

MINUTES  
City of Niagara  
Regular City Council Meeting  
Wednesday, October 28, 2020  
4:45 P.M.  
Niagara City Hall  
1029 Roosevelt Road  
Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by Mayor George Bousley. Present: Aldermen Lynn Burke, Dan Decker, Joe Johnston, and Glenn Lantagne; Police Chief Angela Moreau, Public Works lead employee JJ Coppens and Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick.

Excused: Aldermen Mike Darne and Donald Shampo. Administrator Fredrick confirmed that a quorum was present.

Also present: (Via teleconference and/or Zoom format) City Attorney Kim Coggins and City Engineer Thad Majkowski of Cedar Corp. In addition, the meeting was open to public attendees via the Zoom format. Because all attendees did not identify themselves by full name, or they shared an account to join the meeting, only those attendees with interaction will be noted in the minutes.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker and seconded by Alderman Lantagne to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There were no public appearances.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker and seconded by Alderman Burke to approve the minutes from the Regular City Council meeting September 23, 2020 and Special Meeting October 17, 2020. A correction will be made to the October 17 minutes, changing the name from Alderman Lantagne to Alderman Shampo in reference to the motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Lantagne and seconded by Alderman Decker to pre-approve the bills for November 2020. Motion carried.

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

There were no reports from department heads or elected officials.

City Attorney Kim Coggins addressed the Council by teleconference regarding the proposed construction of a Dollar General store on the 800 Block of Highway 141/Roosevelt Road. Attorney Coggins stated that he had extensive conversations with attorneys from both the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, as well as Dollar General. The proposed site is properly zoned for retail business and there are no known deficiencies to the plan. The City Planning Committee has no authority to deny the request. Alderman Johnston asked if it was possible to deny future chain stores from establishing business in the City. Attorney Coggins noted that the City master plan and zoning would need to be updated. Alderman Decker stated that he supports the local grocery store, but the City should not discourage new businesses.

Alderman Lantagne moved to approve the Dollar General request to construct a store in Niagara. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with Aldermen Burke, Decker and Lantagne voting "AYE" and Alderman Johnston voting "NAY". Motion carried on a 3-1 vote.

Alderman Lantagne moved to approve the Dollar General site plan pending approval by the City Building Inspector. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with Aldermen Burke, Decker and Lantagne voting "AYE" and Alderman Johnston voting "NAY". Motion carried on a 3-1 vote.

Alderman Lantagne moved to approve the Dollar General certified survey pending approval by the City Building Inspector. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with Aldermen Burke, Decker and Lantagne voting "AYE" and Alderman Johnston voting "NAY". Motion carried on a 3-1 vote.

City Engineer Thad Majkowski (via Zoom) presented options for development amendments for the Marinette County Community Development Block Grant, which would include improvements for access to the recreation area on Tyler Road. Alderman Decker moved to proceed with the amendments identified in the project scope as Area 1 – sidewalk-Dewey Court to Jefferson Avenue; Phase I – boat landing to north side of parking lot; Phase II – north side of parking lot to south side of parking lot; Phase III (bid as alternate) – south side of parking lot to sledding hill entrance. Alderman Johnston seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with present voting "AYE". Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to grant a liquor license to Tripp's Tavern, 1001 Roosevelt Road. Alderman Johnston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to pursue action on nuisance property 261-00759.000. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Lantagne moved to set the Budget Hearing date of November 11, 2020 at 5:15 p.m., with the November regular meeting to follow immediately after. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Administrator Fredrick presented the Administrative Report:

- A \$5000.00 grant was awarded which will be applied combined with the existing Routes to Recovery grant to purchase new voting machines. The majority of additional election expenses are also funded with the grant.
- Election Day preparations are being finalized.
- Police Chief Moreau and part-time police officer Drew Rogers have been instrumental in assisting with the technology upgrades.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the Administrative report as presented. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works lead employee JJ Coppens provided the Water Report and Sewer Report:

- All systems are working well.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the Water and Sewer report as presented. Alderman Johnston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee:

- Preliminary budget figures have been input, and the auditor has reviewed them. The final numbers will be added and distributed to the Council for review prior to the Budget Hearing.
- Public Works:
  - Winter salt has been ordered.
- Beautification
  - Christmas décor has been purchased.
  - A Christmas tree will be placed and lit in front of City Hall, but there will be no extra activities due to the Covid-19 situation.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the reports as presented. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to move to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) at 6:00 p.m. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all present. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to reconvene to open session at 6:08 p.m. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all present. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker made a motion to approve the starting wage for Public Works employees. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all present voting "AYE". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to move to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) at 6:12 p.m. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all present. Motion carried.

Alderman Burke moved to reconvene to open session at 6:50 p.m. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. A roll call attendance was taken, with all present. Motion carried.

Alderman Johnston moved to establish a starting wage for new police officers. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to establish a wage for the Public Works "number two" position, effective January 1, 2021. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, with all present voting "AYE". Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to rescind the proposed sale price of City property to Ed and Rita Braund of \$4,000.00 and offer a sale price equal to the assessed value of \$2,300.00. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

