

CITY OF BARRON, WI
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020, 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 1456 EAST LASALLE AVENUE, BARRON, WI 54812

1. Call to order

Mayor Ron Fladten called a regular meeting of the City of Barron Common Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, pursuant to due notice. Roll call: Councilpersons Rod Nordby, Kevin Haller, Peter Olson, Paul Solie and Mo Tollman were present. Absent: Byron Miller. A quorum was confirmed.

Also present were: City Attorney Andrew Harrington, City Administrator Liz Jacobson, Teresa Anderson, Dave Rasmussen, Dave Armstrong, Sara Hinz, Mark Bell, John Peterson, Jim Swenson, Kevin Mullen (virtually present) Bob Zientera, Police Chief, Joe Vierkandt, Janet Bensed.

Mayor, Ron Fladten began the meeting with a prayer. All present joined to salute the flag.

2. Public Comments

Jim Swenson appeared to comment on the tiny homes the City is considering as temporary shelter for the homeless.

6:08 pm Byron Miller arrived

3. Public Hearing – Resolution No. 2020-07 to Vacate and Discontinue East Portion of East River Avenue was held. No comments from the public were made available for presentation.

4. Appearance by Dave Armstrong, Executive Director Barron County Economic Development Corporation – Telecommuter Forward! Certification program was presented.

5. Appearance by Teresa Anderson and Dave Rasmussen, MSA Professional Services, Inc.

- a. Project Update – Multiple Projects
- b. Professional Services Agreement for CDBG-PF Admin for LaSalle Avenue 7th to 11th. Start date of July 1, 2021 for Phase 1. \$1,000,000 award

Motion by Olson, second by Miller to accept CDBG funding and MSA Professional Services to implement. Motion carried, all ayes.

- c. Engineering for La Salle Avenue 7th to 11th Street

Motion by Haller, second by Nordby to grant permission to MSA Professional Services to begin engineering on LaSalle Ave 7th to 11th Street. Motion carried, all ayes.

6. Appearance by Kevin Mullen, Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated – Presentation of Debt Restructure Opportunity, Updated Figures. Kevin Mullen provided a virtual presentation on budget goals for debt services, refinancing, and budgeting upcoming City projects.

7. Appearance by Cedar Corporation regarding City Hall/PD/Street Shop Project Updates. Sara Hinz explained pros and cons of 4 possible sites for building a new Street Shop, with focus on Woodland Avenue site - soil borings and traffic vs. pedestrian concerns, followed by final recommendation reached by Redevelopment Committee.

8. Consideration of approval of Claims and Bills

Motion by Tollman, second by Nordby to approve the Claims and Bills as presented. Motion carried, all ayes.

9. Consent Agenda:

- a. Reading and Approval of August 18th, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of Operator's License to Serve for the period ending June 30th, 2021 for:
 - i. John P Ryba
 - ii. Mazie J Snedeker
 - iii. Daniel B. Akenson
 - iv. Amia R. Fornell
- c. Approval of Resolution No. 2020-07 to Vacate and Discontinue East Portion of East River Avenue
- d. Approval of Resolution No. 2020-08 Resolution in Support of Telecommuting Opportunities and Telecommuter Forward Certification
- e. Approval of new Class 'B' Beer Liquor License for Caddy Shack Barron, Inc., d/b/a Caddy Shack Pizza, Scott W. Bernard, Agent, located at 613 E. LaSalle Ave, Barron, WI for period ending June 30th, 2021.

Motion by Haller, second by Solie to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried, all ayes.

10. Presentation of Preliminary Levy Scenarios and General Fund Operating and Capital Improvements Budgets. City Administrator, Liz Jacobson explained debt restructuring to enable moving forward with capital outlay projects, along with preliminary operating and capital improvement budgets and debt capacity impacts.

Mark Bell and John Peterson appeared to present the Youth Hockey Association's activities in support of local youth, and to petition for continuation of the annual \$5,000. donation by the City.

11. Approval of Redevelopment Committee Recommendation for Project Site Locations and Preliminary General Obligation Borrowing Amount for Projected Budget.

Motion by Nordby, second by Solie to accept the Redevelopment Committee's recommendation for new City Hall and Police Department building on LaSalle Avenue site, and for the Woodland Avenue site to build a Street Shop, pending soil boring findings and any environmental hazards.

Motion carried by Roll Call vote. 5 ayes, 1 nay (Haller)

Motion by Olson, second by Haller to approve financial/borrowing plan outlined by City Administrator for \$3.5 million proposed borrowing.

Motion carried by Roll Call vote. All in attendance voting aye.

12. Discussion Regarding Current Zoning of Existing City Hall Property and Consideration of Zoning Change.

Motion by Haller, second by Solie to direct the Plan Commission to move ahead with zoning change to current City Hall property at 1456 E. Lasalle Avenue.

Motion carried, all ayes.

13. Approval of COVID-19 Policy for Employee Leaves of Absence

City Administrator presented a COVID-19 policy for City employees, based on County recommendations for COVID related leave of absences.

Motion by Olson, second by Miller to put in effect the presented COVID-19 leave of Absence policy for City employees, with expiration of 12/31/2020. Motion carried, all ayes.

14. Discussion Regarding Golf Course Operating Lease and General Operations

Golf Course has received insurance settlement for storm clean-up, but clean-up is not completed. Mayor to follow up with Golf Board president, Tony Allen.

15. Administrator and Committee Reports

Administrator presented general timeline for budget process.

16. The Council may convene in closed session proceedings under WI § 19.85 (1)€ to deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business. This relates to an offer received to purchase existing City property.

Motion carried by Roll Call vote. All in attendance voting aye.

17. The Common council will reconvene in open session and may act on matters discussed in closed session and to complete the agenda.

Motion by Haller, second by Tollman to reconvene in open session. Motion carried, all ayes. Joint City Council and Utility Commission meeting may be scheduled.

18. Adjournment Duly moved to adjourn at 8:27pm

Respectfully submitted by Janet Bensed, Court Clerk/Elections Clerk