

JANUARY 13, 2004

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Fanta with Alderpersons Roger Hatlem, David Tryggestad, Gail Frie, John Bjerke, Robert Suhr, Steve Zastrow, Vernie Smith, Terry Noble, and Weston Mack present. Also present were City Clerk Jodi Garibaldi, City Attorney David Jenkins, City Consultant Jeff Gohlke, Police Chief Mark Rahr, Director of Public Works Tom Henry, Richard Running, and WVRQ.

2. Approval of the minutes of the December 30th regular Council meeting:

Motion made by Alderman Hatlem to approve the minutes of the December 30th Council meeting, seconded by Alderman Suhr. All ayes, motion carries.

3. Public hearing on the taxi cab budget and services:

Public hearing opened at 7:32 p.m. Richard Running from Viroqua Cab Company (DBA Running, Inc. gave a brief summary of the taxi cab budget process and effects of the budget on taxi cab services. Mr. Running provided graphs and explanations of peak and non-peak service hours. Several taxi cab patrons and spoke against cutting the service hours of the taxi cab. Several discussions had initiated concerning the options of cutting different hours and possibly raising fees. Public hearing closed at 8:05 p.m.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding city insurance:

Aldersperson Frie recommended that the city switch from Wausau Insurance Company to Westland Insurance Company. Motion made by Aldersperson Frie to approve the \$3,000,000.00 limit original quote, along with the \$2,500.00 public officials insurance deductible, from Westland Insurance Company to be effective January 15, 2004, seconded by Aldersperson Mack. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carries.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding fees for revenue bond issues:

Aldersperson Frie recommends a study of the issue due to the fact that Bethel Home's Bond program is too far along to consider involving the fee.

6. Discussion and possible action on part-time Police Officer hiring procedures:

The issue was recommended to the Police and Fire Commission.

7. Discussion and action on CWE updating the zoning map:

Motion made by Aldersperson Hatlem to continue with collecting information for the map and to table the issue until financial and engineering figures are produced, seconded by Aldersperson Zastrow. All ayes. Motion carries.

8. Discussion and possible action on fuel purchase procedures:

Mayor Fanta requested an explanation as to the reasons certain departments use only certain gas stations to buy fuel for city vehicles. Mr. Henry explained that the Vernon Co-op is convenient for the large machinery that need to be fueled and the Vernon Co-op only bills once a month with a breakdown of fuel costs by vehicle. Police Chief Rahr stated that Kwik Trip cards for police vehicles can be used all over the state, which is convenient for traveling.

9. Discussion concerning a new location for a hitching post:

Mayor Fanta explained that the hitching post behind Nuzum's lumber yard needed to be moved to another location.

11. Review of revenue and expense reports and payment of bills:

Motion made by Alderman Suhr to pay the bills, seconded by Alderman Mack. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion carries.

12. Period for public comment:

Alderman Suhr requested to update the Council on the Library at the next Council meeting. Alderman Frie mentioned that the Finance Committee approved the clothing allowance increase for Police Chief Mark Rahr and Assistance Police Chief Daron Jefson from \$200.00 to \$400.00.

13. Adjournment:

Motion made by Alderman Suhr to adjourn the council meeting until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 27th, 2004, seconded by Alderman Hatlem. All ayes. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Jodi L. Garibaldi
City Clerk