

City of Bayfield Common Council Regular Meeting

Minutes of Monday, November 1, 2021, 2 p.m.

Call to Order – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ringberg called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Bayfield City Hall followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Beagan, Bryan, Burkel, Carrier, and Mayor Ringberg

Staff: Chief Fangman, Treasurer Johnston, PWD Kovachevich, Clerk Hoopman, Office Admin. Mather, GBWWTP Operator Pearson

Others: Bob Durfey, Kati Anderson-Chamber

Review/Approve Agenda: Bryan/Carrier moved to approve the agenda as presented. Carrier.

Public Comment and Suggestions from Persons Present on Agenda Items: None.

Discussion and Identification of Items for Future Agendas: Mayor requested Council discuss meeting dates for 2022, specifically if meetings could be shifted to Mondays.

Review/Approve the Common Council minutes of October 20, 2021: Bryan/Burkel moved to approve the minutes as presented. Carried.

Agenda

1. 2022 Budget Summary, Proposed Budget, CIPS, and 5 yr. CIPs

PROPOSAL #2

Burkel/Carrier moved to approve Proposal #2 which includes receiving 80% of the allowable PILOT Payment in 2022 and to reevaluate future payment beyond 2022 noting it could go to 100% or lower than 80%. Discussion ensued. All agreed both the Utility and City's General Fund have their own financial issues, but Proposal #2 is the best middle ground for both. Passed by voice vote: Beagan-yes, Bryan-no, Burkel-yes, and Carrier-yes.

2022 PROPOSED BUDGET and CIPS

Bryan/Carrier moved to approve the proposed budget with the amendments outlined for Proposal #2. Discussion ensued. Carrier requested clarification on the Council's intentions with moving forward with a paid parking program.

- All agreed parking was on the table, but until a contract is signed, community engagement is sought, and the parking plan is finalized it could be approved, it could be denied, or scope changes could happen. Carrier noted how the messaging to the public would be different. Are we telling them or asking them?
- Hoopman noted concerns about going to the public before the plan is vetted by City's committees. We need to be careful about what they are being told and what actually happens.
- The main reason to move forward with a parking plan is for financial reasons and this needs to be conveyed to the public. We are not solvent. Our only options are to go to referendum, put debt on the levy, or find new revenue streams.
- The Mayor thanked Carrier and the Committee for their work thus far and believes they will continue to do an excellent job exploring and creating a great plan.

- Beagan said we should consider ways to increase Pavilion Revenues and mentioned the Recreation Center coming back. She noted they do not believe they should have to do snow removal. Hoopman explained they have been getting a subsidized rate and the recreation center negotiated to do the snowplowing to keep the rate even lower. No request has been made to the City to use the facility and they did not let us know they were concerned with the recent rate. Hoopman said the City cannot afford to subsidize uses there.

Passed by roll call vote as follows: Bryan-yes, Burkel-yes, Carrier-yes, and Beagan-yes.

2. Resolution #594 - An amendment to Resolution #587 -City of Bayfield 2022 Wages

Bryan/Carrier moved to approve Resolution #587 as presented. Carrier asked the motion to be amended to require an update to the Office Assistant/ Utility Clerk's job description first. Hoopman explained the wage requested reflects the current job description and a review of other local municipality rates, Rural Water and other various municipalities across the state doing the same job. Discussion ensued about updating all the employee job descriptions. The motion was not amended and roll call vote was taken: Burkel-yes, Carrier-No, Beagan-yes and Bryan – yes.

Hoopman expressed frustration on the Council's actions and how they are not treating these employee issues equally. Noting the same was not requested when a recent wage increase was given across the board to the Police Department wage, no questions were asked about the new parking ambassador's rate that is included in the 2022 budget or a request for a job description. The Council asked if there were any other wage disparities, so research was done and brought to the Council, yet even more is being requested than with other position. The PWD stated he did not feel a fair review was done in his department either. Councilors noted they felt a review of the job descriptions was good policy. Treasurer Johnston stated job descriptions are reviewed as needed and when advertising for new employees. The Mayor volunteered to take on this task.

3. Next Mtgs: November 23 and December 15, 2021

Carrier asked Councilors and staff to hold their November meetings so they could review the proposed Parking Management Plan.

Adjournment: Bryan/Carrier made a motion to adjourn. Carried.

Minutes by Billie L. Hoopman, Clerk