

**JANUARY 27, 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 Tryggstad, Gail Frie, John Bjerke, Robert Suhr, Steve Zastrow, Vernie Smith, and Weston Mack present. Alderperson Terry Noble was absent. Also present were City Clerk Jodi Garibaldi, City Attorney David Jenkins, City Consultant Jeff Gohlke, Assistant Police Chief Daron Jefson, Director of Public Works Tom Henry, Gareth Steiner from Vernon Memorial Hospital, Steve Apfelbacher from Ehlers & Associates, Doug Ramsey, Doug McClean, Bud Bekkedal, and WVRQ.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the January 8<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Common Council:**

Motion made by Alderman Hatlem to approve the minutes of the January 8<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Common Council, seconded by Alderman Frie. All ayes, motion carries.

**3. Approval of the minutes of the January 13<sup>th</sup> regular Council meeting:**

Motion made by Alderman Suhr to approve the minutes of the January 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting with stated corrections, seconded by Alderman Zastrow. All ayes, motion carries.

**4. Public hearing on Preliminary Resolution to vacate part of East Oak and Center streets by Hospital:**

Public hearing opened at 7:32 pm. Gareth Steiner from Vernon Memorial Hospital opened discussion by introducing Doug Ramsey from HSR Associates and Doug McClean from Market and Johnson and giving a brief overview of the hospital project. Construction on the new addition is scheduled to start in late summer or early fall of 2004 and is also scheduled to open in October of 2005. Several neighbors spoke in regards to the vacation of the two streets and concerns pertaining to traffic flow, parking on the neighboring and abutting streets, skateboarders in the parking lot and the alley, lights from the parking lot spilling into homes, the "screaming machines attached to the building", sewer flow, tax increases, decreasing of property values, traffic hazards for young, neighboring children, increased alley traffic, and involving the neighboring residents with decision and addressing the issues brought forth at the public hearing. Several people spoke in favor of the hospital project because of the betterment to the community, increasing the hospital's ability to serve the community medically, increase provider involvement and availability, the new facility addition will provide a "one stop shop" for all healthcare needs, and the ability to keep Main Street visibility is important. Mr. Steiner stated that the hospital was more than willing to work with the neighbors to alleviate any potential problems the new addition and street vacation might create and to work on current problems. Public hearing closed at 8:42 pm.

**5. Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution No. 836: A resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1,070,000.00 Water System Mortgage Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2004A of the City of Viroqua, Vernon County, Wisconsin, and providing for the payment of the bonds and other details with respect to the bonds:**

Steve Apfelbacher from Ehler's and Associates explained Resolution No. 836: A resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1,070,000.00 Water System Mortgage Revenue Refunding Bonds. Motion made by Alderperson Hatlem to accept the lowest bidder, Banker's Bank, in regards to Resolution No. 836: A resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1,070,000.00 Water System Mortgage Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2004A of the City of Viroqua, Vernon County, Wisconsin, seconded by Alderperson Suhr. Roll call vote, 8 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carries.

**6. Discussion and possible action regarding City of Viroqua Sewer Bond Issue:**

Motion made by Alderperson Hatlem to authorize Ehler's to explore the Sewer Refunding Bond refinancing with Banker's Bank, seconded by Alderperson Suhr. All ayes. Motion carries.

**7. Discussion and possible action on amendment to contract for taxi services:**

Motion made by Alderperson Frie to approve the amended contract for taxi services, seconded by Alderperson Mack. Roll call vote, 8 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carries.

**8. Discussion and possible action on sale of city property to Troecles Oxenvad:**

Mr. Oxenvad was not present. Item was tabled.

**9. Discussion and possible action on proposals for a street sweeper and leaf vac:**

Item was tabled.

**10. Discussion and possible action on Alcoholic Beverage Operator's License applications:**

Public Safety Committee recommends the approval of Alcoholic Beverage Operator's License applications for Karl E. Bessinger, Rebecca J. Freise, and Vicki L. Neumann. Motion made by Alderperson Mack to approve the Alcoholic Beverage Operator's License applications for Karl E. Bessinger, Rebecca J. Freise, and Vicki L. Neumann, seconded by Alderperson Bjerke. Roll call vote, 7 ayes, 1 nay cast by Vernie Smith. Motion carries.

Alderperson Zastrow excuses himself from the meeting.

**11. Library update from Alderperson Suhr:**

Alderperson Suhr provides a library update to the council.

**12. Review of revenue and expense reports and payment of bills:**

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

**13. Period for public comment:**

Alderperson Frie mentions that there is no prepayment penalty on the fire truck lease. Attorney Jenkins recommends that the issue go on the next council meeting.

**14. Adjournment:**

Motion made by Alderman Hatlem to adjourn the council meeting until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004, seconded by Alderman Frie. All ayes. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Jodi L. Garibaldi  
City Clerk