MINUTES

City of Niagara

Regular City Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

5:00 P.M.

Niagara City Hall

1029 Roosevelt Road

Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Joe Johnston. Present: Aldermen Lynn Burke, Mike Darne, Dan Decker, Glenn Lantagne, Lisa Mattia, Don Shampo; Public Works Coordinator JJ Coppens; Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick; Police Chief Angie Moreau, Police Officer Tyler Parr

Also present: Carla Miron, Teresa Clement, Howard Oller, and City Engineer Thad Majkowski (via Zoom)

A motion was made by Alderman Lantagne to approve the agenda. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Appearances:

Carla Miron expressed her concern about semi-truck brake noise. She has contacted State Representative Mursau regarding the issue. Ms. Miron asked for the placement of additional “no engine brake signs.”

A motion was made by Alderman Darne and seconded by Alderman Burke to approve the minutes from the Regular City Council meeting April 19, 2021; Reorganizational Meeting April 20, 2021; Special Meeting May 6, 2021. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker and seconded by Alderman Darne to pre-approve the bills for June 2021. Motion carried.

The reports were reviewed. Alderman Shampo moved to approve the reports as presented. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

* Police Chief Moreau
  + Officers have been busy with multiple drug-related felony arrests, including heroin, THC, methamphetamine and fentanyl.
  + Chief Moreau applied for a grant for the National Night Out event and received an award of $9,000.00 from the M & M Area Community Foundation. The Foundation is also providing a sharps container for the Police Department.
  + Alternate jail lodging options are being looked into.
  + The tax intercept process has begun, allowing delinquent fines and penalties to be collected from tax returns.
  + Investigating the possibility of obtaining a canine.

Alderman Shampo spoke on behalf of the Sportsman’s Club in reference to the rifle range, which is currently closed due to potential safety issues. Plans are underway to make the range safer, including structural modifications, the presence of a range master and security cameras. MJ Electric will be donating the use of heavy equipment for necessary dirt work.

Administrator Fredrick provided an update to the proposed housing development by SC Swiderski (SCS). A developer’s agreement was presented by SCS, which was forwarded to a City attorney for review. Alderman Decker moved to accept the report, and Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City Engineer Thad Majkowski of Cedar Corp appeared via Zoom format to discuss the status of the Community Development Block Grant bid opening on May 13, 2021. Only one bid was received. The sidewalk portion of the bid exceeded the funding amount. Mr. Majkowski recommended splitting the contract into two bids and rebidding the projects. Alderman Decker moved to reject the bid by FA Industrial Services, Inc. Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried. Alderman Decker moved to revise the bid into two projects, and approve a letter of authorization from Cedar Corp to prepare the documents at a cost of $2,300.00. Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Open meeting policies were reviewed. Alderman Decker moved to acknowledge the review, and Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Darne moved to appoint Bob Grandaw to the position of Zoning and Permit Administrator. Alderman Mattia seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Lantagne moved to amend ATV/UTV Ordinance 10-4-2. The changes allow ATVs/UTVs to be operated until 10:00 p.m. In addition, they can be used in the City limits year-around except for the period of time that Marinette County temporarily closes the trail system in the spring. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to accept Resolution 05-26-2021 *Compliance Maintenance Annual Report.* Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Darne moved to accept the annual liquor and tobacco license applications on the contingency that all fees, utilities and City taxes are current. A notice will be published in the Borderland Journal, with final approval to be considered at the June Council meeting. Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Shampo to approve the use of Heights Park for the “Duck Races” sponsored by the Niagara Knights of Columbus on Saturday, July 24, 2021. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Shampo moved to approve a temporary liquor license for the “Duck Races” sponsored by the Niagara Knights of Columbus on Saturday, July 24, 2021 at Heights Park. Alderman Mattia seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Shampo to approve a temporary operator’s license for Mike Darne for the “Duck Races” sponsored by the Niagara Knights of Columbus on Saturday, July 24, 2021 at Heights Park. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to approve the draft revision of the Public Works/Administrative handbook. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Decker moved to accept the update to the City organizational chart – Ordinance 2-3-1 (e). Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There was no Administrative Report.

Public Works Coordinator Coppens provided the Water Report and Sewer Report:

* Hydrant flushing will be scheduled. A notice will be posted.

Alderman Shampo moved to accept the Water and Sewer report as presented. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

* Park and Recreation:
  + Alderman Shampo reported that there is approximately $14,300.00 in the Memorial Park fund for the bathroom construction. The plans submitted include block walls that are easy to maintain and are aesthetically appealing. Alderman Darne moved to accept the quote from Zawada Construction for $25,000.00 in addition to a $5000.00 discount from Zawada Construction. Alderman Decker seconded the motion. Upon further review of the quote, it was determined that the fee of $25,000.00 already included the discount. Alderman Decker moved to rescind the original motion, and Alderman Darne seconded this motion. Alderman Lantagne moved to investigate additional funding sources and accept the report. Alderman Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried.
* Public Safety:
  + Police Officer Tyler Parr approached the Council regarding the acquisition of a police canine. He reported that there is heavy drug traffic in the area, and a canine from another police department is not usually available. A dog can also be used for search and rescue services. The average start-up cost of a canine program is $20,000.00, and funding and/or donations would be solicited. Alderman Burke moved to do research on the feasibility of a police canine, and Alderman Shampo seconded the motion. Motion carried.
* Beautification
* Flower pots will be placed along Main Street in June. Additional pre-lit Christmas trees will be ordered. The Niagara High School art class painted some decorative fence panels that will be placed throughout town. Alderman Decker moved to accept the report. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Lantagne moved to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) at 6:33 p.m. Alderman Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Decker to reconvene to open session at 7:02 p.m. Alderman Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

The next regular meeting date of the Niagara City Council will be Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Decker and seconded by Alderman Mattia to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.