

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINS  
Tues, May 2, 2023 5PM, in Council Chambers

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Mtg called to order at 5pm by Council President Gabriel.
- 2) ROLL CALL; 6 present, 2 absent.
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;  
None.
- 5) Mayor's Comments;  
Rec'd Thank you from Joey Marx for flowers we sent to her for serious fracture that she recently had and is still recovering from. Joey is wife of Bill and election worker. Jerry Christman also sent thank you for those that were able to attend his retirement reception and said it was "pleasure working with you over yrs and for support you have given myself and PD over all those years." Rails On Trails also sent thank you for supporting new groomer for trails. City Hall received note from resident, who was disappointed with date of spring cleanup and hoped to move date into May next yr. We didn't have weather cooperation this yr and it's hard to schedule weekend that works for everyone. Would also like to encourage property owners and citizens of community to have their yards looking nice especially for Memorial Day weekend, which is unofficial start to summer, and all yr round. We want people traveling through area to see we take pride in our city.  
Would like to thank Terri Reiter and present her with gift for her service over last 8 yrs on Council. She has been very active council member, very engaged, worked tirelessly for committees that she was member of and has been large part of success of RR Park development. She is huge asset to City and will continue on RR board as chair.
- 6) School Forest Program Presentation- Renae Essenmacher WI DNR;  
Essenmacher gave presentation on program. WI School Forest Program is partnership between DNR and UW Stevens Point Natural Resources program. Management Plan is recommendation and there is nothing that you have to do. Any timber sales is profit for City, not DNR. Buckthorn is issue at proposed area. Question raised if DNR estimates value of timber. It'll be part of management plan. They will state minimum bid when timber sale is put out to bid. Another comment, aspen are tipping over and dying, we would like to harvest before we lose any more trees and we can sell. Essenmacher discussed importance of having diverse tree population. Aspen root system generates very quickly when clear cut, which is what DNR would recommend. Concern over interaction with trail and logging process. Essenmacher is vid user and understands the need to coordinate with clubs, who use trails. Loggers will know requirements and expectations when receiving bid packet.  
*Lake sponsored Reiter to comment.* Having plan walks you through various steps and there are stipulations set forth.  
DNR Forester will mark timber and administer plan. In 4 sections of City and School land, plan would be to thin section 1 of oaks, clear cut sections 2 and 3 of aspens, and do nothing in section 4, which is a wetland. You can tweak recommendation. Can only get help of the DNR if you're part of Community Forestry Plan and it makes sense for area discussed for City of Spooner and Spooner Area School District to work together and get best price for timber sales. Additional questions – none.
- 7) Approval of Agenda;  
Motion (Gabriel/Parker) to Approve Agenda. PASSED.
- 8) CONSENT AGENDA:  
\*\*All items listed with asterisk (\*) are considered routine and will be enacted by 1 motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless Council member so requests, in which event item will be removed from General Order of Business and considered at this point to agenda.
  - a) \*Accept Mins from Apr 5, 2023 Council Mtg and Apr 18, 2023 Reorg Mtg;
  - b) \*Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve monthly payables checks: 48881 – 48973, 20230331, 20230404, 20230414, 20230420, 23040401 – 23040405, 23041901 – 23041906, 202304171 – 202304173;
  - c) \*Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve Server Replacement Proposal from DSC for \$9,850;
  - d) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation To Deny Request for Street Light 1100 Lampert Drive;
  - e) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation To Recommend Council approve Park Permit Request, Centennial Park, Spooner Women's Club, August 4 & 5, 2023;
  - f) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Deny Slow Children at Play Signage on East Beaver Street;
  - g) \*Plan Commission Recommendation to Accept Extraterritorial CSM for Sharyn Friedell, Lot 10, Section 6, Township 38 North, Range 12 West, Town of Beaver Brook;
  - h) \*Plan Commission to Deny proposed use at former ABC building as it is expanded use and not consistent with current Ordinance;
  - i) \*Plan Commission to Approve Fence Permit at 222 Oak Street;
  - j) \*Plan Commission to Approve Site Plan at 1020 & 1022 N Front St.;
  - k) \*Personnel Committee Recommendation to Approve MEUW General Safety Policy;
  - l) \*Railroad Park Board to Approve addition of metal train fabrication on top of brick wall and install sign on bottom of wall;
  - m) \*Municipal Operations and Railroad Park Committees Recommendation to Approve RR Park Permit: Jack Pine Savage Days, Aug 1 - 7, 2023;
  - n) \*Safety & License Committee Recommendation to Approve Temp Class "B"/"Class B" Liquor / Picnic License:
    - Spooner Rodeo Committee, Appreciation BBQ, June 14, 2023
    - Spooner Rodeo Committee, Spooner Rodeo, July 6 - 8, 2023;

Motion (Gabriel/Krueger) to approve consent agenda, items a – e and g – n, pulling item f for additional discussion. PASSED.

Gagnon – wants to pull item f and feels that it reads harshly. He explained, that at time of meeting, he felt motion was to deny use of barriers in roadway and that it wasn't regarding having a sign being installed.

Discussion regarding if having signs are enough of deterrent. Chief talked about having more police presence in area and have been personally making more of effort to be in area. Also mentioned that speeding citation was issued recently and feels recipient of ticket might have been biggest violator. Mayor noted that denying sign at this time doesn't mean we are forgetting. Comments made whether Chief has manpower to continually monitor situation. Salquist questioned why sign can't be put up. Mayor commented that signs can be expense and we don't want to be precedence where others are asking for signs in their neighborhoods. Marx read DOT guidance on these type of signs and being non-conforming/not conforming to code. Discussion continued regarding signs.

At Safety and Licensing Committee, there was talk of additional police presence, but Clerk looked at the minutes and there was no additional motion made that would have brought anything further into this specific agenda. Attorney Kohler made suggestion to change language of original motion/agenda item to make it clearer of committee's intent.

Motion (Krueger/Gagnon) to Deny "Slow Children at Play" signage in lieu of additional police presence on E Beaver Street. PASSED.

9) DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- a) Final Restated Service Territory Agreement between Barron Electric Cooperative and Spooner Municipal Utility;  
This is something that was started in 2003, when annexation was done for highway shop. This was Barron Electric territory. Since that time, there was amendment due to solar facility property. Land was recently sold to Barron Electric by Washburn County. We were on our 3rd amendment. PSC suggested we start over and come up with 1 agreement and get rid of amendments. We are ready to submit to PSC after discussion with Barron Electric with new agreement cleaning up the old amendments. It was great deal for Utilities, because we kept 2 large customers. Discussion whether agreement should be for specific number of yrs or in perpetuity.  
Motion (Gabriel/Krueger) to Approve Final Restated Service Territory Agreement between Barron Electric Cooperative and Spooner Municipal Utility. PASSED.
- b) Appoint Charles Gagnon to Plan Commission to fill vacancy;  
This is vacancy, for alderperson, that hasn't been filled. We also have citizen member vacancy.  
Motion (Parker/Lake) to appoint Charles Gagnon to Plan Commission. PASSED.
- c) Resolution 23-05, 05-02-23, Vacation of a Portion of Second Street;  
Final resolution discussed at April's meeting, this Resolution needs to be passed and will then go to Attorney Zumbrunnen. She will then record it.  
Lake will recuse from voting since this is in relation to his property.  
Motion (Gabriel/Salquist) to Approve Resolution 23-05, 05-02-23, Vacation of a Portion of Second Street. PASSED. Lake recused himself.
- d) City Staff – July 3, 2023;  
Discuss whether to close Mon, July 3, 2023 for City Staff. We have done this before when holiday falls on Monday. Employees will need to use their own time and wouldn't be paid as holiday.  
Motion (Krueger/Gagnon) to Approve City Offices be closed on Mon, July 3, 2023. PASSED.

9) STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:

- a) Financial Report Mar 2023;  
Motion (Parker/Gabriel) to Accept Financial Statement for Mar 2023. PASSED.
- b) Chief's Report;  
Drug Take Back was held on Apr 22<sup>nd</sup>. Captain Darwin implemented online TVRP program which deals with unpaid parking tickets. Chief has been issuing warnings regarding Ordinance Violations and those that don't comply will be issued citations. Chief has been attending meetings and had 1 department mtg. Also, moving forward with having Chaplain Greg Miller as our department's chaplain and policy is in place for his intended role. Spooner Foundation will pay for his room, board and the 12 classes that he must have. He has been riding with officers. Chief and 2 officers attended funerals of fallen Officers Scheel and Breidenback from Cameron and Barron. Discussed additional calls that department has handled. Tucker and K9 Rex assisted with incident in Sawyer County. 129 cases, 884 contacts for total of 1,013. Chief will reach out to resident at E Beaver St regarding signs and assist how he can. Also, would like to mention that Spooner Foundation 5k Event is on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 12pm. The event pays for K9 training and additional programs. Spooner Physical Therapy's Danielle Larson and Jamie Kronberger work hard on event and board. Would really appreciate if any Council member could make an appearance.
- c) BID Report;  
None.
- d) Railroad Park Update;  
Received notification that we were not recipient of Vibrant Spaces Grant.
- e) Library Liaison Report;  
Gagnon – Library Board welcomed new members Sam Clair and Chris Berghammer. Asked if they could put up banners on street lights. Marx responded that there is Ordinance prohibiting that sort of thing. Building upkeep – back door of library has crack where mice can get under and they will be replacing the door. Board approved director's request to attend ALC in Chicago. She goes every yr. There are many directors from all over country. Haven't received amount Library will be given from Food & Wine Tasting event. Wall cracks are still on north wall (issues with settlement). Maybe have Al that worked on Roundhouse, look at library. Gagnon highlighted many upcoming events in May. Library usage is continuing to increase, back to pre-COVID numbers. March 2023: 6,486 check outs, not including electronic check outs, over same period in 2021 & 2022. There are 59 current programs. Food programs are continuing to be highly used. Variety and number of programs really drive usage; staff does good job.

10) ADJOURNMENT;

Motion (Gagnon/Lake) to adjourn mtg. PASSED. Mtg adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J. Cuskey, Mayor

Krista J. Lyons-Hartwig, City Clerk/Treasurer