

CITY OF SHULLSBURG, WISCONSIN  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
APRIL 3, 2025

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shullsburg was held April 3, 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 10:00 a.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- Jodi Sweeney, Allison Taylor, Cassidy Mackey, Jeff Doyle, Andy Foley, Tyson Morrissey, Terri Woodworth, Wayne Gehrt, Darrell Morrissey, Nick Doyle, Bart Nies, Laura Weiskircher, Dawn Gobrecht, Rita Bucholz, Lynn Halverson, Tom Landgraf and Janelle Schumacher.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment – None**

**Badger Park Fundraising Campaign** – Mayor Jackson introduced Jodi Sweeney from The Sweeney Group, a fundraising consultant who he was introduced to through Cory Ritterbusch and also from a project in Benton. Sweeney addressed the Council and the public stating that she enjoys fundraising and is partially retired but likes doing projects like this and is willing to help. She believes this can be a successful project. She presented materials from her previous projects and explained the timeline of a fundraising campaign and the individual components including forming a committee, planning, identifying major donors, donor recognition, handling pledges and her initiative of 100 extraordinary women. Allison Taylor asked about in-kind donations and Sweeney confirmed they would gladly be accepted. Swenson asked about her fees to which Sweeney confirmed it would be \$4000 per month and while most campaigns take up to 12 months, she believes this could be wrapped up in between 8-12 months. There was discussion about using the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin to collect funds, however they do charge a fee. Morrissey stated he would like Advance Shullsburg to do it if they are able. Bart Nies commented that Delta 3 has and will donate some services and brought up the issue of maintenance concerns and urged the Council to plan for ongoing maintenance in the future while fundraising. He stated that some communities will use the rent from advertisement signs placed on the fence for this maintenance fund. There was discussion about the timeline of starting in 2026 and have the work completed in 2027. There was additional discussion about identifying potential major donors. *Motion by Morrissey second by Swenson to approve the fundraising agreement proposal presented by The Sweeney Group for services related to fundraising for Badger Park. All aye, motion carried.*

**Proposed Infrastructure Improvements** – Bart Nies of Delta 3 Engineering presented the Council with funding options for completing the 2025 Proposed Infrastructure Improvements. The City received DNR funding in the amount of \$400k grant and \$300k low interest loan. The City also qualified to apply for CDBG funding, but there are timing conflicts between the two programs. The City won't be notified of the CDBG award, which is up to \$1 million dollars, until after the required acceptance date of the DNR funding. Nies posed the question to the Council whether or not they want to accept the DNR funding or wait to see if they receive the larger amount of grant money from CDBG. It looks favorable for the city to apply for the DNR funding again next year and would be able to use it in addition to the CDBG funding. *Motion by Reilly second by Morrissey to decline the DNR funding, reapply for 2026 and move forward with applying for the CDBG funding. All aye, motion carried.*

**Lafayette County Housing Authority Funding** – Lynn Halverson of the Lafayette County Housing Authority presented the Council with a request to help ensure the new housing project moves forward. The federal funding for their project is being held up and they are potentially going to be prevented from breaking ground and starting the project if they don't secure more funding. They approached the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands regarding funding in the form of a low interest loan with no prepayment penalty. Tom Landgraf addressed the Council and explained more about the BCPL program. They are requesting that the City of Shullsburg apply for the loan on their behalf and the

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Clerk's Initials \_\_\_\_\_

LCHA would pay the loan back, if needed. They are hoping the federal funding will come through in time, and if it does, there is no need for this loan. The loan will only be used if the federal funding falls through. There was discussion about whether they can or should remove solar installation from the project to save money. Morrissey addressed the Council and public and stated that he is on the Housing Authority board and the County has invested almost 500k into this project, including owning the property, so that is why they are coming to the city for this help. Morrissey asked if the Housing Authority has the ability to make the monthly payments on this loan and Halverson confirmed. Jeff Doyle questioned Halverson about why the County can't go to the bank themselves and secure more funding from the bank. Halverson explained it would result in an added extra cost of almost \$20k to secure more funding from the bank. Doyle reiterated he doesn't believe this loan is something the Shullsburg taxpayers should take responsibility for. Morrissey believes this is something the City needs to do to support and provide for the senior citizens here and ensure the project continues to move forward. *Motion by Reilly second by Morrissey to move forward with the Commissioner of Public Lands Loan Application on behalf of, and to be repaid by the Lafayette County Housing Authority. Jackson requested roll call vote. Mulcahy – yes, Reilly – yes, Swenson – yes, Morrissey – yes. All aye, motion carried.*

**Closed Session** – At 11:30 a.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-yes. 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 11:39 a.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. *Motion carried.*

**Action on Closed Session** – *Motion by Reilly second by Mulcahy to accept HDT Properties offer to purchase Parcel 281.0447.3000. Morrissey- abstain, Swenson – yes, Reilly – yes, Mulcahy - yes, motion carried. Motion by Mulcahy second by Swenson to accept HDT Properties offer to sell Parcel 281.0582.1000. Morrissey- abstain, Swenson – yes, Reilly – yes, Mulcahy - yes, motion carried.*

*At 11:42 a.m. a motion was made by Morrissey second by Swenson to adjourn. All aye, motion carried.*

Janelle Schumacher  
Clerk/Treasurer