

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINS  
Tues, Feb 6, 2024 5PM

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Mtg called to order at 5pm by Mayor Cuskey.
- 2) ROLL CALL; 7 present, 1 absent
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;  
No comments.
- 5) Mayor's Comments;  
Not much to report. No snow. Would like to take this opportunity to remind people to be cautious around flowage and for those who are ice fishing, not recommended to be on ice. Be very careful.
- 6) Present Appreciation Plaque to Bill Marx;  
Mayor presented Bill Marx with plaque for his yrs of service to City of Spooner and our citizens. He was City Administrator for 23 and approximately 15 yrs as city engineer. Appreciates everything that Bill has been involved in and for his leadership. Mayor is saddened to present the plaque and will miss Bill, but we are still able to lean on him during transition. Mayor read plaque to audience. Thanked Bill. Kohler thanked Bill for his leadership over yrs. Marx thanked the Council and staff.
- 7) Approval of Agenda;  
Motion (Gabriel/Gagnon) to Approve Agenda. PASSED.
- 8) 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 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 Jan 2, 2024 Council Mtg;
  - b) \*Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve mthly payable checks: 49982 – 50157, 20231214, 20231220, 20240104, 20240115 - 20240117, 20240122, 23012301 - 23012306, 23122701 – 23122705, 24011001 – 24011005, 202312201 – 202312203, 202401041, 202401191 – 202401193;
  - c) \*Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve write off Personal Property tax bill for Twin City Petroleum & Property LLC for \$37.92;
  - d) \*Personnel Committee Recommendation to Approve rehiring Shaun Cusick for pt police officer position;
  - e) \*Personnel Committee Recommendation to Approve Concept for Sponsoring Academy Officer;
  - f) \*Personnel Committee Recommendation to Approve Clerk request to carry over holiday hours;
  - g) \*Personnel Committee Recommendation to Approve Increasing PT Police Officers Wages to 90% of 1<sup>st</sup> yr, FT officer, plus a 25 cents/hr raise after 6 mths;
  - h) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Deny Water Leak Forgiveness 616 Norway;
  - i) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Well Operation Permit Pine St Floral & Gift, Inc;
  - j) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Accept SEH recommendation to narrow street to 35' width First St to Bashaw St, a buffer, and 5' sidewalk with a 5' verge on the south side if possible, widen intersection of Bashaw, and the 2 associated SEH amendments;
  - k) \*Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation approve Park Permit Request, Centennial Park, Spooner Women's Club, August 2 & 3, 2024;
  - l) \*Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Extraterritorial CSM T39 N, R12 W, Section 28, SW Quarter of the SE Quarter, Town of Spooner, Top O Wisconsin, Chris Thompson.
  - m) \*Safety and Licensing Committee Recommendation to Approve Class A Combination Liquor License Feb 2, 2024 – June 30, 2024 for SQRL Service Stations;  
Motion (Everroad/Krueger) to Approve Consent Agenda, items a – m. PASSED.  
Dunn wanted more information regarding item h; Clerk and Johnson provided information and PSC regulations.
- 9) DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:
  - a) Resolution 24-01, 02-06-2024, Intent to Vacate Alley - Hanacek;  
Alley that goes from Hwy 70 south to water's edge of river, no value to city, but questioned whether or not City should have utility easement through property. City doesn't plow or maintain this section. Agreement has been reached by both parties thus ending lawsuit. Potential issue with water runoff, which they will be responsible for water control. This is 1<sup>st</sup> step, public hearing scheduled for Apr 4<sup>th</sup>. Will pass Resolution in April. Will include additional language if needed to address water/drainage issue. With utility easement, they can't build anything on it.  
Motion (Krueger/Parker) to adopt Resolution 24-01, 02/06/2024, Intent to Vacate Alley - Hanacek. PASSED.
  - b) Appoint Ryan Spahn (02/06/2024 – 04/15/2024) & Adam Nelson (02/06/2024 – 04/22/2025) to Tree Board vacancies;  
Motion (Gagnon/Parker) to Appoint Ryan Spahn and Adam Nelson to Tree Board. PASSED.
  - c) Establish hiring procedure for Part-time Police Officers;  
Discussion regarding the hiring for part-time officers. Koverman drafted procedure after full-time steps. Decided it should be 3 member group consisting of Chief, Personnel Chair, and City Admin to interview and discuss hiring. If chair is unavailable, mayor will be back-up. Proceed with background check and drug screening. Individual would be cleared to start with City Council ratifying after start date. Koverman did confer with City Attorney with who is responsible for hiring and firing of city employees and language conflicted. Koverman elected to mirror practice put in place for full-time officers. Chief is ok to wait for Council approval. Part-time officers are non-contractual.  
Motion (Gabriel/Krueger) to approve the part-time police officers hiring procedure. PASSED.
  - d) Informational: Election Day Emergency Contingency Plan;  
Clerk notified Council this is only informational, but it does reflect how Council does help clerk if needed.
- 9) STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:
  - a) Financial Report Dec 2023;  
Motion (Dunn/Gabriel) to Accept Financial Report for Dec 2023. PASSED.
  - b) Chief's Report;  
Chief is at Chief Conference and there will be no report this month.
  - c) BID Report;  
Budget discussed at last mtg. No members were interested in doing fundraiser for additional Christmas lights (snowflakes). BID are committed to purchasing another 10 snowflakes. There is known issue with GFI outlet and need to figure out solution. May be replacing outlets on pole. Each snowflake costs \$500 approx. 44 poles on main street, of which 25 poles are within BID. Would like to see them on entire length of Main Street, but that is beyond what BID would assist with. Everroad would like to see Gateway entrance decorated.

d) Library Liaison Report;

Koverman was at last board mtg. Highlight of mtg was discussion of new library. Board has approved plan, which consists of dramatic changes. Plan needs to be accepted and approved, before Capital Campaign can start. Gagnon reported project was estimated up to \$11mil for new construction/remodel. Temporary location is being discussed while library is being remodeled. With proposed county jail project being contemplated, concern was raised with timing of fundraising. Went over yr end statistics; checkouts/visits/new patrons have all increased. Food insecurities programs are still great need for area. Winter newsletter is out with variety of sessions/programs/clubs. It is very busy place.

10) ADJOURNMENT;

Motion (Everroad/Gagnon) to adjourn mtg. PASSED. Mtg adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J. Cuskey, Mayor

Krista J. Lyons-Hartwig, City Clerk/Treasurer