

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINS
Tues, Jan 7, 2025 5PM in Council Chambers

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Mtg called to order at 5pm
- 2) ROLL CALL; 5 present, 3 absent.
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;
None.
- 5) Mayor's Comments;
Encourage residents to keep sidewalks cleared. Christmas tree pick up through Jan on regular garbage pickup days. Dawn Richter's father passed away and received nice thank you.
- 6) Approval of Agenda;
Motion (Parker/Oja) to approve agenda. PASSED.
- 7) Public Hearing –Vacate portion of platted right of way of Oseewee Plaisance as located in front of 301 Oseewee Plaisance within NW Qtr of the SW Qtr, Sect. 32, Twp. 39N, R12W Pursuant to Res 24-18,10-07-2024;
Consideration: proposed vacation of portion of Oseewee Plaisance.
Mayor opened hearing at 5:02 pm
Asked for comment:

Mary Chido - opposed to Wienbergen's request. Road isn't proper width for street (st) parking with current residential housing. Chido relayed that posts appear to be placed in ROW, which creates parking issue and relayed st is being used for parking. Relayed it is narrow st. Wants to keep as much for parking as possible. Expressed her safety concerns.

Discussion from Council and staff relayed that vacating the proposed ROW shouldn't impact parking issues. While public ROW would be reduced, physical rd will not change (width) and a 13' ROW would remain on that side of Oseewee. City's ability to maintain utilities won't be affected or be disturbed, nor ability to plow or maintain rd. With proposed remaining ROW and the front yard setback that would remain, approx 23' would exist between any proposed structure and blacktop, which should hypothetically accommodate parking.

Setback variance was granted in 2023 contingent upon proposed vacation. Mins reflected letter from Chido as being read at 2023 public hearing. Council concurred that wooden stakes should probably be removed if they are in ROW.

If the vacation is permitted, stakes should be removed from ROW.

Ryan Benson, Benson Law Office, Siren – nothing of current blacktop rd will be reduced. He reiterated variance was approved, by BOA 10/02/2023, to allow setback reduction to extend into ROW, contingent on City Council approval of ROW vacation. Basically, with approval of right of way vacation being considered in public hearing, front yard setback would be reduced from 25' to 10.2' and creates opportunity to create buildable lots. If it isn't permitted, lots will stay vacant and won't be buildable.

Oja – approving request means building and adding to tax base.

Notices were sent and requirements were met. Would like to see lots as usable.

Map displayed – blacktop portion 26' – 30' estimate. Still wide enough to pass.

Dunn – may need to limit parking to only 1 side of rd if parking issue exists.

Mayor – structure proposed within setback requirements.

Chido asked members if they had been down st to view parking situation. Feels it can be dangerous driving and potential for kids to dart out onto street unexpectedly.

Mayor asked for any additional comments – called 3 times.

Hearing none, mayor called for motion to close hearing.

Motion (Lake/Parker) to close hearing. PASSED. Hearing closed at 5:20 pm

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 Dec 3, 2024 Council Mtg;

b) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve mthly payable cks: 51398 – 51514, 20241115, 20241120, 20241203, 20241206, 24112501 – 24112505, 24121001 – 24121005, 202411201 - 202411203;

c) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve 2024 Utility Write-Offs \$6,540.48;

- d) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Well #5 Maintenance/Rehab Proposal Municipal Well & Pump \$47,415.00;
- e) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Administrator Energy Authorization;
- f) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Accept DNR Urban Forestry Grant;
- g) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Washburn County Transit Committee Appointment – City of Spooner (Koverman);
- h) *Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve College St Park as preferred location for Pickleball Courts and permission to apply for grants;
- i) *Planning Commission Recommendation to Accept Right of Way Partial Vacation Request – Oseewee Plaisance;
- j) *Planning Commission Recommendation to Accept Extraterritorial CSM T38 N, R13 W, Government Lot 1, Section 2, Town of Bashaw, Leona M. Olson Trust, Mike Olson;
- k) *Planning Commission to Confirm that Plan Commission interprets R-1 regulations are permitted in Commercial and Industrial zoned areas;

Lake requested to pull item k to discuss.

Motion (Lake/Dunn) to approve consent agenda, items a – j. PASSED.

Item K) Koverman – within commercial and industrial zoned areas – any use that is permitted in R-1 is permitted within these zones.

Dunn – reconfirming what is in code.

Koverman wants confirmation for himself and Birtzer to make sure they are understanding the code correctly. For example, if there is a home on River St, which is in C-1, and they do an expansion, do they follow R-1 regulations, even though they are in Commercial / Industrial, and it would be permitted use. Plan Commission confirmed this practice. Current homes are grandfathered in within those zones.

Motion (Lake/Parker) to approve item k of consent agenda. PASSED.

9) DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- a) Vacation of a portion of a platted right of way of Oseewee Plaisance as located in front of 301 Oseewee Plaisance Pursuant to Resolution 24-18, 10-07-24;

Motion (Montoya-Oja/Parker) to approve Vacation of a portion of a platted right of way of Oseewee Plaisance as located in front of 301 Oseewee Plaisance Pursuant to Resolution 24-18, 10-07-24, on condition that the wooden posts be removed from right of way. 4 yes votes, 1 no votes, 3 absent. PASSED.

- b) Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve AEP Energy Contract 21st Amendment-Blended Price Extension (2032-2034);

Koverman – AEP Blended Price – need of supply and demand. Proposed December rate has not changed. Staff recommends accepting contract extension. Bill Marx and Gary Johnson have reviewed and concur. Contract would renew in June 2025 with 2-year extension. Past contract extensions have worked out well for the City and been favorable for utility customers. Motion (Dunn/Krueger) to approve Approve AEP Energy Contract 21st Amendment -Blended Price Extension (2032-2034). PASSED.

10) STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:

- a) Financial Rpt Nov 2024;

Motion (Parker/Oja) to accept Financial Rpt Nov 2024. PASSED.

- b) Chief's Report;

Dec 2024 – received a grant to purchase new PBT machine. Two p/t officers resigned due to promotions from their other agencies. Motor in squad 305 blew up, but will be covered by warranty. Department held their Christmas potluck on Dec 18th with foundation and officer's families. OWIs haven risen over last month. SRT call out to Sawyer County. Officers assisted with bomb threat Shell Lake School; was determined it was unfounded and school was not in danger. Officers were involved in pursuit over New Years, but had to cancel using due regard. Still working on trying to id suspect/vehicle. Winter parking tickets being issued. Total contacts and cases = 994.

- c) BID Rpt;

No mtg. Busy downtown.

- d) Library Liaison Report;

Library is phenomenal. Waiting for grant news. Very impressive programs.

11) ADJOURNMENT;

Motion (Oja/Parker) to adjourn mtg. PASSED. Mtg adjourned at 5:44 pm

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J. Cuskey, Mayor

Krista J. Lyons-Hartwig, City Clerk/Treasurer