

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Mar 1, 2022 5PM

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Rick Coquillette called mtg to order at 5p.m. and skipped to agenda item #6. Mayor Cuskey arrived at 5:06 p.m. and took over mtg.
- 2) ROLL CALL; 6 present, 2 absent
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;
None.
- 5) Swear In Noah Anderson, Police Patrol Officer;
Recently joined police department and Mayor officially swore him in prior to this mtg. This is more ceremoniously to welcome Noah and introduce him to Council and community.
- 6) Update on Library Expansion;
Library reported they are looking to expand according to their 2021 Strategic Plan. Goal is to expand to a 20,000 - 22,000 square foot bldg, 1 level, in 5 years. Current library is 5,500 square foot. No plans to start project until fully funded. Have tried many different avenues to expand at current location. Most recently, had hoped to expand across alley, but due to costs, it is not viable option. Estimate is over \$200k for that option. Also, have been working with Arrow Building Center (ABC) to possibly purchase a lot they have with only 1 partial steel building. Problem with that site, they would still need to secure lot owned by current Bank of West to have enough room. ABC is working on their exit strategy from that lot. Bank of the West is being bought out by BMO Harris and Angie doesn't have a contact. Angie is meeting with Hanson's who own old fire hall tomorrow. Working on getting the word out to the community about gifting property to the library and/or donating tax deductible funds. One note about receiving property is it would be helpful if bldgs are easy to tear down. Angie spoke with other WI Library Directors regarding two story libraries since it was mentioned at committee meeting. Consensus was must have at least 2 staff members for 2nd level. Plan to spend \$2,000/month for elevator, set aside \$15,000 for elevators maintenance and another \$100,000 to build initial elevator. Been working with SEH to create plan at current site and also new building. Community members have already stated they will help with donations once there is plan.
- 7) Mayor's Comments;
Reminder to keep sidewalks shoveled, no on-street parking between 2-6am during the winter months. Would also like to say a few words regarding situation in Ukraine. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ukraine people and hope that conclusion is brought soon. Prayers for our own leaders to do right thing in face of turmoil.
- 8) Approval of Agenda;
Motion (Reiter/Parker) to approve agenda with change of order starting with library update. PASSED.
- 9) CONSENT AGENDA:
**All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered routine and will be enacted by 1 motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from General Order of Business and considered at this point to agenda.
 - a) *Accept Mins from Feb 1, 2022 Council Mtg;
 - b) *Tourism Commission Recommendation to Approve new design for hotel sign;
 - c) *Tourism Commission Recommendation to Approve cost of \$780 for new sign with Best Western paying half of cost;
 - d) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve monthly payables checks: 47160-47243, 20220203, 20220214, 22020901-22020904;
 - e) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve Write-off 2021 Personal Property Taxes from Bitney Law Firm;
 - f) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Park Permits: Spooner Memorial Library – City Park, April 27th, Courtney Cross - Railroad Park, June 18th, Hazel Merle – Railroad Park, June 3rd, Carolyn Holt
 - g) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve 2022 Line Painting Contract Fahrner Asphalt Sealers \$13,708;
 - h) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Temporary Stop Signs during Hwy 63 Construction add sign on So Front Northbound at Beaver St. and Bay Avenue Eastbound at Pioneer
 - i) *Safety & License Committee Recommendation to Approve Participation in All Paid Program for Municipal Court Payments;
 - j) *Property Planning Committee Recommendation to Advertise and sell Old Voting Booths;
 - k) *Property Planning Committee Recommendation to Approve Request from A-1 Excavating to Place River St. Job Trailer in Front St Parking Lot;
Motion (Gagnon/Parker) to approve items a – k on consent agenda. PASSED.
- 10) DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:
 - a) Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Resolution 22-01,03/01/22 DOT Class B Roadways;
Marx explained in preparation of upcoming Hwy63 construction, classify a couple of roads as Class B. Some of our roads won't be able to withstand heavy traffic. Roads that shall be noted as Class B: Front St north from Hwy 70 to city limits, South Summit Street, Linn Street, W Beaver Street to Bay Ave to Pioneer Dr., Durabilt Rd. and W Beaverbrook Ave. Delivery trucks are exempt from the resolution. State has been made aware and the contractor will be advised to stay on River St as much as possible with demolition and new materials. Motion (Ortmann/Donovan) to adopt Resolution 22-01, 03/01/2022 DOT Class B Roadways through construction period. PASSED.
 - b) Finance Committee Recommendation to seek Financing for River St Project \$800,000 and Substation Improvements \$1,200,000;
Letters sent to 3 local banks, but haven't heard anything yet. Requested terms for 10 year term, 10 year amortization and 10 year term 20 year amortization. Will have a general fund loan and an electric bond. Motion (Reiter/Donovan) to approve to seek financing for River St Project \$800,000 and Substation Improvements \$1,200,000. Roll Call Vote: 6 yes votes, 0 opposed, 2 absent. PASSED.
 - c) River St Project;
Nothing new. Hoping to start project Mar 28th. Public mtg at Council Chambers on Mar 10th. This is not a council mtg. Also, have a preconstruction mtg the same date. Marx to talk with contractor.
 - d) Safety & Licensing Committee Recommendation to Obtain Services of AllPaid to Collect Municipal Court Fines;
Court Clerk Richter talked with vendor. Recommended from County Clerk of Courts. Won't cost the city anything, but will cost user 4% of citation payment. Kohler did look at contract with no red flags. Motion (Reiter/Ortmann) to approve the recommendation to obtain services of AllPaid to Collect Municipal Court Fines. PASSED.

- e) Resolution 22-02, 03-01-2022, Carry Over 2021 to 2022;
Auditor was here, created journal entries and worked with Bill and Krista on carry overs.
Motion (Gagnon/Parker) to approve Resolution 22-02, 03/01/2022, Carry Over 2021 to 2022. Roll Call Vote: 6 yes, 0 opposed, 2 absent. PASSED.
 - f) Resolution 22-03, 03-01-2022, 2021 Budget Amendment;
Good news is we had more revenues and less expenses in budget. We are able to reallocate funds to offset budget items that had higher expenses.
Motion (Reiter/Donovan) to approve Resolution 22-03, 03-01-2022 Budget Amendment. Roll Call Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0, Absent – 2. PASSED.
- 9) STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:**
- a) Financial Report January 2022;
Motion (Reiter/Parker) to accept monthly financial report for Jan 2022. PASSED.
 - b) Chief's Report;
Completed the Right Track Program for 6th Graders and now starting 7th graders, since they didn't get class last year. Officer Tucker and K9 Rex are currently training at St. Paul K9 Academy. Training is scheduled to be finished week before Memorial Day. Narcotics training will be completed at same time. Officers have dealt with a number of welfare checks and retail theft incidents. Officers have responded to schools for disorderly students. Officers currently working on a child pornography case. Investigated a sex offender case in violation of a mandatory reporting. Officers have started their annual in-service trng. Officers Dorn and Horsh have went to FTO to be instructing officers. Had two drug overdoses and Narcan was administered. Officers responded to a stolen vehicle in Spooner, vehicle was recovered after pursuit in another jurisdiction, subject was taken into custody. Have seen less parking violations for overnight parking, but have issued more citations for improper parking on Walnut Street. Continue to monitor residents for sidewalk clearing. 104 cases, 659 contacts, 763. Tonight, we would like to award commendation for one of our officers, Dakota Dorn. Kronberger read commendation letter to Dakota Dorn for his heroic efforts and staying calm, while on duty, on August 13, 2021 for accident involving a vehicle and pedestrian. Appreciate his efforts and going above and beyond call of duty and dedication he has shown.
 - c) BID Report;
Dunn absent, no report.
 - d) Railroad Park Update;
Reiter – mtg was cancelled due to weather. They continue to move forward. Class of 1964 has issued challenge to other classes to help raise money for Park and 2 classes have risen to this challenge. There is such pride from community. Cuskey thanked Reiter for her efforts and for doing great job.
 - e) Library Liaison Report;
Gagnon and Bodzislav – library continues to move along with so many programs. In January, Books and Bread served 119 households, consisting of 348 individuals. Very successful program. Compassion Kitchen served 46 households, consisting of 142 people. 80 bags of food and 33 care packages were distributed. Community First program is very strong. Ventures is partnering with library to pack bags. Moving a lot closer to 2019 numbers for checkouts. Masking regulations have lessened and feels more people will return to library. Angie presented an excellent update and her efforts are outstanding in moving the library forward towards its goals. Angie attended Library Legislative Day in Madison. She met Governor and spoke with State Senators and Representatives. Was able to share what is happening in Spooner. Very valuable experience. Governor gave Certificate of Commendation honoring Spooner Memorial Library for its service to State. Every single day there are people who print, copy, and scan documents. Non-stop use of meeting space. Many people get their tax forms from library.

11) ADJOURNMENT;

Motion (Parker/Ortmann) to adjourn mtg. PASSED. Mtg adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J. Cuskey, Mayor

Krista J. Lyons-Hartwig, City Clerk/Treasurer