

The COMMON COUNCIL of the City of Tomah met in REGULAR SESSION March 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Mike Murray presiding in the Municipal Building, 819 Superior Avenue, Tomah WI.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following members present: Mike Murray, Travis Scholze, Donna Evans, Sue Holme, Shawn Zabinski, Jeff Cram, Richard Yarrington, and Adam Gigous. Absent: Lamont Kiefer. Quorum present. Also present: City Administrator Roger Gorius and City Clerk JoAnn Cram. Gregg Hagen videotaped the meeting.

Motion by Scholze, second by Zabinski to adjourn to closed session pursuant to State Statute 19.85(1) (c) and (e) with Respect to Personnel Issues and Purchase of Property. Motion passed without negative vote. The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. Meeting reconvened to Open Session Pursuant to State Statute 19.85(2) at 7:12 p.m.

Anyone Desiring to Appear Before the City Council. No one desired to appear.

Appointments: Motion by Yarrington, withdrew second by Scholze to accept Mayor Murray's recommendation and appoint Adam Gigous to the Board of Appeals. Motion and second were withdrawn as Mr. Gigous isn't able to meet at this meeting time.

Motion by Scholze, second by Evans to table the appointment of an Alderperson to the Board of Appeals until the April re-organizational meeting. Motion passed without negative vote. (Gigous abstained).

Motion by Scholze, second by Yarrington to accept Mayor Murray's recommendation and appoint Adam Gigous to the Historic Preservation Comm., Planning Commission, and the Public Works & Utilities Commission to fulfill the remaining term of Mary Ann Komiskey with the terms expiring in April 2020. Motion passed without negative vote (Gigous abstained).

Mayor. Mayor Murray read Emergency Order #5 – advising that all public or private mass gatherings of 10 people or more are prohibited. If 10 or more people are in the same room at a time, they must distance themselves 6 feet between people and all public health recommendations issued by the WI Dept of Health Services and Centers for Disease Control be followed. All bars and restaurants are ordered closed. All public and private schools are closed for the duration of the emergency. This order exempts transportation, educational institutions, childcare, hotels and motels, government, relief facilities, residential buildings, retail, health care, long term care and assisted living facilities, facilities for voting, food establishments for take-out or delivery service only, and commercial and non-profit entities.

Interest of Council in Creation of an Attire Policy for City Officials at Public Meetings. The alderpersons are asked to give up a lot to serve the City in their capacity. If one logo is prohibited, then all logos should be prohibited. Concern was voiced on putting limitations on what members wear to public meetings. Time constraints don't always allow for changing clothes. It's the personal discretion of each council member to decide what appropriate attire for attending meetings is. Council members advised they have not been receiving complaints on council attire. No action taken.

City Administrator & Long Range Planning Committee Report. City Administrator Gorius provided a written report regarding current and ongoing activities.

City Clerk. City Clerk Cram provided updates on the Spring Election process, Compete Count Census Committee, Board of Review, and a reminder of the April 21st re-organizational council meeting.

Treasurer's Report. No report.

Library Monthly Report. Library Director Irma Keller advised the Library will be closing effective immediately due to the COVID-2019 mass gathering restrictions. Some story times may be live-streamed during the closing.

Tomah Public Housing & Community Development Block Grant Monthly Report. Director Rachel Muehlenkamp provided a monthly report. They are working on rehabbing apartments at Lakeside. They are also working with the COVID-19 issues as mandated. Precautions are being done on inspections. Some routine maintenance will be conducted. The Block Grant Program has a couple applications that are being reviewed. The state has given direction that they may be more flexible with inspections in that program.

Senior & Disabled Services Report. Senior & Disabled Services Coordinator Pam Buchda provided a monthly calendar and written summary of events. The Senior Center has closed effective today. The Loan Closet services are available and citizens need to call ahead at 374-7476.

Planning/Building Inspection Monthly Report. Shane Rolff provided a written report.

Chamber/Convention & Visitor's Bureau Monthly Report. Ex. Director Tina Thompson advised that they have their calendar of events for the year. Many items have been canceled at this time until future notice. They have closed their office to the public but they are available by phone and e-mail.

Consent Agenda Items.

Motion by Holme, second by Yarrington to approve the following Consent Agenda items. Motion passed without negative vote.

- A. Minutes** of February 11, 2020 Regular Council Meeting as presented.
- B. Cash and Investment Reports** for January and February 2020.
- C. Bartender Licenses** for Jennifer A.M. Bresinger, Amber R. Bryant, Kiara L. Burmester, JoNae' N. Enzenbacher, Nancy A. Hawver, Christopher J. Keller-Kolf, Russell J. Kershaw, Tyler J. Stertman, Angela R. Tapper, and Boyce E. Wilcox with the exception of Heather McKenzie who is denied due to a prior violation related to the licensed activity.
- D. Special Beer Permit for Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce, Business After 5 on April 23, 2020** at 201 Helen Walton Drive, Suite 6.
- E. Special Beer Permit for VFW Post 1382, Chicken Q Fundraiser on May 2, 2020** at 1618 Superior Avenue.
- F. Special Beer Permit for VFW Post 1382, Chicken Q on September 12, 2020** at 1618 Superior Avenue.

Amendment to Liquor License Regarding Name Change From Ground Round Grill & Pub to Taphouse Twenty at 201 Helen Walton Drive, Tomah. Effective April 13, 2020, The Ground Round Grill & Pub will be changing the name to Taphouse Twenty.

Motion by Holme, second by Cram to approve the name change from Ground Round Grill & Pub to Taphouse Twenty effective April 13, 2020 at 201 Helen Walton Drive. Motion passed without negative vote.

Ordinance Amending Sec 44-179 Regarding ATV/UTV Regulations. The City Council recently amended the ordinance with the intent of designating and allowing ATV/UTVs to be operated on all roads within the City that are 35 mph or less. This amendment makes the language more specific regarding the designated route.

Motion by Evans, second by Cram to waive the first verbatim reading of the Ordinance amending Section 44-179 regarding ATV/UTV routes in the City of Tomah as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

Ordinance Rezoning Parcel Located at 604/606 McLean Avenue from B-Business District to R2-One and Two-Family Residential District. The parcel currently has two unattached single-family dwellings and is considered an illegal nonconforming use. The rezone would bring the property into compliance with the zoning ordinances and is consistent with the City of Tomah Future Land Use Map. The Planning Commission has recommended approval.

Motion by Evans, second by Scholze to waive the first verbatim reading of the Ordinance rezoning the parcel located at 604/606 McLean Avenue from B-Business District to R2-One and Two Family Residential District as requested. Motion passed without negative vote.

Motion by Evans, second by Yarrington to waive the second verbatim reading of the Ordinance rezoning the parcel located at 604/606 McLean Avenue from B-Business District to R2-One and Two Family Residential District as requested. Motion passed without negative vote.

Motion by Evans, second by Zabinski to adopt **Ordinance No. 2020-03-03-D** rezoning the parcel located at 604/606 McLean Avenue from B-Business District to R2-One and Two Family Residential District as requested. Motion passed without negative vote.

**Ordinance No. 2020-03-03-D
ORDINANCE RE-ZONING PROPERTY
Jericho Ridge Properties LLC (Greg & Heidi Jordan)**

The Common Council of the City of Tomah, do ordain as follows:

SECTION ONE: After Petition, Notice and Public Hearing in accordance with the Wisconsin Statutes and City of Tomah Ordinance, the Common Council of the City of Tomah hereby re-zones the following described real estate from B-Business to R-2 One and Two Family Residential District.

Hollister's 2nd Addition PRT LOT 8, BLK 2 DESC IN 10CSM119 #443727

604/606 McLean Avenue, City of Tomah, Monroe County, Wisconsin

SECTION TWO: All Ordinances or part thereof in conflict with the foregoing are hereby repealed.

SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Michael Murray, Mayor ATTEST: JoAnn Cram, City Clerk
 READ: 03/17/2020 PASSED: 03/17/2020 PUBLISHED: 04/03/2020

Resolution & Statement of Project Intentions Approval for Airport. The even years require an update to the six-year project intentions. To be eligible for any federal funding and/or state aid for airport projects, the resolution and project intentions would need to be approved.

Motion by Yarrington, second by Cram to approve **Resolution No. 2020-03-17-06** Regarding Statement of Airport Project Intentions as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03-17-06
 REGARDING STATEMENT OF AIRPORT PROJECT INTENTIONS**

RESOLVED, by the CITY OF TOMAH that the attached list of proposed improvements are in the best interest of the Bloyer Field Airport; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes require a Statement of Project Intentions from airport owners contemplating federal and/or state aid within the next six years; and

WHEREAS, this Six Year Statement of Project Intentions is used by the Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics for planning and budgeting purposes and is not a petition for federal and/or state aid; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this governing body contemplates requesting federal and/or state aid for the projects listed on the attached schedule of airport improvements.

Resolution introduced by Richard Yarrington, Alderperson and seconded by Jeffery Cram, Alderperson.

CERTIFICATION

I, JOANN CRAM, Clerk of the CITY OF TOMAH, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of a Resolution introduced at a CITY COUNCIL meeting on MARCH 17, 2020, adopted by a majority vote and recorded in the minutes of said meeting.

JoAnn M. Cram, City Clerk

STATEMENT OF PROJECT INTENTIONS FOR BLOYER FIELD AIRPORT:

FISCAL YEAR	DESCRIPTION OF IMPROVEMENT	SIZE OF IMPROVEMENT IF KNOWN	EST COST	ANTICIPATED PETITION DATE
2020	Design hangar taxiway construction Lots 6-7	\$25,000	\$5,000	
2021	Extend hangar taxiway from ramp to proposed	\$120,000	\$24,000	
2022	Construct 4 plex hangar	\$200,000	\$200,000	N/A
2023	Design remaining ramp, taxiway & taxi lane Reconstruction	\$60,000	\$12,000	
2023	Sealcoat and crack fill pavements	\$50,000	\$10,000	
2024	Reconstruct remaining ramp, taxiway & Taxi lane reconstruction	\$600,000	\$120,000	
2025	Clear and maintain runway approaches	\$100,000	\$20,000	

Resolution Regarding Passenger Rail Service. Amtrak representatives have contacted the City requesting that a resolution be approved in favor of a second train route. Amtrak has a long history in Tomah and this line would increase the ability of our residents and those of neighboring communities to have access to the Minneapolis-St. Cloud area. Increased traffic at the rail station would mean increased traffic in our downtown corridor as well.

Motion by Yarrington, second by Scholze to approve **Resolution No. 2020-03-17-07** Regarding Passenger Rail Service as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03-17-07
 RESOLUTION REGARDING PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE**

WHEREAS, passenger rail service is an important mode to preserve access to medium-sized and small cities across the nation, providing reasonably priced, safe, accessible transportation to complement the highway network; and

WHEREAS, Tomah has been on the passenger rail network since rails were first extended across Wisconsin in the 19th Century, and today continues to be served by Amtrak with one departure and arrival each day on a route linking the community to the Wisconsin communities of Lacrosse, Wisconsin Dells, Portage, Columbus and Milwaukee, as well as Chicago, Winona and Minneapolis-St. Paul among others in neighboring states. Amtrak provides direct passenger rail service from Tomah to 45 cities and towns all the way to the Pacific Northwest, and connections with more than 400 domestic and Canadian destinations; and

WHEREAS, Amtrak has set record ridership with thirty-two and one half million trips provided in Fiscal Year 2019, earning \$3.3 billion in revenue, and reducing Federal operating support to the lowest ever, \$29 million. 11,394 customers boarded and alighted from Amtrak trains at the Tomah station on Superior Avenue just north of downtown. Based on analysis this could increase to at least 18,000 annually, with the addition of a two daily trains, indicating the value that increased passenger rail service could have for residents of Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, like 17 other U.S. state departments of transportation, has an operating contract with Amtrak to supplement service along routes of high local priority; in Wisconsin the 14 weekday trips between Milwaukee and Chicago; because travel utility and demand is best served with multiple frequencies providing competitive travel service and expanding the capacity of the existing transportation network; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Wisconsin business community sees the value of frequent passenger rail service as critical to efficient travel for employees, allows productive use of time during travel, and increases the attractiveness of Southeast Wisconsin as a business location and tourism destination; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Federal government appropriated \$1.4 billion for rail-specific, competitive grants available for states to implement passenger rail improvement projects, making this mode a priority for the nation's mobility; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tomah wants to experience the economic and mobility benefits made possible by more frequent passenger train departures, such as that being experienced by communities on frequent passenger rail corridors across the U.S; and

WHEREAS, improving the ease of access to Tomah for business, tourism and resident travel will enhance Tomah's attractiveness by connecting the city with an expanding network of passenger rail across the Midwest; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Tomah Council requests the State of Wisconsin to work with Amtrak, the Canadian Pacific Railroad, Minnesota Department of Transportation and other communities along the route to implement one additional passenger train frequency each day between Chicago, Milwaukee, and Saint Paul, via Tomah; which would double the number of departures and arrivals available at Tomah each day.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2020.

Michael Murray, Mayor

ATTEST:

JoAnn M. Cram, City Clerk

Resolution to Update the Depository List.

Motion by Zabinski, second by Gigous to approve **Resolution No. 2020-03-17-08** Designating Public Depositories as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03-17-08
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES
FOR CITY OF TOMAH'S MONIES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Tomah designates the following depositories for the year:

1. CCF Bank
2. Bank First
3. Timberwood Bank
4. State Local Government Investment Pool
5. Tomah Area Credit Union
6. RIA Federal Credit Union of Tomah
7. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
8. Farmers & Merchants Bank of Kendall-Hustler
9. UBS Financial Services Inc.
10. Multi-Bank Securities, Inc.
11. Union Bank

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all checks for the withdrawal of City funds be signed by the Mayor, City Clerk and Treasurer. In lieu of personal signatures, a check signer may be used. Dated this 17th day of March, 2020.

Michael Murray, Mayor

JoAnn M. Cram, City Clerk

Resolution Authorizing Payment of Monthly Bills.

Motion by Zabinski, second by Evans to approve **Resolution No. 2020-03-17-09** authorizing payment of the monthly bills in the amount of \$4,143,506.28 as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-03-17-09
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Tomah that the Committee of the Whole has reviewed the monthly bills and recommends the City Council approve said bills as follows:

1. Pre-Paid Checks	\$3,773,897.91	Check #'s	126857-126901 & 126951-127083
2. Payroll	\$ 253,810.28	Direct Deposit #'s	59901-60169
3. Wire Transfers	\$ 33,094.95		
4. Vouchers Payable 2019\$	68,713.14		
5. Invoices	<u>\$ 13,990.00</u>	Check #'s	127166-127211
	<u>\$4,143,506.28</u>		

Mike Murray, Mayor

ATTEST: JoAnn Cram, City Clerk

Request to Close City Offices that are Open to the Public to Prevent the Spread of COVID 19 – Motion by Gigous, 2nd by Yarrington to approve closing the offices until further notice. Motion passed without negative vote.

Motion by Evans, second by Cram to adjourn to closed session. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Approved:

Michael Murray, Mayor

ATTEST:

JoAnn M. Cram, City Clerk

Minutes to be approved on April 14, 2020