

Minutes of the City of Chetek Common Council Meeting held on Tuesday, October 8, 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: Earl Grover wanted to thank the community for the restoration of the monument that was built in 1861. The money has almost been fully raised for the completion of the monument. This monument is located at the entrance of the cemetery. Earl also hopes that it lasts for another hundred and 60 years. Scott Bachowski wanted to personally get up and applaud the group for the sports complex and the efforts that they have put in. He was at the picnic. He was very pleased with the community support that has been put into this community and the youth. Scott was a bit discouraged with the profanity laced people that had come to them. He also wanted to say that he would continue to support this group.

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

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

Council minutes and city claims: September Council

Department/Board reports as submitted - Planning Commission-September, Chetek Ambulance-September, Library-September

Resignations and/or appointments from boards/committees:

General license/permits: Chetek Chamber Temp Class "B" Beer and "Class B" Wine

Old Business:

New Business:

2023 Audit Presentation: April did say that there are 3 pages in their packet and that is what she would like to look at. April from CLA did say that the City did get an unmodified audit opinion which is the highest that you can receive which also means a clean opinion & that we follow the government accounting standards. April did go over the material weaknesses that the city has had for some time and that it is hard to do things with the size and the makeup of the city staff. She did say that the government is responsible for the financial statement and the audit report but looked to CLA to help put together the numbers and the report. There are no new findings on their end. The mayor did say as long as he has been mayor that the material weakness has been a thing because we are a smaller staff and so with that small staff we have to delegate multiple duties to the same small group of people that we have. April then went over the general fund balance. We are still good at our unassigned balance with positive results there. April did also say that interest was very good for us in 2023. She did also talk about the fund balance. She then went on to the debt service fund. It has been relatively consistent over the past several years. Nothing concerning any capital project funds at this time. April then went to the balance sheet for water utility and sewer utility. The numbers that she gave makes up from different areas and some of those numbers come from our grants and loans. Going back to long term obligation debt. There are some bigger numbers there because of some of the capital projects and bigger projects that the city is working on. Everyone has a general obligation debt amount and we are sitting still at a pretty decent debt amount and most are at 40% and the city is below that. The city's debt limit is currently at 37%.

Library Board addresses council openness in regards to mural by CPAL on S. Side of Library: Patsy from the CPAL said that she has not yet gotten anything in regards to an application. The mayor would like to hold off on this till there may be some more action/application submitted. The back side is a nice surface.

The CPAL would like an application. Terry said his one concern is a big tree in the way. Council would be ok if it goes to that stage.

Council Discussion/Action with CPAL on use of Public Fence at Parking Lot: 6x6 canvas that the CPLA would supply from the grant that they hope to get. There are some different things that people could do or come up with for their artwork. The possible grant would come from the Wisconsin Humanities and they would like to see it as a diverse area that visitors might tend to overlook. CPAL is here to get the ok to use the fence at the public parking lot. The mayor did ask Dan if there would be any problems. Dan said that it would not be a problem for him. Patsy also said that should something happen to one of the slats in the fence that the CPAL would pay for the repair of any issues that would happen to the fence if it was done from the CPAL. Hempel said that something that would honor our indigenous tribes would possibly help with the grant and would also go back to the Chetek heritage. Hempel made a motion for the public arts league to use the public fence at the public parking lot if they were to receive their humanities grant. 2nd Grover. Carried.

Resolution 2024-17 Appropriation of Funds Gotham Sports Complex: Laura said that this would be for the 3rd quarter. She is also asking to have the funds put in the sports complex account without having to come to council each time. Bachowski makes a motion to approve resolution 2024-17. Grover 2nd. Carried

Resolution 2024-18 Appropriation of Funds 3rd quarter: Laura said that this is the 3rd quarter funds \$2,800.00 for National Night Out, \$13,775.54 for Law Enforcement Equipment, \$1,000.00 for Police Training/Workshops, and \$1,000.00 for Clerk's office General Expense. Bachowski makes a motion to approve Resolution 2024-18. Grover 2nd. Carried.

WWTP Change Order #7: Tia from CBS Squared was in attendance to go over change order number #7 for the WWTP. Tia broke it into 2 slides for the change order. Tia did ask if the council had any questions that they wanted to make sure that she went into. Tia went over the changes which included the gas line, and the sanitary reroute. The new WWTP will be able to also do wholesale water sales and have a meter out there instead of just using the honor system. Hempel did ask about the change order and the change in regards to the generator. Tia did also take out the 2nd planting of the reed beds out of the amount we have. This was a change of a little \$171,000.00 which still leaves the city with about \$293,602.00 remaining. Force main still needs to be installed and a couple other things. The old plant will be decommissioned next spring. Hempel did ask in regards to the time frame and when we could possibly be fined by the DNR. If we continue with the progress we should not be fined as we are still working on the project. Hight made a motion to approve change order #7. Hempel 2nd. Carried.

Water Tower Extension 45 days: This is what we talked about last month if we were to get the reduction on the design for the water tower. Dan & Hempel said that Swiderski has no issue with the 45 day extension. Hempel made a motion to approve the water tower extension by 45 days. Bachowski 2nd. Carried.

Closed Session: Bachowski made a motion to go into closed session. 2nd Hight. Roll call vote Bachowski-yes, Grover-yes, Hight-yes, Hempel-yes. Carried

Grover made a motion to go out of closed session. Hight 2nd. Roll call vote Bachowski-yes, Grover-yes, Hight-yes, Hempel-yes. Carried.

Bachowski makes a motion to approve employee health care per diem Insurance policy that was discussed in closed session. 2nd Hight. Mayor asked for a roll call vote. Bachowski-yes Grover-Yes Hight-yes Hempel-said that she was not going to vote.

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