

City of Bayfield Common Council

Minutes of November 15, 2023

Call to Order – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ringberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bland, Carrier, Cornelius, Dougherty, and Mayor Ringberg

Staff: Clerk Hoopman, Treasurer Johnston, PWD Kovachevich, Librarian Weber, GBWWTP Op. Pearson, Chief Novak, Laborer Bainbridge, Harbormaster Hayes, Operator Berg

Others: Anne Bainbridge, Ron Makela, Mary Dougherty

Review/Approve Agenda: Carrier/Cornelius made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

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

Discussion and Identification of Items for Future Agendas: None.

Review/Approve the Common Council's Minutes of October 18 and October 25, 2023: Dougherty/Carrier made a motion to approve the previous minutes of October 18 and 25, 2023 as presented. Carried.

Public Hearing: The hearing was being held to receive input on Resolution #613, a resolution for 2024 Budget Adoption and Tax Levy. Copies of the proposed resolution and Exhibits A (Publication Notice) & B (2024 Budget) were made available for inspection accordingly.

Mr. Ron Makela asked a variety of questions. Why are we going ahead with an excessive balance of funds that we could use to operate? Is the cruise ship returning? Is the City planning to pursue paid parking? Don't. What are the City's civil defense plans?

Bland/Carrier made a motion to close the public hearing and continue with the agenda items. Carried. (5:46 p.m.)

Agenda

1. Council Workshop 11/9/2023 – Reflection, next steps

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and noted he hoped that everyone thought it was worthwhile. He noted Mr. Spano would soon be providing the City with a final report.

2. Resolution #613 -A Resolution for Budget Adoption and Tax Levy

Councilor Bland proposed a resolution amendment and had a few additional comments and questions about the budget and budget notice. Discussion ensued. Dougherty/Cornelius made a motion to adopt Resolution #613 – A resolution for Budget Adoption and Tax Levy as presented. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Bland, Carrier, Cornelius, and Dougherty – yes.

3. Resolution #616 – A Resolution Bonding the Treasurer for payment of taxes

Cornelius/Dougherty made a motion approving Resolution #616, bonding the City Treasurer for the payment of taxes. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Carrier, Cornelius, Dougherty, and Bland – yes.

4. Ordinance #404 - An amendment to Ordinance #394 Short-Term Rentals IV (C)(1) to read as follows: Rentals must be to the same one Renter per seven (7) consecutive day period.

Carrier/Bland moved to adopt Ordinance #404 as presented. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Cornelius, Dougherty, Bland, and Carrier – yes.

5. Room Tax – 3rd Quarter: This report was not available at the time of the meeting. It will be included in the next Council meeting packet.

6. Project Updates:

- **Bayfield Parking Management Plan/Updates:** The Mayor has been conversing with Mr. Perrin about next steps.
- **Courthouse Improvements:** The roof and electrical work are nearing completion.
- **Harbor Finger Pier and Underground Storage Tank Replacement Projects:** The Harbor Commission will be reviewing a draft RFP for the underground storage tanks at their next meeting. They are looking for additional assistance in evaluating the finger piers.
- **Playground Replacement:** Thank you to Bob Durfey for providing needed maintenance on some of the play equipment!
- **Manypenny Project – Street, Water & Sewer:** This project is included in the 2024 Budget. Two grants are being pursued.
- **Wayfinding:** We continue to struggle. Stantec, our consultant just provided us with a \$25,000 change order and noted no further work would continue until resolved.
- **Zoning Code Rewrite:** The Plan Commission continues to struggle with the vision and the complexity of the code being presented.

7. **Mayor's Report:** The Mayor updated the Council on the status of the Public Works Director position. Two applications were received in house and interviews were conducted. As a result, he is proposing to hire Josh Pearson as the Public Works Director and Michael Burg as the GBWWTP Operator at a rate of \$30.61/hr. This will leave the City's Water & Sewer Operator Position open.

Mayor Ringberg further informed the Council he will not be seeking re-election in 2024. Papers will be available for circulation beginning December 1, 2023.

File Reports from Committees, Commission & Boards

Ambulance: Minutes of September 20, 2023

Architectural Review Board: Minutes of October 30, 2023

Fire Department: Minutes of September 11 and October 2, 2023

Fire Protection: Minutes of October 12, 2023

Library: Minutes of October 18, 2023

Parks and Rec.: None

Pavilion: Minutes of November 8, 2023

Planning: Minutes of October 24, 2023

Police Department: October 2023 Report

Cornelius/Carrier made a motion to approve the minutes list above in a block format. Carried.

Treasurer: October Treasurer's Report, Voucher Payments, Fund Summary, and Budgets

Bland/Carrier moved to approve and place the October Treasurer's Report on file. Treasurer Johnston noted the year-end transfers have not yet been done. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Bland, Carrier, Cornelius, and Dougherty – yes.

Correspondence - Mostly Schubert Concerts: Informational, no action required.

Next Mtg: December 20, 2023, 5:30 p.m., if needed.

Adjournment: Carrier/Cornelius moved to adjourn. Carried.

Minutes by Billie L. Hoopman, Clerk