

CITY OF SHULLSBURG, WISCONSIN
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 9, 2025

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Shullsburg was held May 9, 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 1:30 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, Emmett Reilly, Dan Morrissey, Cheryl Mulcahy – Present; Others present- Jodi Sweeney, Jeff Doyle, Tom Lethlean, Andy Foley, Tyson Morrissey, Darrell Morrissey, Bart Nies, Laura Weiskircher, Shawn Roelli, Lynn Halverson, and Janelle Schumacher.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of 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

Designation of 501c3 Fiscal Agent for Badger Park Fundraising Campaign – Jeff Doyle addressed the Council and explained that the Advance Shullsburg executive committee had met and agreed to be the 501c3 fiscal agent for the Badger Park Fundraising Campaign for a cost of 2% of the funds raised. *Motion by Reilly second by Swenson to approve Advance Shullsburg as the 501c3 Fiscal Agent for the Badger Park Fundraising Campaign for Badger Park at the agreed upon rate of 2% of funds raised. All aye, motion carried.*

Badger Park Fundraising Projects – Jackson addressed the Council and confirmed that renderings of the project would be available at the May 22nd Council Meeting. Bart Nies of Delta 3 stated the engineers are ready to move forward with finalizing the designs, upon Council approval. Jodi Sweeney confirmed she is looking for a total dollar amount to have as a campaign goal. The Council reviewed the proposed upgrade priorities and associated costs that were put together by the Badger Park Upgrade Committee with the assistance of Delta 3 Engineering. The Council discussed the total project options coming in at \$1.2 million. There was additional discussion regarding the need for money to be placed into a maintenance or endowment fund for future upkeep. Morrissey questioned the bidding process, to which Nies confirmed any project over \$25,000 needs to be bid out. Nies confirmed costs related to the field drainage. There was additional discussion about the concession stand proposals and potentially adding \$225,000 to the project for a concession stand solution. Nies reminded the Council that construction costs will be reduced if contractors have multiple items to work on within the overall project. The proposed upgrade costs could range from \$1,115,000 to \$1,241,000. The Council agreed on the need to include money for endowment and future maintenance, moving the total campaign goal to \$1.5 million. *Motion by Morrissey second by Reilly to approve raising funds of \$1.5 million for the projects as discussed in the Badger Park Fundraising Campaign. All aye, motion carried.*

City Contribution to Badger Park Fundraising Project – The Council reviewed the current fund balance, existing debt and upcoming projects requiring the potential use of cash on hand and debt capacity. Nies explained the financing options for upcoming Infrastructure projects including portions of the projects to be paid by the Utilities. Nies mentioned two more projects that hadn't already been discussed – the sewer department clarifier project and any residential development. The Council discussed the Capital Improvement Plan and other upcoming street projects. Shawn Roelli of Johnson Block CPAs confirmed the good financial standing and borrowing capacity the City currently has and confirmed they can contribute \$400,000 to this project without raising taxes. This can be done because of revenue and savings decisions made during the 2024 budgeting process. The Council considered making additional Utility funds available to the project as well. *Motion by Morrissey second by Reilly to approve a city contribution towards the Badger Park Fundraising Project in the amount of \$500,000 without raising taxes. All aye, motion carried.*

Campaign Timeline and Action Items – Jodi Sweeney of The Sweeney Group who is leading the fundraising project gave an overview of the next steps and overall timeline, stating the campaign should be

finished within a year and would like to see it kick off at the July 4th celebration this year. The Council discussed the timeline for Delta 3 to beginning finalizing the designs and confirmed the renderings of the project will be available at the next Council meeting. *Motion by Morrissey second by Reilly to approve Delta 3 to continue working on project designs. All aye, motion carried.*

Appointment of Council Member to Campaign Committee – The Sweeney Group has developed a fundraising committee to make recommendations to the Council regarding the fundraising project. Sweeney would like the Council to appoint 1-2 members to participate in the committee. *Motion by Reilly second by Mulcahy to appoint Dan Morrissey to the fundraising committee. All aye, motion carried. Motion by Morrissey second by Swenson to appoint Mayor Jackson to the fundraising committee. All aye, motion carried.*

Board of Commissioners of Public Lands Loan Application & Resolution – Lynn Halverson from the Lafayette County Housing Authority gave an update on their housing project in Shullsburg, stating there is a good chance they will not need to access the money borrowed from the BCPL. However they do need the funds secured in order to break ground on the project. She confirmed what funds they plan to use to pay the loan back with, and confirmed they only currently have outstanding debt in the amount of \$320k, but assets worth over \$4 million. Morrissey reiterated to Halverson that the City of Shullsburg would like to give input regarding what happens to the existing building on Heller Court. There was additional discussion regarding a proposed administrative fee paid to the city for administering the loan, as well as a Repayment Agreement drafted by Russell Law between the City and LCHA. Those items will be discussed further at a future meeting. *Motion by Morrissey second by Reilly to approve the application for State Trust Fund Loan in the amount of \$700,000 for the purpose of financing a pass-through loan to Lafayette County Housing Authority to finance low-income senior housing development. Roll call vote – Mulcahy – yes, Reilly – yes, Swenson – yes, Morrissey – yes. Motion carried. Motion by Morrissey second by Swenson to approve the resolution to borrow \$700,000 from the Trust Funds of the State of Wisconsin as discussed. Roll call vote – Mulcahy – yes, Reilly – yes, Swenson – yes, Morrissey – yes. Motion carried.*

Townsend Center Outdoor Office Sign – *Motion by Reilly second by Swenson to approve the estimate and design from Dubuque Sign Company in the amount of \$823.18 for a new outdoor office sign at the Townsend Center. All aye, motion carried.*

Special Event Permit Application Submitted by Jenny Jacobsen – *Motion by Reilly second by Mulcahy to approve the special event permit application submitted by Jenny Jacobsen for May 18, June 8, June 22, July 4, July 27, August 3, September 14 for beer garden music events. All aye, motion carried.*

At 2:49 p.m. a motion was made by Swenson second by Morrissey to adjourn. All aye, motion carried.

Janelle Schumacher
Clerk/Treasurer