

## Common Council Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2024

Approved

Call to Order @ 7:00 pm

Roll Call: Present: Lindemann, Peterson, Schroeder, Baeseman and Madden

Also in attendance City Administrator Geena Skowronski, Clerk Lynn Thorson, Mayor Karen Sparling, Mary Waarvik, the Elroy Link, Mat Skiles-Juneau County Sheriff's Dept.

Pledge of Allegiance

Peterson/Schroeder motion to approve minutes from October 8, 2024. All ayes. Carried.

Public Comment – The Benson family came in and read a letter regarding their chickens. They said they didn't realize it was an ordinance violation. They gave reasons why they are raising chickens and asked the council to reconsider allowing them.

Mayor Comments: None

Council Comments: Suggested repainting the crosswalk between the clinic and the bank for safety reasons. Revisit handicap parking spot in front of the bank. Geena will ask Travis at the county to talk to the DOT about it.

Geena gave an update on the status of the cemetery sexton position. Chris Zindorf no longer wants to be the sexton. MSA put location pins in the cemetery today.

Peterson/Schroeder motion to approve a burn permit for Jim Garvin of 410 W Elroy St. to burn brush. All ayes. Carried.

Lindemann/Baeseman motion to approve Resolution #1169-Sale of W. Elroy lot. Roll call. All ayes. Carried.

Baeseman/Schroeder motion to approve Resolution #1170-Adopting the 2024 Juneau County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Roll call. All ayes. Carried.

Baeseman/Schroeder motion to accept Johnson Block 2024 Audit Engagement Letter. Roll call. All ayes. Carried.

Discussed changes to the 2025 fee schedule.

Geena asked if there was still interest in a designated dog park. Peterson/Schroeder not interested but Madden/Lindemann are. Geena check into cost of fencing.

Discussion of Miller Rd project. Stop after the S curve? The cost is 771,000 and the city would pay 20% plus LRIP funds.

Splash pad/Pool repairs tabled until the next meeting.

Geena discussed 2024 EOY. More revenue than expected this year, money was saved on insurance, saving on police contract since down one officer.

Geena presented the 2025 draft budget with these highlights. Plan to hire 2-3 summer help, 3.5% increase for all employees except Utility Clerk who will make \$23 an hour, summer help pay will remain the same, Ambulance will have a slight increase in assessment, health ins premium increased for city and employees, increase in shared revenue because we no longer collect personal property taxes, more money for crack and chip sealing, 30,000 in demo for possible house razing, police contract had a slight increase. Since 2021 the city's tax levy hasn't increased much. This year, for the city's portion, tax payers should see a \$19.00 increase per 100,000 assessed value.

Madden/Baeseman motion to approve expenditures. Roll call. All ayes. Carried.

**Administrator's Report:** Geena thanked the election workers, Ackerman demo is on track, working on zoning and ordinance issues on W. Elroy St.. municipal code enforcement may still be an option since they added more staff, pool issues are not yet resolved-hopefully in the Spring, budget hearing November 19, still waiting on FEMA approval for church sign on Franklin St., safe route to school grant, substation floodproofing, wa/ww position is still open.

**CDA**-None

**Finance/Personnel**-None

**Ordinance**-None

**Parks**-None

**Streets**-None

**Utility**- Met tonight. Renew ww permit with DNR, approved buying a transformer.

**Fire/Ambulance**- full meeting, ambulance fully staffed, budget talks.

**Library**- 34,000 of donations will pay for new electronic sign, new window dressings, basement area options, possibility of solar on roof.

**Police**-Report given to council. New officer will be off field training January 3.

Next meeting dates:

Council-November 19, 2024-Budget Hearing

Madden/Baeseman motion to adjourn at 7:55p.m. All ayes. Carried.

Lynn Thorson, Clerk