

CITY OF SHULLSBURG, WISCONSIN
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
November 15, 2023
6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shullsburg was held November 15, 2023 in the Community Room of the Shullsburg Community Townsend Center, 190 N. Judgement Street, Shullsburg, Wisconsin. Mayor Verne Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Notice of the meeting was posted at the Townsend Center, Shullsburg Post Office and Turpin's Home Town Grocery. Roll Call- Gloria Swenson, Susie Doyle-Wand, Cheryl Mulcahy, Dan Morrissey - Present. Others present- Pam Paquette, Brian Lund, Marc Muehleip, Tyson Morrissey, Nick Doyle, Josh Jerry, Dave Leahy, Nathan Russell, Janelle Schumacher, Laura Weiskircher and Marsha Einsweiler.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes - *Motion by Swenson second by Mulcahy to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2023 and November 1, 2023 meetings. All aye, motion carried.*

Police Chief Report – Report was emailed. No questions at this time.

Approve Bills - *Motion by Morrissey second by Swenson to approve the bills for General, Water, Sewer, Electric, Pool, Museum, Library & TIF Funds. All aye, motion carried.*

Public Comment - None

Downtown Building Ordinance Violations – Attorney Russell addressed the Council regarding a letter that was received from an attorney representing a property owner in the downtown business district. Attorney Russell reached out to them in response to the letter but has not heard back. He will make contact with them and request an opportunity to walk through the property with the Zoning Administrator and 1-2 Council Members. Another business is requesting a letter confirming they are in compliance with the zoning ordinance. There was no action at this time.

A Bit of Yesteryear Parade Special Event Applications – Tyson Morrissey addressed the Council regarding a special event application for A Bit of Yesteryear Parade submitted by Advance Shullsburg. He noted a couple changes, including adding mini golf at the intersection of South Galena Street and West Water Street, as well as wanting to close the South half of West Water Street at 4:00pm to parked cars in order to accommodate viewing of the parade without cars obstructing the view. Police Chief Jerry suggested closing that half of the street starting at 5:00am. Brief discussion was held regarding this option. At the Council's suggestion, Tyson Morrissey agreed that having volunteers to communicate this change as well as put signs up throughout the day, and use the sound system to make announcements will help clear the cars off in the afternoon. *Motion by Morrissey second by Doyle-Wand to approve the special event application for A Bit of Yesteryear Parade, including the street closure of the South half of West Water Street, beginning at 4:00pm. All aye, motion carried.*

New Police Department Vehicle – Chief Jerry presented the Council with three quotes for a new vehicle from Virtue Motors, Ewald Auto Group and Pioneer Ford. Morrissey questioned why the vehicle being considered is a truck and not an SUV and stated he is not ready to approve this until more research is done on this type of vehicle. Chief Jerry explained many other municipalities are moving to using a truck due to lack of availability of an SUV and the truck is designed to function in a similar manner to the SUV. After discussing the quotes, timing of placing the order and what would be done with the existing vehicle, Mayor Jackson asked for a motion. *Motion made by Swenson second by Doyle-Wand to order a new Police Department truck from Pioneer Ford based on the estimate provided. Mulcahy - yes, Doyle-Wand – yes, Swenson – yes, Morrissey - no, motion carried.*

Burning Grounds End of Season - Discussion was held regarding setting a close date for the Burning Grounds. *Motion by Swenson second by Mulcahy to close the burning grounds for the season at the end of the day Saturday, December 2, 2023. All aye, motion carried.*

2024 Proposed Budget – Discussion was held regarding changes to the proposed budget including adjustments to the short term borrowing required, the library expenditures and a levy limit adjustment for fire and ambulance. The 2024 Budget Hearing will be held on December 6, 2023. No action taken.

Resolution for 2024 Borrowing – Mayor Jackson read a resolution to authorize borrowing up to \$220,000 from Clare Bank. *Motion by Morrissey second by Mulcahy to approve Resolution 2023-08 authorizing borrowing an amount not to exceed \$220,000 from Clare Bank. All aye, motion carried.*

Townsend Center Phone System – An update was given regarding the current phone carrier, Brightspeed, being able to provide an updated phone system and keep the existing phone number. *Motion by Morrissey second by Swenson to approve an updated phone system for the Townsend Center. All aye, motion carried.*

Clerk/Treasurer Report– October financial reports were emailed. No questions at this time.

Future Agenda Items –2024 Proposed Budget and Budget Amendments, Purchasing Property for Economic Development

Closed Session- At 7:41 p.m. *a motion was made by Doyle-Wand second by Mulcahy to convene into closed session. Roll Call- Morrissey-yes, Swenson-yes, Doyle-Wand-yes, Jackson-yes, Mulcahy- yes. Motion carried.* The closed session is pursuant to WI Statutes 19.85 (1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; specifically, to discuss 2024 employment contracts.

Open Session-At 8:26 p.m. *a motion was made by Swenson second by Morrissey to reconvene into open session. Roll Call- Morrissey-yes, Swenson-yes, Doyle-Wand-yes, Jackson-yes, Mulcahy- yes. Motion carried.*

Action on Closed Session - *Motion by Swenson second by Mulcahy to approve a 1-year contract for the City Clerk position as discussed. All aye, motion carried. Motion by Morrissey second by Mulcahy to approve a 1-year contract for Union employees as discussed. All aye, motion carried.*

At 8:28 PM a motion was made by Swenson, second by Mulcahy to adjourn. All aye, motion carried.

Janelle Schumacher
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer