

Minutes of the City of Chetek Common Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 9, 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

Public comments:

Bachowski made a motion to approve the agenda. 2nd by Hight. Carried.

Hight motioned to approve the consent agenda items - city claims and minutes from November meeting of the Whole, December Council Min; accept and place on file committee minutes:EDC-December Personnel-December 2nd by Hempel. Carried.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Change Order #5 This is a one time order for winter time. Also adding a 3 hr fire rating to doors located in the fire barrier wall of the headworks building. The fire rated doors are for between the buildings. There is no upcharge for this now. As for the geo grid stabilization that was done in the springtime. This is for the road area going to the WWTP. Currently about 60% completed at this time. Hight made a motion to approve change order#5 Bachowski 2nd motion carried.

Lighting Retrofit Proposal no action has been taken

Resolution 2024-1 appropriate revenues Bachowski motioned to approve resolution 2024-1 2nd by Grover carried.

Resolution 2024-2 Authorization to carry over unused funds. Hight made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-2 Bachowski 2nd motion. carried

Request for outside employment for Brandy Johnson Bachowski made a motion to approve outside employment for Brandy Johnson. Grover 2nd carried

Holiday Schedule Change Laura gave an update in regards to what personnel had discussed at their meeting and after a lengthy discussion it was decided to bring back to council that they give all of new years eve and christmas eve days off and make Veterans day a floating holiday for all City employees. Scott said that he would recommend that they go with those holidays. After some further discussion between council and Laura in regards to spring holiday Bachowski made a motion to approve the new holiday schedule to include Christmas Eve Day, New Years Eve Day and keeping the Spring Holiday and not approving Veterans Day as a floating holiday. Grover 2nd motion carried.

Public Student Loan Forgiveness Laura spoke on this. There was discussion if this even needed to be brought to council and the Mayor said he wanted it on the agenda. After discussing whether to send a memo out to city employees and to add it in the handbook Bachowski made a motion to approve public student loan forgiveness and be able to advertise it with the words you may be eligible for this. 2nd by Grover Hempel no, carried.

Parks outlay account referendum question (wording of and Election Date of) Discussion/Action Alderman Hight wanted this on the agenda and spoke on this issue. There was some money that was put in the park's outlay account 75,000.00. There was a vote taken at that meeting with the mayor using his authority as there was a tie vote. Hight said that there was discussion with this referendum question and the one for public safety and there was talk that it would soil the other referendum question and confuse the people. Hight proposed that they act on the referendum question at this meeting and put this question on the Nov 5th ballot. There was discussion that some council members were collecting signatures for the April ballot and this question was brought up. All council members agree that they

would like to hear from the taxpayers but not right at this time. As they would like to see how this group goes about their fundraising as they are a very talented group of people. Hight made a motion to approve the referendum question for Nov 5th on that ballot with the lower of the 2 examples the City of Chetek has allotted \$9000.00 taxpayer funds to the Gotham Park Pickleball Sports Complex. Do you support the spending of additional taxpayer funds for this Project? Grover 2nd motion Mayor asked for a roll call vote Bachowski- no Grover- yes Hight- yes Hempel- no mayor casted no vote motion failed.

Resolution approving a referendum for allowing the City of Chetek to exceed the State Imposed Property Tax Limit. There was discussion in regards as to what the money would be used for which would be to hire an additional police officer, one public works person and to maintain the most recent full time police force that we have. There was discussion with the development that there would be additional garbage extra patrolling in that area of town. They did ask Dan as to what he saw out at the new WWTP unfortunately it is unknown as to what will be needed out there. Hempel did mention that she did not want to do 2 referendum. There have also been things that need to be addressed by our law enforcement. Dan did mention that public works is already currently understaffed. After further discussion everyone thought it was in the best interest to go with 350,000.00 but it was not taken lightly. There has been thought put into it and all money would not be spent frivolously. Bachowski made a motion to approve resolution 2024-3 Resolution Approving a Referendum for allowing the City of Chetek to Exceed the State-Imposed Property tax Limit by 350,000 for each fiscal year going forward. Hight 2nd motion Carried

Hempel made a motion to go into closed session. Grover 2nd motion carried.

Grover Made a motion to go back into open session Hempel 2nd motion carried.

Hempel made a motion to approve the 50 cent increase to all Full time Chetek PD employees. Hight 2nd carried

Hight motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Bachowski. Carried.

Mark Eby, City Clerk