

MINUTES
City of Niagara
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 25, 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, Glenn Lantagne and Don Shampo; Police Chief Angela Moreau, Public Works Coordinator Ron Rugg and Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick.

Excused: Alderman Mike Darne

Also present: Tim Potterville, Melody Schaut and David Sanicki

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

Public Appearances:

- Melody Schaut expressed her concern about the area's rifle range closing, and asked if there is a possibility of it reopening safely.
- David Sanicki asked the Council to consider creating an ordinance to prevent future Dollar Stores from building in the city.
- Tim Potterville stated that when Dollar General opened in Pembine, his former grocery store immediately lost twenty-five percent of its business. He noted his concern for other local businesses; Dollar General won't be adding jobs to the community if it means that existing businesses have to lay off employees.

A motion was made by Alderman Lantagne and seconded by Alderman Decker to approve the minutes from the Regular City Council meeting July 22, 2020. Motion carried.

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

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

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

- Police Chief Moreau:
 - Officer Bunker has a final step in the interview process with the Marinette County Sheriff's Department. An ad has been placed to recruit a new officer.
 - Officer Chapman is doing well at the police academy.
 - The City will be receiving a reimbursement of \$2,500.00 from the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Mutual Insurance to offset the cost of having the police policies and procedures reviewed and standardized with the Lexipol system.
 - Sheriff's Deputy Kyle Liebergen will assist the City as needed to cover open shifts.
 - Chief Moreau has been conferring with the Niagara Sportsman's Club regarding safety concerns at the shooting range. There was recent damage to a vehicle within the trajectory of the range. The Chief stated that the range is not monitored, and that some users do not shoot responsibly. It is up to the Sportsman's Club to come up

with a solution, and the public should address their concerns with members of the Club.

The Planning Committee met on August 19 regarding the zoning request for the parcel of City property being rezoned to Ed and Rita Braund. Alderman Shampo moved to accept the recommendation of the Planning Committee to rezone the parcel from “Exempt” to “R1-Residential”. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to have Marinette County mail and collect 2020 property taxes. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Shampo moved to require masks at City Hall, per State mandate. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Burke to approve the relocation of a historic fire shed to property on Jefferson Avenue and Quincy Street, owned by the Niagara Area Historical Society. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the Assessor’s requests to change the open book date to a virtual meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2020 from 9:00-11:00 A.M., and to change the Board of Review date to Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 5:00-7:00 P.M., held at City Hall. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Shampo moved to acknowledge the receipt of a Department Of Natural Resources notice “*Reminder to Include Evaluation of Emerging Contaminates in Site Investigation*”. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Lantagne to approve a temporary liquor license for the Knights of Columbus Steak Fry at St. Anthony’s Church, Saturday, September 26, 2020. Alderman Johnston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to approve a temporary operator’s license for Mike Darne for the Knights of Columbus Steak Fry at St. Anthony’s Church, Saturday, September 26, 2020. Alderman Johnston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker made a motion to approve an operator license for Janet DeCremer. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Administrator Fredrick presented the Administrative Report:

- The office and fire department has purchased safety supplies under the Routes to Recovery grant.
- Dickinson County Healthcare System is working on finalizing the provider agreement with the City insurance plan.
- The State confirmed that replacement street lighting will not be covered under the Community Development Block Grant. The excess grant funds will be used towards additional sidewalk extensions north of Dewey Street, a designated walking zone towards the school on Jefferson Street on the east side of the highway, and crosswalk improvements at the corner of Coolidge Avenue and the highway.
- Roger DeForge did some concrete patching at City Hall. The handrail on the stairs will need to be re-anchored eventually.
- Alderman Lantagne, Niagara Postmaster, and his staff were thanked for their handling of absentee ballots during the recent elections.

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

Public Works Coordinator Rugg provided the Water Report and Administrator Fredrick gave the Sewer Report:

- Water lines in the Heights were flushed; hydrants will need to be flushed.
- A power bump caused a lift station to surge, creating a sewer backup at a building on Roosevelt Road. During the same storm/rain event, there was flooding along the area of the Clark Street and River Street intersection. Screens had been placed by the DOT construction crew at the storm sewers to prevent construction debris from running into the river. The screens plugged, causing the backup. The DOT will make some changes during construction to alleviate future plugging.

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

Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee:
 - Budget preparation will begin.
- Public Works:
 - Public Works Coordinator Rugg announced his retirement, effective January 8, 2021. He also stated that employee Jim Stachowicz is interested in performing more public works duties and less mechanical duties; he recommends hiring an employee with a mechanical background.
- Beautification
 - The Main Street Makeover “Niagara” shirt sale fundraiser is going well.
 - Plans are in discussion to host a community Christmas tree lighting event.
 - Fall décor will be placed in the City in September.

Alderman Johnston moved to accept the reports as presented. Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker made a motion to set the next regular City Council meeting for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 4:45 p.m. Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.