

CITY OF SHULLSBURG, WISCONSIN  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES RE: PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE AND VACATION OF AN  
ABANDONED RIGHT-OF-WAY  
MARCH 19, 2025

A public hearing was held in the Community Room of the Shullsburg Community Townsend Center, 190 N. Judgement Street, Shullsburg, Wisconsin on March 19, 2024 at 6:30 P.M for the purpose of hearing all interested parties regarding the proposed discontinuance, vacating and removal from the Official Map, an abandoned right-of-way in the City of Shullsburg. Mayor Verne Jackson opened the hearing by reading the resolution and followed by asking for questions and comments from the public regarding the proposal. Property owners Steve Leitzinger and Philip and Paula Soppe were present. Soppe asked how the city will determine where the property lines are in order to add the width of the right-of-way to their property. She stated that they can no longer find the survey markers since East High Street had been worked on. There was discussion about what property records are on file at the courthouse for determining the property lines. Neither property owner believed they have had a recent survey of their property. Mayor Jackson offered the services of the City's utility employees, as they have been able to help find survey markers in the past. Morrissey offered to walk up there with the property owner and the city employee to help. At 6:38 P.M. Mayor Jackson asked twice more if there were any more questions or comments and being none asked for a motion to close the public hearing. *Motion by Reilly second by Swenson to close the public hearing. All aye, motion carried.*

COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
MARCH 19, 2025

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shullsburg was held March 19, 2025 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 6:38 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, Emmett Reilly, Dan Morrissey, Cheryl Mulcahy – Present; Others present- Mike Raso, Lee Gill, Nick Doyle, Andy Foley, Darrell Morrissey, Paul Ranum, Casey Fennell, Mark Evetovich, Cassidy Mackey, Paula Soppe, Philip Soppe, Steve Leitzinger, Stan Woodworth, Cory Ritterbusch, Mark Doyle, Mark Digman, Loren Daentl and Janelle Schumacher.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes** – *Motion by Swenson second by Morrissey to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025 Council Meeting. All aye, motion carried.*

**Committee Reports** – Morrissey reported a complaint he received from the property owner at 404 N. Virtue Street regarding tire tracks in his yard and potential damage being done to the street in front of his house.

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

**Public Comment** – None

**Resolution to Vacate & Discontinue an Abandoned Right-of-Way** – *Motion by Reilly second by Morrissey to approve Resolution 2025-01 Regarding the Vacation and Discontinuance of a Public Right-Of-Way in the Bottomley's Addition of the City of Shullsburg as discussed in the public hearing. All aye, motion carried.*

**Badger Park Upgrade Proposal** – Mayor Jackson presented information regarding the recommendations that were put together by the Badger Park Upgrade Committee over the past seven months. He stated that the original proposal for the project was over 3 million dollars and they have scaled that back to just over 1 million. The current proposal includes new backstop/fencing, new dugouts, improvements to the field surface, new accessible restrooms at the Mine & Museum, new concession space, new scoreboard for baseball/softball, remedies to the stormwater/drainage issues, new field lighting and electrical work, replacing the walking path with concrete, new sound system, new irrigation and water service. The cost proposals were based on estimates done by Delta 3 Engineering and the items were prioritized by the 17-person committee who

met 8 times over the course of 7 months. He stated that fundraising will most likely be needed and that contact has been made with a fundraising consultant and she will present to the Council at a public meeting the following week. Mayor Jackson then went through the timeline of when the work would take place. He called the project a catch-up project due to work that hasn't been done, but is needed. He stated that the park is one of the city's gems and investments need to be made in it. Mayor Jackson opened the floor for questions and comments from the public regarding the project. Morrissey asked about the placement of the football field and how the field would be moved in relation to the walking path and the Mine & Museum. Mark Digman of Delta 3 Engineering presented additional information regarding the engineering design and layout of the field. There was a request to have the design displayed on the screen for the public to see. Digman then explained additional changes to the walking path and why it needs to have minor changes to it, as well as explained how the homeplate area of the field would be shifted to the Northwest. He further explained changes to the stormwater drainage to assist with field drainage. Ranum asked if the city employees would be the ones replacing the walking path and stated that he would be willing to volunteer to help and believes there are others who would volunteer also. Fennell questioned the new concession stand and asked who would be using it, stating that if the Fever Baseball Team would prefer to continue to use the area by the West Shelter House, then the school could also use the West Shelter House and the Roundhouse for their concession sales. He stated that from the school's perspective, their opinion is that a new concession stand may not be needed and they can use the Roundhouse and the West Shelter House. The school does not need a separate building if it will save money on the project. Mayor Jackson stated that there had been discussion about selling alcohol in the future to raise revenue for the park, but in order to have that, they would need a dedicated concession stand space.

Morrissey directed a comment to Fennell that the school should be contributing toward backstop, fencing, scoreboard, and restoration of the roundhouse. He believes the school should take ownership of some of the projects. There was discussion about the property at the park that belongs to the school district. Superintendent Raso commented about the school's Fund 80 and explained that money can be used for property owned by the school that is used by the community. Woodworth commented that the groups who are selling concessions for their events at the park should give a certain percentage of their sales back to the city for revenue to the park. Nick Doyle explained that the example discussed at a committee meeting was that a city purchased all of the supplies/food and the organization who sold the concessions got 10% of the sales. Morrissey asked if anyone from the Athletic Boosters was present at the meeting and questioned what help other organizations will be helping to raise funds. Jackson reiterated that a fundraising consultant has been contacted and is putting together a proposal. Morrissey stated that he is committed to the project and believes the city should contribute to it financially. He posed a question about the bleachers and seating and whether it would move or not, since the field is moving. Digman and Ritterbusch stated that the bleachers will move with the field. There was additional discussion about the fan views and seating behind Homeplate and whether or not the dugouts will obscure the view of the field. There was additional discussion about funding and fundraising. Mayor Jackson posed the question to the Council on how they want to move forward. Doyle commented that the biggest portion of the project is the field and all aspects of the field needs to be done at once. Ritterbusch added that there are cost efficiencies to be seen if the project is done all at once. Ritterbusch also stated the city needs to be the leader in this, as they are the owner. *Motion by Reilly second by Morrissey to approve moving forward with the concept as presented. All aye, motion carried.*

**School District Referendum**– School superintendent Mike Raso presented information on the upcoming School District Referendum which will be on the April Spring Election ballot on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Wayfinding Project** – Cassidy Mackey and Loren Daentl presented a Wayfinding Project that Advance Shullsburg is taking on this year to add signs directing traffic around town. They are seeking assistance from the city with the project by having the city's public works employees help with the sign installation. Without the city's assistance, the installation would cost up to \$1000 per sign. They would like approval to meet with the Street Committee to decide on the sign placement and help with installation. *Motion by Swenson second by Morrissey to seek approval from the Street Committee to move forward with the Wayfinding Project and having city employees complete the sign installation. All aye, motion carried.*

**Pickleball Court** – No action taken.

**Beer Garden Ordinance** – The Council discussed a change to amend Section 4-32 of the Municipal Code to allow for music to be played in a beer garden. The Council discussed allowing music to be played, upon approval of a proper Special Event application. *Motion by Reilly second by Mulcahy to approve Ordinance No. 325 to amend Section 4-32 (e)(d) of the Code of Ordinances to read as follows: No music shall be allowed in the beer garden. The City Council may, upon property Special Event application, grant exceptions to this restriction for special events, celebrations or similar activities. All aye, motion carried.*

**Electric Transformer** – The Council considered an estimate the Electric Utility to purchase a new replacement transformer. *Motion by Reilly second by Swenson to approve the purchase of a new electric transformer in the amount of \$33,436.63. All aye, motion carried.*

**Proposal to Pressure Wash Townsend Center** – Mayor Jackson had no update on the pressure washing of the Townsend Center. Morrissey asked whether the proposal included two garage doors or three. Jackson commented that he asked All Star to come test a spot on the top of the building. No action taken.

**Open Burn Dates** – The Council discussed setting open burn dates; however, no action was taken due to the dry and windy weather. They will address it again at the next meeting.

**Grant Applications** – The Council discussed the upcoming grant applications that will be completed for funding for Badger Park.

**Clerk/Treasurer Report** – Reports were emailed prior to the meeting. Clerk will assist with and/or complete the grant applications mentioned above. April election is coming up.

**Closed Session** – At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Reilly second by Swenson to convene into closed session. Roll Call - Morrissey-yes, Swenson-yes, Reilly-yes, Jackson-yes, Mulcahy-no. Closed session is pursuant to Wis. Stat 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 – Discussion on Seasonal Employment Applications & Wages

**Open Session** – At 8:36 p.m. a motion was made by Reilly second by Mulcahy to reconvene into open session. Roll Call- Morrissey-yes, Swenson-yes, Reilly-yes, Jackson-yes, Mulcahy-yes, by phone. Motion carried.

**Action on Closed Session** – Motion by Reilly second by Mulcahy to approve hiring Janelle Jackson and Taryn Apodaca as Swim Team Coaches; Peyton Doyle as Pool Manager; Rex Blaine and Olivia Brown as Assistant Pool Managers; Lee Gill as Museum Curator; Maddox Hocking, Liam McGovern-Stierman and Gavin Pedley as Museum Attendants; Ries Stluka, Von Grossen, Isabelle Wiegel, Connor Doyle, Paige Russell, Kallie Timmerman, Kara Timmerman, Meadow Wiegel, Courtney Thyen as Lifeguards. All aye, motion carried.

**Closed Session** – At 8:41 p.m. a motion was made by Mulcahy second by Reilly to convene into closed session. Roll Call - Morrissey-yes, Swenson-yes, Reilly-yes, Jackson-yes, Mulcahy-no. Closed Session is Pursuant to Wis. Stat 19.85 (1)(e) for the deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session including the consideration of purchase of property.

**Open Session** – At 8:42 p.m. a motion was made by Swenson second by Reilly to reconvene into open session. Roll Call- Morrissey-yes, Swenson-yes, Reilly-yes, Jackson-yes, Mulcahy-yes, by phone. Motion carried.

**Action on Closed Session** – No action.

At 8:42 p.m. a motion was made by Swenson second by Reilly to adjourn. All aye, motion carried.

Janelle Schumacher  
Clerk/Treasurer