

MINUTES
City of Niagara
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 23, 2019
Immediately Following 5:00 P.M. Public Hearing
Niagara City Hall
1029 Roosevelt Road
Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Mayor George Bousley. Present: Mayor Bousley, Aldermen Lynn Burke, Mike Darne, Dan Decker, Larry Kuchinski, Glenn Lantagne, and Teresa West; Police Chief Angela Moreau, Public Works Coordinator Ron Rugg and Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick. Also present: David Dunlap, Melissa Ebsch, Lysle Rugg, David Sanicki, Roger Allen, Aaron Volling, John Nordell and Lori White.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuchinski and seconded by Alderman West to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public Appearances:

City resident Aaron Volling stated that he received a City ordinance violation due to keeping chickens on his property. Mr. Volling presented a document from the Veterans Administration which declared that the chickens are kept as emotional support animals. Mr. Volling's neighbors John Nordell and Lori White commented that the chickens are not a nuisance, and they do not have an issue with the presence of the birds. Mr. Volling asked to be placed on the agenda for a future meeting to discuss a consideration of an ordinance waiver.

Roger Allen thanked the Council and Police Chief Moreau for drafting and passing the City ATV / UTV usage ordinance.

A motion was made by Alderman Lantagne and seconded by Alderman Darne to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Darne and seconded by Alderman West to pre-approve the bills for August 2019. Motion carried.

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

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

- Police Chief Angela Moreau informed the Council that she has three final candidates for the police officer position. Interviews will be set for the evening of Sunday, August 25, 2019.

Melissa Ebsch, Marinette County Director of Tourism and Marketing, presented the county tourism statistics. Ms. Ebsch noted that she has promoted many local events.

A motion was made by Alderman West to replace a water meter for utility account 234401. Treatment Plant Operator David Dunlap stated that the meter manufacturer has indicated that metered usage won't register unless water goes through the meter. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Alderman West then amended her motion to "replace the meter and send the original meter to an independent company for a forensic analysis". Alderman Burke

seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the main motion as amended, with all voting "Aye". Motion carried. The results of the analysis will be reported.

Alderman Darne moved to reserve potential action against Jake's Excavation. Alderman Kuchinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Kuchinski to continue participation with the Employee Trust Fund (ETF) program. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Darne made a motion to accept the proposal from mBank's merchant services partner, FirstData, to accept electronic payments for utility bills and citations. The motion was seconded by Alderman Kuchinski. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to begin a chaplain program in conjunction with the Police and Fire Departments, and to appoint Father Michael Lightner to the position. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Police Chief Moreau noted that the Police Department policy manual is in need of updating. The City insurer will fund \$2,500.00 of the \$2,910.00 cost for 2020. Alderman Decker moved to approve and contract this service through Lexipol. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Police Chief Moreau and Clerk/Treasurer Fredrick proposed the creation of a combination City and Police Department Facebook page for community outreach and notifications. Police Chief Moreau presented a draft Facebook page policy for review. Alderman Decker moved to create the Facebook page, and Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman West moved to approve Municipal Court Clerk Tracy Coppens to attend the annual Clerk's Seminar on September 25 – 27, 2019. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Darne moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) (Personnel) at 6:07 p.m. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to reconvene to open session at 6:48 p.m. Alderman Kuchinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to expand the current role of Clerk/Treasurer Fredrick and appoint her as City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer, with agreement details to be finalized at the August meeting. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all voting "Aye". Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Fredrick provided the Administrative Report:

- Delinquent utility notices were mailed on July 18, 2019.
- Alderman Burke and the Clerk/Treasurer will be meeting to explore community development grant opportunities.
- The Clerk/Treasurer attended the Clerk's Institute in Green Bay during the week of July 15, 2019. She noted that the classes were very beneficial.
- Census 2020 preparation is underway.
- City Auditor Scott Sternhagen of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP will be meeting with the Clerk/Treasurer during the week of July 29, 2019 to review year-to-date financial statements, Tax Incremental Districts (TIDs) and funding status.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the report as presented, and Alderman Kuchinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Coordinator Rugg provided the Water and Sewer Report:

- Two motors were burned out during a recent power outage, and needed to be replaced.
- Fifty-five feet of water line and two services were replaced on Mill Street.

Alderman Decker made a motion to accept the report, and Alderman West seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Public Works -

- Mayor Bousley stated that Marinette County will stripe Tyler Road, and possibly also Washington Avenue.

Park and Recreation -

- Public Works Coordinator Rugg reported that 140 feet of fence was replaced at the softball field. Blagec Brothers Inc. donated \$1,300.00 of the cost, and the City paid the remaining \$1,000.00. Mayor Bousley thanked Blagec Brothers Inc. for their generosity.
- Fencing at the Shattuck Park will need replacing due to safety concerns.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the reports as presented, and Alderman Kuchinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker made a motion to set the next meeting for Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Darne and seconded by Alderman West to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.