

Regular Meeting of the Boscobel Common Council
Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Boscobel, Wisconsin, was called to order by Mayor Steve Wetter at 7:00 pm. Members Present: Mayor Steve Wetter, Alder Barbara Bell, Alder Gary Kjos, Alder Steve Fritz, Alder Stephanie Brown, Alder Krissy Schneider, Alder Brenda Kalish, Alder Roger Brown, and Alder Brian Kendall. Absent: None.

Others Present: City Attorney Ben Wood, City Administrator Misty Molzof, Police Chief Jaden McCullick, Engineer/DPW Mike Reynolds, Tom Pelz, and virtual was Robert Keeney.

Agenda: Proof in the form of a certificate of public notice given as required by § 19.84, Wis. Stats., as to the holding of this meeting, was presented by the Clerk.

Minutes 04/19/2021: Motion by Alder R. Brown, second by Alder Kjos to approve minutes of the April 19, 2021 Common Council meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments & Concerns: None.

Ordinance #2021-01: Motion by Alder Bell, second by Alder Fritz to approve Ordinance #2021-01, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 12.01(4)(B) relating to Provisional Operator's Licenses. Motion carried.

Pool Manager & Assistants: Motion by Alder Bell, second by Alder Kalish to approve Park Commission recommendation to hire Jacob Young as 2021 Pool Manager at \$13.25 per hour, and Katie Reynolds and Julie Kendall as Assistant Pool Managers at \$13.50 per hour. Motion carried with Alder Kendall abstaining.

Grant County Fiber Optics: Robert Keeney, Grant County Board of Supervisors, explained that the County is putting in a fiber loop around the county for better emergency coverage using American Rescue Plan Funds and other county funds to cover the cost. The current site they are exploring in Boscobel is on the southwest side of the City by the John Latham field, or the Boscobel Education Foundation property. The loop will be effective in the event that there is an outage because service will be available on the other half of the loop. The plan is to build 10 additional towers and we will have 98% coverage around the county. Grant County will maintain the 200'-220' towers once installed.

TID #4 Housing: Molzof explained to the Council that there are some options to use the TID #4 Housing, and while she understands that government should not be in the business to build housing, we do have a housing shortage here, and we seem to be too small to attract housing developers. We have \$200,000 in this fund, and there are some options with all the COVID-19 funding out there that we could come up with a plan to start building housing. One option could be to come up with some type of duplex-style condominiums; perhaps build one two-unit at a time, sell them, and reinvest into the next unit. Another option is to look at a revolving loan fund where we loan out funds for people who are unable to come up with the money to build until they can get a loan from the bank for the finished home. A third option would be to work with local banks to assist people with funding. Or we could look at building retirement condos in hopes that some people would purchase them to free up family homes throughout the City. There is a difference between workforce housing and low-income housing, and it is important that we all understand it. We would not be looking at low-income or Section 8 housing, but rather taking the average income of some of the higher paying jobs in the City and building housing that they could afford to purchase. For example – we would look at building housing

that a family making between \$80,000 - \$150,000 per year could afford. I was hoping to have this conversation to get the Council's feelings about pursuing options. Alders expressed interest in exploring options and forming an Ad-Hoc Committee to pursue.

ADA Accessibility Project Bids: Motion by Alder R. Brown, second by Alder Kalish to award Contract #1, Municipal Facilities ADA Entrance Improvements, to Bachmann Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$75,284, and Contract #2, Pool House ADA Improvements, to CCJ Construction, LLC in the amount of \$87,500; both contingent upon approval of environmental review. Upon roll call vote, all alders present voted aye. Motion carried.

Operator Licenses: Motion by Alder Schneider, second by Alder Kjos to approve operator licenses for: Charlotte Ceceila Allen, Christopher Raymond Mezera, Mathew R Predmore-Miller, Amanda Danielle Caya, Samantha Jo Verhein, and Gary Dean Compton. Motion carried.

DPW Report: Reynolds reported that Stump Removal Project bids and 2021 Street Maintenance Project bids will be ready for approval at the next Council meeting, and the Endloader/Snowblower bids will be reviewed at the June 7th Council meeting. To date the Tree Replacement Program is not seeing many sign ups.

Administrator's Report: Molzof reported that as of Thursday last week there were over 350 surveys turned in for the Comprehensive Plan Update, a meeting has been scheduled for May 11, 2021 at 3:30 pm to go over the results, she did a presentation for Mr. Atkinson's government class last week where there were about 25 mostly seniors and a couple of juniors present. As part of that presentation, the students went online and took the survey as well. I met with Sue Bacon today regarding the Beautification Committee and Project. She has some really good ideas; however, I explained that it will be important to look at the Comprehensive Plan when it is all approved to see what the community wants. There has been a lot going on in Boscobel and a lot of events are planned. High School Sports are back in full swing with baseball, softball, and track meets scheduled regularly, Saturday, May 1st the Farmers Market opened for the 1st time this year, The Little Free Art Gallery was open on Saturday - right across from A&W, the Boscobel EMS Tractor Pull was also on Saturday and it appeared to have a good crowd. Coming up this weekend are the City-Wide Garage Sales - May 7th & 8th. The City-wide cleanup will be Saturday, May 15th.

Library Director's Report: Miller sent a written report.

Police Chief's Report: McCullick stated that there were 51 public nuisance letters sent out Friday, we have shared information on Spring Clean-Up, and call volume has increased.

Mayor's Appointments: Motion by Alder Kalish, second by Alder Kjos to reappoint Steve Fritz and Jeanette Nauert to the Boscobel Housing Authority. Motion carried. Looking for someone to replace Tonia Vial on the Board of Review as she no longer resides in the City limits.

Committee Reports: None.

Mayor Communications: None.

Schedule Committee Meetings: None.

Monthly bills: Motion by Alder R. Brown, second by Alder Kjos to approve monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$135,108.91, of which are \$111,669.34 general fund, and \$2,532.11 out of Library County Funds approved by Library Board, \$31.49 from Donations Fund, \$8,904.05 and \$20,875.97 from Capital Improvements Funds. Upon roll call vote, all alders present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

Adjourn: Motion by Alder Bell, second by Alder R. Brown to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 pm.

Date Published: _____

Stephen R. Wetter, Mayor

Misty Molzof, City Administrator