

MINUTES  
City of Niagara  
Regular City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, April 18, 2023  
Immediately Following the 5:00 P.M. Annual Reorganizational Meeting  
Niagara City Hall  
1029 Roosevelt Road  
Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Mayor Joe Johnston, following the 5:00 p.m. annual Reorganizational meeting. Present: Alderpersons Lynn Burke, Mike Darne, Dan Decker, Glenn Lantagne, Lisa Mattia, Don Shampo; Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick; Police Officer Mike Chapman; Public Works Coordinator Jim Stachowicz

Also present: Municipal Judge Scott Sexton, Roger Allen

A motion was made by Alderperson Darne to approve the agenda. Alderperson Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: Roger Allen stated the ATV / UTV route signs have been ordered and placed on Highway 141.

A motion was made by Alderperson Darne and seconded by Alderperson Burke to approve the minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting March 22, 2023 and Special Meeting April 12, 2023. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Burke and seconded by Alderperson Decker to pre-approve the bills for May 2023. Motion carried.

The reports were reviewed. Alderperson Decker moved to approve the reports as presented. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

- Police Officer Chapman:
  - Rhianna Carne was hired as a Police Officer, and will be attending the Police Academy beginning in June.
  - Recorded a public service announcement for the Caring House in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
  - Made revisions to the Field Training Officer manual.

City Auditor Scott Sternhagen of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP reviewed the 2022 audit results with the Council via conference call. He reported the audit went well, there are no noted issues and the general fund is in stable shape. Auditor Sternhagen addressed the Council regarding water and sewer cash flows. The water department is still operating with a negative cash flow, and he recommends applying to the Public Service Commission for a rate increase. The sewer department is also running with a negative cash flow, but is getting closer to breaking even. A ten percent (10%) increase is recommended. Neither department is generating enough revenue to meet expenses. Alderperson Decker moved to accept the report as presented, and Alderperson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker to approve the implementation of a *Temporary Use Application* for those wishing to use City parks. This document would include a copy of the park ordinance. Alderperson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderson Shampo moved to adopt Sec 13.08.740 – *Ordinance Regulating Camping in the City of Niagara on Private Property*. Alderson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderson Lantagne to waive fees for a camping permit in reference to Sec 13.08.740 in the Code of Ordinances. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderson Decker moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) at 5:38 p.m. Alderson Burke seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all Aldersons present. Also participating were Municipal Judge Sexton and Officer Chapman.

A motion was made by Alderson Decker to reconvene to open session at 6:10 p.m. Alderson Darne seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all Aldersons, Municipal Judge Sexton and Officer Chapman present.

Alderson Decker moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) at 6:11 p.m. Alderson Darne seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all Aldersons present.

A motion was made by Alderson Shampo to reconvene to open session at 6:44 p.m. Alderson Mattia seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all present.

Alderson Lantagne moved to act on the personnel decision as discussed. Alderson Burke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all voting “AYE”. Motion carried on a vote of 6 “AYE” to 0 “NAY”.

Alderson Shampo moved to approve the establishment of a Farmers and Vendors Market, located along Height Park on Grant Street, behind City Hall. The market will run from approximately June 7 through August 30. Alderson Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderson Decker to approve an incremental salary increase of fifty cents for Adam Faull, based on his favorable performance review. Alderson Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderson Decker to approve an incremental salary increase of fifty cents for Andrew Gerwig, based on his favorable performance review. Alderson Mattia seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderson Darne moved to approve a temporary liquor license to Niagara Baseball-Softball for a tournament at Heights Park field, May 19-21, 2023. Alderson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderson Decker moved to issue a temporary operator license to Brock Payette for a tournament at Heights Park field, May 19-21, 2023. Alderson Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderson Decker to issue an operator license to Randy Dessart. Alderson Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### Administrator Report - Audrey Fredrick

- Spoke with Governor Ever’s representative last week regarding funding needs.
- With Police Chief Moreau, met with State Representative Mursau regarding funding needs.
- Attending and speaking at the State Joint Finance Committee meeting with Chief Moreau on April 19.

#### Public Works, Water and Sewer Report – Jim Stachowicz

- Sewer cleaning was completed.
- Yards and signs were repaired/replaced from snow damage.
- Some trees were cut on the “S” curves, 14 more need to be cut to prevent them from falling on the highway. Permission was received from the property owner.
- Boat landing has been blocked off, sand bags placed at Methodist Church and on Sherman Street due to rising river levels.
- Street sweeper was purchased, will be delivered this week.
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#### Committee Reports:

- Beautification – Alderperson Burke
  - The spring flowers will be planted after June 8.
- Parks – Alderperson Shampo
  - The temperatures have been too cold for the water to be turned on at the parks.
- Finance – Alderperson Decker
  - Financial reports have been reviewed and are in good shape.

Alderperson Burke moved to set the next meeting date as Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.  
Alderperson Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderperson Mattia and seconded by Alderperson Decker to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.