

MINUTES
City of Niagara
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2019
5:00 P.M.
Niagara City Hall
1029 Roosevelt Road
Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor George Bousley. Present: Mayor Bousley, Aldermen Lynn Burke, Mike Darne, Dan Decker Larry Kuchinski, Glenn Lantagne and Don Shampo; Police Chief Angela Moreau, Public Works Coordinator Ron Rugg and Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick.

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

There were no public appearances.

A motion was made by Alderman Darne and seconded by Alderman Lantagne to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2019 meeting. Alderman Decker abstained from the vote because he was not present at the September 24 meeting. Motion carried.

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

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

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

- Police Chief Moreau reported that she and other area departments met with Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) in Aurora, WI in reference to having police training sessions at that site. This would reduce travel expenses.
- Public Works Coordinator Rugg stated that he is working to get an easement from a homeowner on Hemlock Street so that the storm drain can be rerouted to the river.

Alderman Shampo moved to approve the reports as presented. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City resident Michael Johnson expressed an objection to an accessory structure being constructed on a neighboring property. Mr. Johnson is of the opinion that the structure violates building codes from both the lot line setback and also the height of the building. In addition, the building height gives him privacy concerns, as the windows on the structure would provide viewing access to his yard. He is asking the Council for a solution. Mayor Bousley informed Mr. Johnson that he spoke with the City Building Inspector, and the City Attorney will also be contacted. The Inspector and Attorney will work together. Alderman Shampo made a motion to move forward with the joint efforts of the Inspector and Attorney. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker, and seconded by Alderman Darne, to begin the process of having the Ordinance Books updated by a third-party company. Motion carried.

Marinette County Supervisor John Lefebvre asked the City to consider providing snow removal services at the Marinette County Health and Human Services Department on Jackson Street. Alderman Lantagne moved to provide the services, and Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The date and time of the regular City Council meetings was discussed. A motion was made by Alderman Kuchinski to change the monthly meeting date from the fourth Tuesday of the month to the fourth Wednesday of the month, and to change the time from 5:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried, with Alderman Darne opposing.

Alderman Decker moved to approve a two percent annual raise for all appointed employees, providing that the increase can be built into the budget. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried. Alderman Shampo then made a motion to vote on increasing the monthly salary of the elected Municipal Judge. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all voting "AYE". Motion carried. Alderman Darne moved to increase the salary of the Municipal Judge from \$245.83 per month to \$319.58 monthly, with the change going into effect May 1, 2020, based on the election term. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all voting "AYE".

A motion was made by Alderman Kuchinski to set the Budget Hearing date and time as November 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m., with the regular City Council meeting to follow the hearing. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Darne moved to approve a temporary liquor license for St. Anthony's Church on Saturday, October 26, 2019 for a Badger game fundraising event. Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to approve a temporary operator's license to Bryan DeForge for the St. Anthony's Church Badger game fundraiser on Saturday, October 26, 2019. Alderman Kuchinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Fredrick presented the Administrative Report:

- There has been a positive reaction to "Main Street Makeover" and the fall decorations that were placed along the main corridor.
- The United Heartland loss control / safety report was distributed and discussed.
- Mayor Bousley and Administrator Fredrick met with City Auditor Scott Sternhagen and Jeff Belongia of the HSE & Co Wisconsin Public Finance office to discuss short-term loan options.
- Administrator Fredrick will be applying in October to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for a grant for interest relief for the Public Trust Fund loan. The application is a multi-step process, with an award in 2021.
- An independent contractor will be performing an American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance assessment on October 28, 2019. This is a requirement to be eligible for future grant awards from Rural Development.
- City Auditor Scott Sternhagen will be at City Hall on October 25, 2019 to work with the Administrator and department heads on the final budget preparation.
- Two Public Works employees and two Water Department employees will be attending CPR/First Aid training on October 24, 2019.
- The 2019 City audit is scheduled for January 2020.
- Notices for delinquent utilities were mailed.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker, and seconded by Alderman Shampo to thank Alderman Burke for her efforts in organizing the Main Street Makeover project. Motion carried. Alderman Decker moved to accept the Administrative report as presented. Alderman Kuchinski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Coordinator Ron Rugg provided the water and sewer Report:

- Overall, the water system is running well. A water line was excavated on School Street, and drain tile was added at Vine and Main Street.
- The lift stations are being worked on. A sump pump motor needs to be replaced.
- Electrical repairs were done at City Hall. Heat tapes and outlets were replaced.
- Most of the equipment from U.P. Logon is removed from the water tower.

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

Committee Reports:

Finance

- The proposed budget lines were reviewed by department, with recommendations made.

Alderman Kuchinski made a motion to set the next regular City Council meeting for Tuesday, November 12, 2019, immediately following the 5:00 p.m. budget hearing. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.