowski. Carried.

The rezoning petition for 1415 8th Street/814 Dallas Street property was discussed. Hight advised he had many calls regarding the petition. He stated that buyers need to be aware of the zoning of their property and surrounding area before they purchase their home. The current zoning would allow a McDonalds or other similar business without having to be rezoned. Hempel stated that the C2 and C1 zoning allows for discernment for those types of businesses. Character is of concern to her constituents.

Grover felt traffic was a concern with 6 businesses located on the street now and kids crossing the road in that area. Hempel motioned to follow the recommendation of the plan commission to not approve the rezoning - 2nd by Bachowski. In favor of concurring with the plan commission: Hempel-yes, Bachowski-yes, Hight-yes, Grover-yes. Rezoning is denied.

Tia McCarthy, CBS Squared, went over the funding for the overrun for the wastewater treatment plant project. Council discussed 3 options: (A) includes change orders #1 and #2 and the 5% contingency in the amount of \$4,824,000, option (B) which would use change order #2 contingency and reduce the overage by \$236,645, or option (C) which would include outstanding change order requests in the amount of \$5,057,000. Motion by Hempel to go with option (A) in the amount of \$4,824,000. 2nd by Grover. Carried.

Resolution 2023-13 - declaring official intent to reimburse expenditures from proceeds of borrowing from the DNR Safe Drinking Loan Program. Thea McCarthy suggested the council include an amount over and above the overage amount approved so we are covered in case the amount of overruns exceeds our contingency amount. Hight motioned to approve the resolution with an amount of \$5,500,000. 2nd by Bachowski. Carried.

Water tower bids were reviewed by Jana Nyhagen, SEH engineering. Jana advised that four bids were received which ranged from \$1,686,100 to \$2,631,096. The low bid was submitted by Maquire Iron, Inc. Sioux Falls, SD. It is the opinion of SEH that Maquire Iron, Inc. has the required equipment and expertise to perform the work as outlined in the contract specifications. SEH recommends award of the project to Maquire Iron, Inc. Bachowski motioned to award the bid to Maquire Iron, Inc. for the 250,000 gallon water tower project. 2nd by Grover. Carried.

The land lease for Chetek Hydroflites expires in October, 2023. Hight motioned to approve the renewal of the lease for another five (5) years. 2nd by Grover. Carried.

Resolution 2023-12 - appropriating donations for the pickleball courts. Motion to approve - Bachowski/Hempel. Carried.

Council discussed Lake Country Marina's request to acquire a Class "A" fermented malt beverage license. The quota is currently 4 with no license available. Hight motioned to increase the quota to 5. 2nd by Grover. Roll call vote: Hempel-no, Bachowski-no, Hight-yes, Grover-yes. Mayor Martin broke the tie voting yes. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn Grover/Hight. Carried.

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Carmen Newman, clerk/treasurer