

**A Regular Meeting of the Boscobel Common Council**  
**Monday, February 20, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Boscobel, Wisconsin, was called to order by Mayor Brenda Kalish at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Alder Barb Bell, Alder Gary Kjos, Alder Stephanie Brown, Alder Steve Fritz, Alder Milt Cashman, Alder Roger Brown, Alder Krissy Schneider and Alder Brian Kendall.

Others Present: Engineer/DPW Mike Reynolds, City Administrator Patricia Smith, Police Chief Jaden McCullick, Street Superintendent Luke Brown, Nate Copsey, Lisa Wallin-Kapinus, Casey Updike, Jimmie Keske, Pete Schneider, Wendi Stitzer, Melisa Cornell, Tioni Tamling and Joe Hart.

Virtual: None.

*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 02/06/2023:* Motion by Alder R. Brown, second by Alder Kjos to approve minutes of the February 6, 2023, Common Council meeting as presented. Motion carried.

*Registered Comments & Concerns:* Mayor Kalish noted that Terri and Cheb Elliott made a complaint regarding the condition of Airport Road and Chestnut Street. Mayor Kalish will reach out to discuss. Alder Kendall commented on the most recent train derailment in Ohio which carried toxic chemicals. His question was, "What if this happened in Boscobel; are we prepared?" The topic created discussion on having a proper hazard mitigation program in place. Administrator Smith did comment that on February 15, 2023, she attended a program at the Boscobel Fire Station hosted by Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. A representative from each township/municipality needed to attend to go through a program and create an action plan for their respective entities. Smith stated that she was completing the plan for the City of Boscobel and will bring information back to Common Council for review and approval. Smith noted four areas of top risk for the City: flood, wildfire, train derailments and cyber security.

*Discussion and Action on Park Commission Recommendation on Transforming One of the City Diamonds into Baseball Field for Boscobel Area School District:* Motion by Alder R. Brown, second by Alder Bell to approve transforming one of the City diamonds into a baseball field for Boscobel Area School District. All alders voted aye, except Alder Kjos who voted nay. Motion carried.

*DPW Report:* Engineer/DPW Reynolds presented an update on the Boat Landing Project. Work has started with a couple of days of work. There was an issue with the dump truck sliding due to thawing. Reynolds also commented that the Pool Manager has accepted another position with a summer camp so he will not be returning; there is enough notice to cover the position. Park Board will be meeting the first Tuesday in March to address the position. The Utility Board has approved purchasing a new digger derrick truck. The approval was made in July of 2021, with delivery in July, 2022. In March, 2022 we received notice that there would be an increase of \$20,000 with the purchase and that the delivery would be delayed to late 2022. In November or December 2022, Reynolds received notice that they might not be able to deliver the new Ford chassis. In January 2023, Reynolds was notified that if we do get the new Ford chassis, it would be another \$20,000 and we would not receive it until November/December 2023. If we went with an International chassis, it would still be an additional \$20,000, with delivery in October of 2023. The International chassis would not work as it puts the truck too high to get into the garage. The Utility Board approved the purchase of the current truck we are using, which is being leased from the same company we are looking to purchase from. The company gave the utility credit for 50% of all lease payments made, which is \$1,500 per month. The price of the truck would have been \$30,000; however, with the applied credits, it will be \$22,000. If we would have purchased the new vehicle, it would have been \$300,000. The old truck purchased in 2001 was \$117,000. With the current purchase, we have a nice fairly new truck. This will allow the

utility more time. We will eventually sell the current truck when a new truck is purchased to offset costs. In 2027 there will be new emission requirements; orders for new trucks will need to be made in a year to be certain we can obtain new trucks that will meet the emission requirements. The costs for the new emissions will be about \$20,000 to \$30,000. Reynolds stated there will be a need for a new dump truck as well. The last dump truck purchased was in 2020. Reynolds is planting the seed with the Council that there will be a need to get the truck on order. Payment would not be made until 2025 or 2026, but must be done to keep up with the emissions. After these dates, the purchase of an electric truck may take place. Reynolds did reach out to the logger we are trying to hire to remove trees on the Pine Shores subdivision lots. Reynolds stated they were supposed to meet by the end of February. Reynolds has not heard back on the time capsule; he is working with Krause Monument to open the current monument in front of the library to see if the time capsule is inside. Reynolds is waiting on pricing. Reynolds is hoping to open the monument before July, 2023. Krause has a saw where they can remove the top and then reglue the monument when complete. The hope is that the time capsule is in the monument and not attached to the Library building.

*Administrator's Report:* City Administrator Smith communicated that February 21, 2023, is the Spring Primary Election. Badger Books will be launched for this election; she had conducted four trainings with poll workers on the Badger Books so everyone is ready for the Election Day. Smith attended the Ehlers conference the week prior in Wisconsin Dells. Smith shared that the League of Wisconsin Municipalities was there communicating the possibility of shared revenue from the state surplus. No amount was given, nor how it will be structured. In June the vote should take place, so more information to come. Smith also attended the downtown revitalization sessions and was excited to formulate the information and apply to a future vision for Boscobel. The other agenda items were around TIF Districts. Smith also communicated the attendance with the Disaster Recovery program and is currently working on the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Boscobel and will present information at a future Common Council meeting for review and approval. Smith confirmed the four areas of risk are to focus on: flood, wildfires, railroad through City and cyber security. Training for the financial software conversation will start the week of March 2, 2023, and will go for four weeks.

*Police Chief's Report:* Chief McCullick communicated his attendance at the annual Police Chief's conference in Wisconsin Dells. Noted on the agenda were legal updates. McCullick communicated the new squad car will arrive around June/July timeframe. McCullick also shared that the posting is out for a new police officer and hopes to have identified by late March. McCullick closed by sharing the most recent donation given to the Boscobel Police Department in memory of Kempert Krogen from the Prairie Masonic Lodge is a fire suppression device used for first responders. It is like a grenade where you pull a pin and throw it into a room on fire. It's non-toxic; however, extremely effective in stopping fires so first responders can enter and address medical concerns of any injured individuals. McCullick stated there may be another donation from the Boscobel community and will confirm if it happens. These are highly effective devices and more times than not, the police officers are the first on scene. The devices are not reusable; however, insurance companies may cover the cost if they are used. They are about \$1,400 brand new.

*Library Director's Report:* None

*Mayor's Report:* Mayor Kalish communicated that the monthly Grant County Economic Development dinner meeting is on February 22, 2023. It may be cancelled due to inclement weather and we should know tomorrow.

*Approve Personnel Committee's Recommendation for Promotion of New Assistant Chief of Police:* Motion by Alder Cashman, second by Alder Kjos to approve promoting Travis Dregne to the position of Assistant Chief of Police, effective April 25, 2023, due to the retirement of current Assistant Chief of Police, Kevin Copus. Motion carried.

*Discussion and Action to accept ComElec's Radio Bid and Expend the Remaining \$8,227.07 of the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Assistance Grant Funds to Purchase some of the Radios:* Motion by Alder Fritz, second by Alder Schneider to approve purchasing ComElec radios. Motion carried.

*Committee Board Meetings Updates/Reports:*

- a. *Approve Tuffley Center Committee's recommendation for new cleaning person:* Motion by Alder Cashman, second by Alder Bell to approve hiring new Tuffley Center cleaning person. Motion carried.

*Approve Licenses (if any):* None

*Pay Requests:* None

*Approve January 2023 Account Balances Report:* Motion by Alder Cashman, second by Alder Bell to approve January 2023 Account Balances Report. Motion carried.

*Monthly Bills:* Motion by Alder Kjos, second by Alder R. Brown to approve monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$973,370.75 of which are \$970,401.85 from General Fund, \$1,665.37 from Library Fund approved by Library Board, \$40.98 from Donations Fund and \$1,262.55 in Capital Funds. Upon roll call vote, all alders present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

*Adjourn:* Motion by Alder Cashman, second by Alder Kjos to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:46 pm.

Date Published: \_\_\_\_\_

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Brenda L. Kalish, Mayor

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Patricia A. Smith, City Administrator