

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF WEYAUWEGA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Common Council of the City of Weyauwega was called to order at 6:30 p.m., on Monday, November 21, 2022 in the Weyauwega Municipal Building Council Chambers by Mayor Jack Spierings.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Jack Spierings, Tim Litscher, Cameron Looker, Bruce Goetsch, Rich Luedke, Kaley DuCoeur, and Chris Gunderson. Also present: City Administrator Jeremy Schroeder, Clerk Rebecca Loehrke, Police Chief Brandon Leschke, Richard Rupno, Sam Berry and Lucas Morgan. The meeting began with the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chris Gunderson.

Motion Goetsch, second Luedke, to approve the agenda. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion Luedke, second Litscher, to approve the minutes of the Regular Common Council Meeting from October 17, 2022 and Special Council Meeting from October 24, 2022. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Citizen Appearances: Library Representative, Frank Zabojski, was not present to give a report. The Library Board meeting was moved to November 28, 2022.

Lucas Morgan, who moved up from Texas and is now living in the area asked some questions to the Council about revitalizing the downtown area and any plans the City had.

Motion Luedke, second Goetsch, to open the Public Hearing for the 2023 General Fund Budget. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Public Works Committee: *Motion Goetsch, second Gunderson, to approve the Faulks Brothers Snow Removal Rate Agreement as presented. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.*

Finance Committee: *Motion DuCoeur, second Luedke, to approve Cline Hanson Dahlke overflow technology port be installed as presented in the packet and in the event the business changes, it would then be removed. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.*

Motion DuCoeur, second Luedke, to approve leaving the Special Assessment and Real Estate Inquiry fee at \$30 and add a rush fee of \$50. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion DuCoeur, second Luedke, to approve checks dated 10/01/2022 through 10/31/2022 totaling \$414,660.80 and the monthly financial reports. A roll call vote was taken with “ayes” from Litscher, Looker, Goetsch, Luedke, DuCoeur, and Gunderson. Motion carried.

Motion DuCoeur, second Luedke, to approve Ordinance 2022-2 Updated Fee Schedule effective 01/01/2023. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion DuCoeur, second Luedke, to approve Ordinance 2022-3 adding a Street Use Permit fee. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion DuCoeur, second Litscher, to approve an increase of \$5 to shelter rentals making Shelter #2 \$60 and all other shelters \$50. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Police, Fire, & Ambulance Committee: *Motion Luedke, second Goetsch, to approve the Critical Incident Retainer Agreement. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.*

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Public Health & Relief (Ordinance) Committee: No Action for Council

Recreation Committee: No Action for Council

Public Property & Purchasing Committee: No Action for Council

Plan Commission: *Motion Luedke, second DuCoeur, to approve Ordinance 2022-4 amending the B-1 General Business District to allow an exercise facility. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.*

Motion Goetsch, second Litscher, to approve the sign permit application for Connor Vanden Boomen at 117 E Main Street. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion DuCoeur, second Goetsch, to approve the request by Jeremy Hickey, 208 E Parker Street, for a fence height extension and when his son no longer resides at the residence to return the fence to required regulation height. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

New Business: No Action for Council

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Spierings reported that the City is ready for winter. The snow removal contract was approved, Public Works is getting equipment ready to go and the Chamber is working on Christmas lights along Main Street.

Administrator’s Report: Administrator Schroeder reported that a copy of the updated zoning map is at each Council Member station. A Thank You from Premier Bank was passed around. He spoke with our Health Insurance Broker and the 2023 health insurance premium increased by 14.26% which was appropriately planned for in the budget calculations. Schroeder is also requesting to be absent from the December 19th Council Meeting so that he can use some of his vacation time.

Police Chief’s Report: Chief Leschke reported on the following items from the department:

- 201 calls of service since last council meeting
- Officer Rode worked on a mental health crises situation that Sergeant Strobush would like to see him get recognized for his work.
- Premier Bank sent a check to the City for \$1,315 for the Therapy Dog Program which was from their open house. \$1,000 donated from Premier and \$315 that was collected in donations. Currently there is \$6,000 in the Therapy Dog program account.
- Thanked the Council for approving the Critical Incident Retainer Agreement. Very appreciative to offer this service to his staff.

2023 Proposed Budget Review: As discussed in the Special Council Meeting on October 24th the 2023 General Fund Budget was proposed with expenditures of \$2,105,261. No changes to the budget have been made since the Special Council Meeting. Schroeder also explained the difference in setting the tax levy at the same amount as last year which was \$813,000 or increasing it to the maximum amount the City can at \$818,943. Not taking advantage of the maximum amount could hurt the City in future years. It was also noted that this is the first year the Department of Revenue stated the City’s assessed value to equalized value is

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out of compliance. A city wide reassessment will take place in 2023 by Associated Appraisals. Employees will receive a 2.5% increase and upon positive evaluations can also receive a step increase for 2023 on the pay scale matrix. After some discussion by Council Members it was agreed to approve the tax levy amount at the maximum of \$818,943 with a mill rate of \$9.26.

Motion Luedke, second Looker, to close the Public Hearing for the 2023 General Fund Budget. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion Luedke, second DuCoeur, to approve Resolution #654 – Adoption of the 2023 General City Budget with a tax levy amount of \$818,943 and mill rate of \$9.26. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

The meeting calendar for December was set.

Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law: None

Motion DuCoeur, second Luedke, to move into Closed Session at 7:30 pm pursuant to §19.85(1)(g) Wis. Stats., to confer with legal counsel who will be providing legal advice concerning litigation the City is or is likely to be involved. The reason for the closed session is to discuss 118 E Main Street repairs. Also closed session pursuant to 19.85(1)(c) Wis. Stats., in consideration of employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any city employee who is subject to the jurisdiction or authority of the council. The reason for the closed session is Administrator Evaluation. If the council adjourns into closed session it may choose to reconvene into open session at the completion of the closed session pursuant to §19.85(2). Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion DuCoeur, second Gunderson, to move back into open session at 8:18 pm. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion Goetsch, second Luedke, to allow Administrator and Attorney to work on the next steps for the 118 E Main Street Property. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion DuCoeur, second Gunderson, to approve a 3% raise for Administrator. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Motion Luedke, second Looker, to adjourn at 8:21 pm. Motion carried with six “ayes”, zero “nays”.

Rebecca Loehrke
City Clerk