

Minutes of the City of Chetek Common Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 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: Lois Klay, president of Chetek Chamber of Commerce. She wanted to thank the council for supporting the chamber. The chamber is asking that we reallocate the money from the sound system to the building. Jennifer Blatz event coordinator for the Chetek chamber has addressed a letter to the district attorney about the drug issues and if the Chetek council would be part of signing on to that letter. Joel Brown, president of Chetek ATV Cruisers. The club would like to see the curfew opened up completely so there is no time restraint. Also if there is a curfew they would like signs outside of town so they really know what time the city has for the hours. Dustin Johnson talking about ATV/UTV ordinance alot of his concerns are individual freedoms. He did talk to some police chiefs around the area that were about the same size as our city or bigger. He picked up Rice Lake and Hayward. He spoke very brief with Chief Roux if there were any major issues between sun up to sun down. Hayward police chief the amount of traffic that they get in Hayward when are the main issues hayward police chief said that they have virtually non existent. Need to address adults can make decisions for themselves. One thing he wanted to mention in the snowmobile ordinance was the time for snowmobiles and what it had for hours..

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

Council minutes and city claims: May Council, June Meeting of the Whole
Department/Board reports as submitted - Plan Commission-May; Ambulance commission-March; Fire District-May; Airport Committee-May

Resignations and/or appointments from boards/committees: Thea Hempel to Planning Commission, Scott Bachowski resignation from Planning Commission

General license/permits: Fostbites road closure and premise description change for July 5th Street Dance & September 7th Pontoon Giveaway; Vintage Voyagers - temporary class "B" license July 6th

Bachowski said that there was a word change in the May 14 council minutes under old business line 5 from the bottom should read his questions not her. This will be changed in those minutes.

Hempel motion to approve the consent agenda. Grover 2nd. Carried

Old Business:

4 Wheeler/UTV Curfew Ordinance- Decision to open trails was the chief's doing, not the council. There were alot of residents that were going up and down the residential streets. As far as comparisons he was thankful that people did do some research. We have had some issues, not a lot according to the chief. Chief is pushing to keep the curfew but is willing to be flexible. If you have any questions in regards to questions or concerns please go talk to the chief. His office is always open. Chief is all for tourism. He did bring up 2nd st which is officially county SS. He had to get the ok from the state in regards to that road. Chief would like to see some signs posted and he believes that it would help. Hight wanted the chief's take in regards to the snowmobile ordinance that they go straight home. Chief said what is straight home? Grover asked what the actual legal age is that can operate the machines. We follow all state adopted rules in the city ordinance. You have to be a licensed driver in order to operate on the City streets. Officer Tony Weigand was present from the Barron County Sheriff's Dept Recreation officer side of Barron County. He said that the ordinance is only effective. They can not do anything in the city limits in regards to ATV or UTV issues. Bachowski asked what the county has seen as night time problems. Have not seen reckless driving, noise can be an issue 1 out of every 20 or 30 machines would have an aftermarket exhaust. The County has no more issues than normal. Hempel asked if you are not required to have turn signals? correct, insurance is also not required. Hempel had some support for the 12 to 5 am curfew in her ward. Hempel, Hight, Grover, are all in agreement of the 12 to 5 curfew. Bachowski will always back the chief and his decision he would like to hear feedback from ward 1. Bachowski wanted the chief to give direct consideration from point A to point B. The Mayor wanted to know how to handle the ordinance. This will be put on the July agenda with the change of curfew to be 12am to 5am. Then if council passes the amended ordinance it would then have to be published in the paper prior to it taking effect.

Police Dept Roofing Bid- Joe was asked in regards to the 2 bids. Both samples are 60 mil. Joe did learn that the fasteners of the PVC roof are mechanically fastened every 12 inches. The seams are welded. The mechanical fasteners go all the way to the insulation. Joe did sit down with both Jake from J & A and Mr Torauski from Northwest Builders. There is a 20 year warranty on both of them. Bachowski asked what was currently on there. It was a product that was started about 20 years ago or so. It is kind of like a fiber. 1998 was when Paul's Sheet Metal installed the PVC roof. Both roof systems have been tried and true. Hempel asked Torauski why there is such a discrepancy in cost? He has people that he pays and some that have been with him for some time so he needs to pay them. Hempel asked if his bid was more labor driven. Mr. Torauski said it was labor driven. Grover saw that there was some removal. Hight asked when he started his business. Been in business for 60 some years and over those years have done Barron Electric the courthouse and the jail. They have done Oakwood mall 30 some years ago. Chief had a question last year: the ac was replaced and the old one is still on the roof. Would they remove that and yes it would be removed. Grover makes a motion to accept Northwest Roofing Bid in the amount of \$38,469.00 Hight 2nd Bachowski did some research on his own and what it has concluded PVC membrane is superior compared to the rubber roofing. Current roof is a PVC membrane and has been there for 26 years. It is usually at a higher cost but it is less expensive. Hempel did her research and the rubber is a better product with lack of detail and oversight. She would like to go with a proven organization. Mayor asked for a roll call vote. Hempel- yes Hight- yes Grover- yes Bachowski- no. Motion carried

Water Tower Logo/Painting Discussion- Dan said that we need to get a move on as they would like a decision from October. Grover believed last month if they could go back to the school and get some feedback Grover did get some feedback from some of the people in the community. It was suggested that the school colors are orange black and purple and have the City of Chetek on black area in white. Dan said that dark colors are not favorable as it can warm the water. Hempel asked about the cost of a logo. There is a line item for a logo. Hempel is open to simple and easily maintained. Hight said that he would like to have some input from the school. Bachowski would like another meeting for public input. Grover agrees with Bachowski. Hempel would be open to a public input meeting. Hight said that logos can kind of diminish the look. Hight says it should say Chetek. Water tower will be about 25 feet higher. Public listening session is scheduled for June 18th at 5pm for public input on the water tower.

ARPA Funds- Bachowski did message Toby and said that he is working on some type of sound system for downtown. Chamber was not aware of anything on the sound system. Chamber will consider pursuing the sound system. The chambers main concern now is to get a building for their supplies. Lois believes that the community would get behind it and it would be a fundraising effort. Hight makes a motion to reallocate the ARPA funds from the downtown sound system to the chamber garage. Funds to be obligated once any payment towards the garage built has begun. Grover 2nd. carried.

SummerHours- City Hall- City Clerk had a spreadsheet with over 30 different municipalities and what their regular hours are and if they have summer hours. The city hall recommendations would be to keep the year 2024 Mon-Thursday 7:30am-4pm and Fridays 7:30am-11am through Labor Day. Year 2025 The City Hall office proposes May 1- Labor Day Monday- Thursday 7:30-4pm Friday 7:30-noon. Hempel did like the work and the time that was put into it. Hempel would like it to be reviewed annually. Grover said that we do have a drop box and other ways to get a hold of the City Hall. Hempel made a motion to go with the proposed hours to remain the same this year and to go into effect the proposed hours in 2025. Bachowski 2nd. Carried.

New Business:

Liquor Licenses- Nothing has changed from last year except giving the Hydroflites a yearly license instead of just a 6 month license. Bachowski made a motion to accept all liquor licenses from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. 2nd Hight. Carried.

Purchase of UTV by Police Dept- Chief reached out to Airtec sports in regards to purchasing a UTV for the police Dept from the money that was left over from donations. He had them quote a 2024 northstar edition very similar to the one Rice Lake has. The cost is \$31,744.92. There would be no taxpayer funds used and would not interfere with his or the city's budget as this would all be from donation money. He feels what we would use it for would be used some but not alot. Would like to do some patrol with it.

Would do some training with the county so all officers are certified. Hight asked about the money as how much they have. Hight asked about signal in regards to their radios and they would work with the new signal. Hempel asked how they borrowed is just for festivities from the county. Benefits is for getting out there. Graphics would be done by Jessica Janota. Chief believes that he has lights and things for it. Bachowski said that he would still like to see the rifles bought and possible the UTV equipt with it. Grover asked if there is a place in the garage and yes there is a place to store it. Hight asked about responding for traffic violations and would only be used when there is a 2nd officer on duty. Mayor question asking about maintenance and insurance cost we have a blanket policy so it would fall under that. Could use the county shop or possibly a local business. Hempel makes a motion to purchase the UTV from the police dept with the equipment donations. Grover 2nd. Carried

Cutting of Airport Trees- There are 4 trees at the airport that need to be taken down. Dan said that some of the trees the guys from Public Works could possibly take down. There are 2 trees on the left and 2 trees on the right. The trees on the left have been dropping branches and could be an issue if one falls on someone or a vehicle. Bachowski makes a motion to allow Dan to take the 4 trees down by the airport. Grover 2nd. Carried

2024-13 CMAR Report- The mayor asked what is TSS. It stands for total suspended solids. The Mayor asked about the one B rating we got and it was because something went down and it was hard to get back up. The limit was 30 and we were at 39 so it was not that bad. Hight made a motion to accept the 2024-13 CMAR report. Grover 2nd. Carried

Update Beer quota- Travis Turner from Black Bear LLC spoke that he would like to take their current office which is on Knapp St. currently but with the building of his new building by the WWTP he will be moving his office to that location. Travis and Breanna would like to take their current office and make it a wine lounge. It would only be open till like 10pm. There would be no gaming machines, no juke box, just a very nice relaxed atmosphere where people can go and enjoy a nice glass of wine or beer. The wine area would be a self serve area where there is a set amount of wine that gets dispersed into the glass. Bachowski loves the Idea. Hempel said that Travis did present it to the EDC and it was very well received. Hempel believes the line will be out the door. Grover said that he likes the idea of some small finger foods.

Ad from EDC for Swiderski Survey- Hempel said that Swiderski is inching forward; they are looking at doing a housing survey as a feasibility study. They would like to do it for 2 consecutive weeks. Bachowski makes a motion to approve an ad from EDC to put in the paper to help with the housing survey. Grover 2nd. Carried.

Legion Monument- Grover would like to clarify it is a CVAM but it is a Civil War monument or monument repair. It is separate from the Veterans Memorial. The veterans are kind of spearheading this monument because there is no one else to help take the lead in the repair of it. They would like to go with Northern Granite. Bachowski asked how much the veterans memorial put towards the monument. The response was none at this time. Veterans didn't want to do it but they have decided to take it so it can be repaired. Grover agrees with Bachowski in regards to the monument. Hight agrees with Bachowski that an eye needs to be placed on the older monuments and to have them repaired instead of just buying new ones.

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

Mark Eby, City Clerk