

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Mar 2, 21 5:00 PM, or

immediately following Special Assessment Public Hearing City Hall

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Mayor Cuskey called mtg to order at 5:10 pm
- 2) ROLL CALL; 8 Council Members present, others in attendance
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
Given attendance by Zoom, Mayor suspended with pledge.
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;
None.
- 5) Mayor's Comments;
Weather has changed & it is nice. Talking with Chief there are still parking issues which creates problems with snow removal. Remember to shovel sidewalks & keep walkways clear. On a sad note, we have lost a few community members & our thoughts & prayers are with their families. Dave Masterjohn - longtime resident & current president of Spooner Develop Corp. Andy Lawton - city's court judge for many years, & Gary Campbell, Town of Trego chair for many years & had business in town. Would like to take this time to acknowledge their community contributions & express our sympathy to their families.
- 6) Approval of Agenda;
Motion (Parker/Gagnon) to approve agenda. PASSED.
- 7) **CONSENT AGENDA:**
****All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered routine & will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event item will be removed from General Order of Business & considered at this point to agenda.**
 - a) *Accept Minutes from 2/2/21 Council Mtg & 2/9/21 Special Council Mtg;
 - b) *Finance Committee recommendation approve monthly payables cks: 45583-45699, 20210203, 20210209, 21012701-21012706, 21020901-21020904, 202101201-202101203;
 - c) *Municipal Operations Committee recommendation approve line painting contract Fahrner Asphalt Sealers \$11,798;
 - d) *Municipal Operations Committee recommendation approve 5 yr Fire Siren Maintenance Contract Emergency Communication Systems \$1,580 per yr;
 - e) *Railroad Park Board recommendation approve park permit for Jacene Silvis on 5/29/21;**Motion (Reiter/Gagnon) to approve items a-e on consent agenda. PASSED.**
- 8) **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**
 - a) Spruce St. Special Assessment Public Hearing Results;
Concerns for sidewalk placement. Engineering standpoint, existing sidewalk could be a driving force for placement of sidewalk. Marx one possibility, for northside, is place sidewalk adjacent to curb. Planning to do that on west block. May give Mr. Ausing some relief. Still will have vehicles parked on sidewalk. If we move sidewalk to southside, we would need to give proper notice to property owners on that side of street to explain their assessments would change. Duplex or fourplex west of Sam Hicks & their parking would all be on sidewalk too. Because of way street is used, it is difficult to build a sidewalk that won't be part of a driveway. There is no clear solution. Reason we put it on north is because there was more sidewalk on that side to work with. Donovan asked question if we do sidewalk adjacent to curb, how many trees do we lose? Marx - we would remove all trees in blvd. There are two that have to be removed because they are on water & sewer laterals. Cuskey spoke of our policy with replacing trees in blvds, as we do projects, with trees that don't raise havoc with sidewalks & curbs. Dunn-what is advantage of moving sidewalk to curb? Marx-in Mr. Ausing's case, slab comes out to edge of sidewalk would be & going to be difficult to get a sidewalk in there at proper elevation. Michelle Ortmann sponsored Mr. Ausing to speak. Ausing-sidewalk as proposed 4' from edge of his building, then it would be sidewalk, then curb. By having sidewalk adjacent to curb, it would give him some room. There is logic either way for sidewalk placement. Question to Council-who would be responsible for snow removal if it is adjacent to curb? Will still have to drive over curb, because it accesses his bldg. If you put it on northside, it becomes an issue with snow removal, there are four trees on northside that would have to be removed, no trees in blvd on southside. He could retain his parking at his business on northside. Opening boutique in May timeline & may have to change his plans. Final question, what is reason that project couldn't be pushed back a year to be done at same time as Hwy 63 project. By doing project in this manner, it creates a two year cycle for street improvements & street closure instead of one year. Marx-trying to do project this year to prepare for 2022. There are issues with water service & mains on Spruce St from Summit toward River & they have deteriorated. Could be put off, but it will be a tough year to do construction in 2022. Interruption for street use will be at least four weeks & two or three weeks where it will be difficult to have vehicles on it. Six weeks total that there will be issues being on street. City has been doing clean-up of sidewalks that are adjacent to curb. Not great practice for City. Another possibility is not to have a sidewalk on street. Dunn-not a good idea, need sidewalks in City. Either way there will be cars parked over sidewalk. DOT will be replacing sidewalk for Sam Hicks & Pierce property. City project will end west of DOT project. Gagnon asked if there could be a potential cost increase if we wait to do project in 2022. Marx believed only increase would be a cost of living, not a significant difference. Troy Defrates-wished to speak-Carol Dunn sponsor - corner of Spruce & Summit, his concern with moving sidewalk would be snow plowing & pushing

snow on sidewalk & no one would keep it clean. Snow removal is put on southside currently. Marx believes resolution for assessments should be approved if we want to move forward with project & send sidewalk discussion back to committee. Resolution would approve assessments, but not final design which we could reconsider.

- b) Resolution 21-03, 3/2/21 FINAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT & LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AGAINST BENEFITTED PROPERTY IN SPOONER, WISCONSIN;
Motion (Dunn/Reiter) approve Resolution 21-03, 3/2/21 FINAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT & LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AGAINST BENEFITTED PROPERTY IN SPOONER, WISCONSIN. PASSED.
- c) Plan Commission Recommendation to approve Certified Survey Map for Mosaic Technologies; They have an existing tower, but land is owned by Barron Electric. This is north of our substation. They are working on a grant for modernization of fiber network in city. To do project they need to own land, they are buying land from Barron Electric. Map meets all zoning requirements. **Motion (Gabriel/Parker) to approve CSM for Mosaic Technologies. PASSED.**
- d) Personnel Committee Recommendation to increase Bldg Inspection contract \$5/hr; Gabriel personnel recommending to increase Jason's hourly rate by \$5. Does a great job. **Motion (Gabriel/Reiter) to raise bldg inspector hourly rate by \$5 per hr. PASSED.**
- e) Finance Committee Recommendation to Purchase 422 N. Front St Former Postal Facility \$75,000, funds to come from fund balance;
Motion (Dunn/Parker) to approve purchase 422 N Front St, Former Postal Facility, \$75,000. Roll call vote: 7 yes, 1 abstain. PASSED.
- f) Property Planning & Development Committee Recommendation to approve City Facility Use Policy;
RR Park met to discuss, but Reiter believes there was some language that needed tweaking & that it was being brought back to committee in March. Will postpone.
- g) Safety & License Committee Recommendation to hold course on Covid precautions regarding city facilities;
Recommend to hold course. Meet every month to discuss. Follow Washburn Co Health Dept's guidelines.
- h) Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to order new 5 yd Dump Truck Meyer International Truck, Cameron, WI \$154,007 to be delivered in 2022 funds from St Machinery Capital Outlay;
Replace current dump truck, funds are available, but they have to order now for 2022 delivery. Assembly is a year out for these types of trucks. **Motion (Coquillette/Gabriel) to approve the order of new 5 yd dump truck from Meyer International Truck, Cameron for \$154,007. PASSED.**
- i) City Clerk Vacancy Hiring Procedure;
Personnel met this morning & recommend to offer City Clerk position to Krista as City Clerk/ Treasurer. **Motion (Dunn/Reiter) to appoint Lyons-Hartwig as acting City Clerk & to continue as Treasurer, effective when City Clerk Parker retires subject to a six month probationary period & a two-step wage increase. PASSED.**

9) **STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:**

- a) Financial Report Jan 21;
Motion (Reiter/Gagnon) to accept Jan 21 financial report as presented. PASSED.
- b) Chief's Report;
Activities for SPD, provided security for Congressman Tiffany at civic center, assisted with food distribution on 2/24, have a few more planned in March. No dept mtgs. Attended Hwy Safety Mtg discussed speed limit changes on north end of Hwy 63 & looking at replacing some signage by Elementary School on Scribner St. Washburn Co IT Dept. regarding Central Square program & connected to it today. Assisted Washburn Co in multiple mutual aids for multiple situations. SWAT team assisted in Burnett Co for shots fired. Had 47 cases & 720 contacts for a total of 767.
- c) BID Report;
No mtg in February. Continues to be busier than normal & believes some of increase is due to Civic Center & hockey tournaments. Noticed many cars at hotels.
- d) NWRPC Liaison Report;
Weather was too cold to meet. Didn't want to travel in cold weather.
- e) Railroad Park Update;
Fundraising is going well for exterior brick work. Mtg today for start-up of 501 3(c). Sub-committee is working on archway design. Sub-committee is working on finishing historic signs. Board is in full attendance, geared up to Move Upward & Onward. It is exciting. Putting off finishing brochure with changes of 501 3(c).
- f) Library Liaison Report;
Mtg in February. Angie continues to have new & innovative things going on at library. Ongoing programming happening. Angie works with Jerry with food distribution, she is putting on website when there is cancellations for getting Covid shots & has helped people get appointments scheduled for vaccine. Great place, check out their website. Have reopened & it is going super. Safety protocols are in place. Great resource for community.

10) **ADJOURNMENT;**

Motion (Reiter/Parker) to adjourn mtg. PASSED. Mtg was adjourned at 5:54 pm.

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J Cuskey, Mayor

Krista Lyons-Hartwig, City Treasurer