

CITY OF BARRON, WI
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, 1456 EAST LASALLE AVENUE, BARRON, WI 54812

1. Call to order

Mayor David Vruwink called a regular meeting of the City of Barron Common Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 pursuant to due notice. Roll call: Councilpersons Tony Allen, Mike Dietrich, Kevin Haller, Rod Nordby, Mo Tollman and Mark Thompson were present. Absent: None. A quorum was confirmed. Also present were Mayor David Vruwink, City Attorney Andrew Harrington, City Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Bob Kazmierski, Assistant Administrator Kelli Rasmussen, Ron Fladten, Bard Kittleson, Ralph Pitzrick, Engineer Dave Schofield MSA Professional Services, Sue Christianson, Deb Scherz, Jennie Nesseth, Patti Becker and Larry Tripp. All present joined to salute the flag. Mayor Vruwink began the meeting with a prayer.

2. Public Comments

Bard Kittleson addressed the Council with concerns over the facility usage at the Municipal Complex (Library/Sr. Center/American Legion). He gave a history on how this building came to be and read a letter written by Sr. Citizen Director Joanne Kuehdorf, in which she expressed her frustration that the original building usage agreement is no longer being honored. Bard further spoke on behalf of the library staff in regards to the recent decision to decrease the number of employees. Mr. Kittleson also took issue with signage at the Municipal Complex and felt that the American Vets are not suitably recognized. He further wished to commend the city council on the improvements to the park.

Ralph Pitzrick shared his history with Barron and specifically his experience with the Barron Library and libraries and budgets in general. He spoke of a time when the library was fully funded by the city, before it was determined that the county would contribute funds due to the large percentage of patrons who were from outside the city. He also feels that people who come from other areas to enjoy the library also spend money while in town which benefits everyone. He was opposed to the recent staffing cuts.

Motion by Tollman, second by Dietrich to move Agenda Items 7 & 8 forward to follow public comments; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

7. Water Storage #2 Project Update – Dave Schofield, MSA Professional Services

A kickoff meeting was held on February 27th. The water tower is proposed to be constructed adjacent to Well #4 on Guy Avenue South and the watermain connection will be coordinated with the Guy Avenue South repaving project. An update was provided at last night's Utility Commission meeting at which time they were asked to start thinking about paint colors and logos. Next design meeting will be held on March 22nd at 1 p.m. at City Hall.

8. Consider approval of Building/Property/Park (BPP) Committee to submit bid advertisements for Anderson Park Drainage Project

MSA is preparing bidding documents for the Anderson Park Drainage project, as designed by S.E.H. in 2016. They will be setting the completion dates in October. The City will be separately removing the tennis courts.

Motion by Nordby, second by Dietrich to approve the BBP Committee to submit bid advertisements for the Anderson Park Drainage Project; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Monthly Department Reports

Police Chief Miller gave a run-down on 2017, reporting on number of complaints, citations/parking tickets issued, accidents, etc. He was pleased with the year overall – numbers in each category were down from the prior year, although they did have a very busy year. The canine golf scramble and the National Night Out were both great successes.

Chief Miller commended the council on the improvements to the park and reiterated that the City of Barron was recognized as one of the safest cities in Wisconsin.

4. Consider approval of Police Committee recommendation to rehire Ray Parr as an occasional Part-time Police Officer

Motion by Allen, second by Tollman to rehire Ray Parr as an occasional Part-time Police Officer; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

5. Discussion of grant for School Resource Officer position

Chief Byron Miller discussed the advantages of having a resource officer – Barron has had them in the past and the Chief sees a continued need for one and will work with the School District.

6. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Nordby, second by Tollman to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Reading and Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2018 Regular Common Council meeting
- b. Reading and Approval of Minutes from February 27, 2018 Special Meeting of Common Council
- c. Approval of Claims and Bills
- d. Approval of \$300.00 City donation to the 2018 Annual Post Prom Party
- e. Approval of Provisional Operators License to Serve for Jerome R. Carle for the period ending April 29, 2018
- f. Approval of Operators License to Serve for Cassandra L. Kenyon for the period ending June 30, 2018

Roll Call Vote:

Voting in Favor: Nordby, Allen, Dietrich, Haller, Thompson and Tollman

Voting against: None

6 ayes, 0 nays, Motion carried.

9. Consider approval of BPP Committee recommendation to purchase backboard for tennis courts

A citizen request was made for a backboard to be installed at the new tennis courts which would allow for people to practice their shots when alone. A donation of \$1,000 was secured by this individual and the school has agreed to cover the balance of \$505.

Motion by Nordby, second by Thompson to approve the BPP Committee recommendation to purchase the tennis court backboard; roll call vote:

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Absent-0 Motion carried.

10. Consideration of submitting formal application to WI DNR Tree City USA Program

Tree City USA is a program that recognizes cities for their efforts forestry management – the cost of the program is \$2 per/capita annually. Events will include an Arbor Day proclamation in April each year and an event on Arbor Day.

Motion by Nordby, second by Haller to submit a formal application to the WI DNR Tree City USA Program; Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

11. Consider approval of BPP Committee of bid award for new boiler for municipal pool

Three (3) bids were received for the failing boiler at the outdoor pool with the low bid coming from Solution Heating & Cooling out of Rice Lake.

Motion by Nordby, second by Tollman to purchase the boiler for the outdoor pool from Solution Heating & Cooling at a cost of \$14,300.00; roll call vote:

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Absent-0 Motion carried.

12. Consider approval of Street Committee to purchase a 2007 Backhoe from Barron County to be paid in two annual installments

Barron County has a used backhoe they are willing to sell with payments coming in over 2 years: \$25,000 to be paid in 2018 and the balance of \$12,000 paid in 2019.

Motion by Haller, second by Dietrich to purchase the 2007 Backhoe from Barron County at a cost of \$37,000.00; roll call vote:

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Absent-0 Motion carried.

13. Discussion of Trash Collection and potential Recycling program

Our current contract with Republic Services is coming to an end. Administrator Kazmierski was instructed to obtain bids from Republic Services and other providers with the understanding that we will secure one hauler and negotiate for a recycling option as well.

14. Committee Reports

Nordby reported on Parks Committee. Allen reported on the Golf Board. Tollman reported on the Library Board. Attorney Andrew Harrington reported on a recent transcript he received.

15. Administrator Report

- a. Community Home Again, Inc. Update-Kazmierski updated Council on the Senior Housing developer new site and its impacts on infrastructure and zoning.
- b. April 3rd Spring Election-High turnout expected with one at-large seat open
- c. Housing Study-opportunity to secure grant for assessment of current housing stock and identification of housing needs for the City.

16. Convene in closed session proceedings under WI §19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation date of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Motion by Dietrich, second by Allen to convene in closed session; roll call vote:

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Absent-0 Motion carried.

Discussion: The Annual Evaluation of the City Administrator

17. Reconvene in open session to complete the agenda

Motion by Nordby, second by Allen to leave closed session, Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

18. Adjournment

Duly moved to adjourn at 9:06 p.m.

Prepared by Kelli Rasmussen, Assistant City Administrator