

CITY OF BARRON, WI
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR
MEETING
TUESDAY, September 11, 2018, 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 11, 2018, pursuant to due notice. Roll call: Councilpersons Rod Nordby, Tony Allen, Mike Dietrich, Kevin Haller, Peter Olson and Mo Tollman were present. Absent: None. A quorum was confirmed. Also present were Mayor Ron Fladten, City Attorney Andrew Harrington, City Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Bob Kazmierski, Assistant Administrator Kelli Rasmussen, Teresa Anderson, Dave Wierzba, Rick Jari, Mike Romsos, Kim Collins and Bob Zientera. Mayor Fladten began the meeting with a prayer. All present joined to salute the flag.

2. The City of Barron will conduct a Public Hearing to elicit comments on the proposed revisions to Agricultural District in Municipal Code of Ordinance §56-798 and to the Farmland Preservation Plan. The Farmland Preservation Plan is to help provide guidance for use of agriculture and rural lands while trying to minimize conflicts between farm and non-farm land uses. The intent of this plan is to meet the minimum requirements of Chapter 91 of Wisconsin State Statutes as well as to provide information to assist in the preservation of farmland and agriculture related businesses in Barron County. The Farmland Preservation Plan will be referenced and coordinated with the Barron County Comprehensive Plan as an addendum, which meets the minimum requirements of Section 66.10001 (1)(a) and 66.1001 of Wisconsin State Statutes.

Motion by Nordby, second by Olson to open the Public Meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The agenda for the public hearing is:

- i. Citizen input regarding proposed revisions to Municipal Code of Ordinance Chapter §56 Agricultural District
- ii. Discussion of Ordinance revisions and Farmland Preservation Plan

The Mayor asked for any citizen input: Kim Collins spoke in favor of the proposed revisions.

Motion by Allen, second by Tollman to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Consideration of revisions to Agricultural District CHAPTER §56-798 of the Municipal Code-Related to the Farmland Preservation Plan to meet the minimum requirements of Chapter 91 of the Wisconsin State Statutes

Motion by Nordby, second by Olson to approve the revisions as outlined in Item 3. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. Public Comments

Kim Collins wished to address the board to report that in regards to her previous concerns with recent changes taking place at the library, she expressed she is very pleased with the outcomes of these changes and her earlier concerns have been put to rest.

5. Consideration of RESOLUTION 2018-05; “Encouraging the Wisconsin State Legislature to Close Loopholes that Shift a Greater Property Tax Burden from Commercial to Residential Homeowners.”

Motion by Olson, second by Haller to adopt Resolution 2018-05 as outlined. Motion carried by Roll Call Vote, all ayes.

6. Update summary of Water Tower #2 Project, Anderson Park drainage improvements, September 21st Playground Fundraiser, and Waste Water Treatment Facility-WWTF (Teresa Anderson & Dave Wierzba- MSA Professional Services)

- Water Tower: Design, permitting and property acquisition continue as scheduled. A High Structure Permit application has been submitted.
- Anderson Park Drainage Project: Storm sewer structure locations have been staked, Bjugstad Construction plans to begin work this week as soon as materials are delivered, with work scheduled to be completed by month’s end.
- B/C WWTF: The rented aerators units remain in place and will continue through the Winter months; currently the plant is meeting limits. All stakeholders have met to discuss time-line for decreasing influent loading and installing pre-treatment systems which will not be in place until next Spring.
- The B/C Utility Commission authorized submittal of a grant application to Focus on Energy
- Brat Fundraiser: MSA is sponsoring a Brat Fundraiser to benefit the Anderson Park playground equipment to take place at Gordy’s Market on September 21.

7. Monthly Department Reports:

1. Utilities (Rick Jari)

Mr. Jari expressed his gratitude to the Council for their efforts towards a second water tower, stating its importance for water quality and fire protection. The Electric Department has been busy replacing poles, getting the tennis court lights up and running, and installing all new switches into the substation. Another lineman recently left City employment making that two in the last year. Applicants so far have been limited – will continue to advertise and may extend deadline.

8. Consider approval of Claims and Bills:

Motion by Dietrich, second by Tollman to approve the Claims and Bills as presented. Motion carried by Roll Call vote, all ayes.

9. Consent Agenda:

- a) Reading and Approval of Minutes from August 7, 2018 Regular Council Meeting
- b) Approval of Operators License to Serve for Nikki L. Ward and Deborah L. Benson for the period ending June 30, 2019
- c) Approval to elicit bids for the following Street Department vehicles: 2001 Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup and 1967 Ford F-600
- d) Authorize City Officials to attend the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Annual Conference, October 24-26, 2018, in Wisconsin Dells, WI
- e) Authorize Municipal Judge to attend 2018 Municipal Judge Special Topic Seminar, October 11-12, 2018, in LaCrosse, WI.
- f) Approval of Airport Committee recommendation to sponsor Airport Manager to attend Airport Operations & Land Use Seminar, October 24-25, 2018, in Stevens Point, WI

Motion by Dietrich, second by Olson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried by Roll Call Vote, all ayes.

10. Update of Airport Needs and Inspections (Airport manager Craig Anderson & Fire Chief Mike Romsos)

Craig Anderson, Airport Manager, reported that there have been dramatic improvements to the airport property: brush clearing, mowing around hangars, removal of old outhouse, etc. The windsock is approximately 40 years old and needs replacement. He wished to thank the Council for the training they approved and he will attend in October. They would like to replace the porta-potty on the property. He would like to schedule fly-in events as well.

Mike Romsos asked if the fuel tanks had been painted yet: No – as the fuel system is shut down at this time.

Mike Romsos reported that four of the fifteen hangars have been inspected. Mr. Anderson let him know that he has been in contact with six of the owners today who are agreeing to set up a time with the Fire Chief and he will continue his efforts at contacting the remaining owners.

The Mayor thanked Craig for his efforts so far but reiterated the importance of the fire inspections.

The airport manager was instructed to attend the October regular council meeting to report on the status of these inspections and to bring quotes/bids for mowing equipment.

11. Discussion and consideration of Airport Committee recommendation that the City of Barron provide 20% matching funds of the Department of Transportation/Bureau of Aeronautics Airport Improvement Aid toward purchasing mowing equipment

Motion by Haller, to table the motion as stated in Item 11 until proof of inspections of every hangar can be provided.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion by Allen, second by Olson to table the motion as stated in Item 11 until the October 9 council meeting, pending completion of fire inspections and costs of said mowing equipment. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

12. Discussion of contract addendum between BACC and Barron School District (Andy Harrington).

Attorney Harrington explained the language in the contract addendum and compared it to the original 1989 agreement.

Motion by Olson, second by Haller to deny the request of the contract addendum. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

13. Committee Reports:

Tollman: Police – ongoing discussion of adding a seventh police officer.

Library – great atmosphere at the library, visitor counts are up.

Dietrich: Airport meeting.

Haller: BACC – recent meeting held to discuss the employment of the maintenance position

Olson: Park – reported on recent improvements; need to communicate to the community, and plan for, the need for Pool replacement.

Nordby: Pool-will attempt to repair leaks using City staff. Three consultants toured the facility – found the pool to be in good structural condition considering its age.

14. Administrator Report

a. Wage and Negotiation Update

b. Health Benefits Update

c. Authorization to pursue lighted aerator/fountain for Yellow River

d. 2019 Budget Process

15. Adjournment

Motion by Nordby, second by Allen to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by Kelli Rasmussen, Assistant Administrator