

**MEETING MINUTES – CITY OF TOMAH
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING of the City of Tomah was held on the 16th day of March, 2020 in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Council President Travis Scholze presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Mike Murray, Adam Gigous, Richard Yarrington, Jeff Cram, Shawn Zabinski, Travis Scholze, Donna Evans, and Susan Holme. Absent: Lamont Kiefer. Quorum present.

Also present: Fire Chief Tim Adler, Parks and Recreation Director Joe Protz, Public Works & Utilities Director Kirk Arity, Library Director Irma Keller, Ambulance Director Randy Dunford, Ex. Director Chamber/CVB Tina Thompson, Treasurer Julia Mann, and City Clerk JoAnn Cram. Gregg Hagen videotaped the meeting.

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Approval of February 10, 2020 Minutes.

Motion by Evans, second by Zabinski, to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 regular Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion passed without negative vote.

Accept Treasurers Cash and Investment Reports.

Motion by Murray, second by Cram to accept the January Treasurers cash and investment reports. Motion passed without negative vote.

Motion by Zabinski, second by Evans to accept the February 2020 Treasurers cash and investment reports. Motion passed without negative vote.

Parks and Recreation Monthly Report: Parks Department, Recreation Programs, Aquatic Center, and Recreation Park: Parks and Rec Director Joe Protz provided a written report and advised the department has been busy with maintenance on equipment and buildings. The department is working on site plans with Gerke's for Flare Avenue fields. The Boy Scout Cabin repair update - SHIPA has been denied so that issue will be revisited. The department is prepping for a busy spring season for High School sports at Veterans Park and Glendale Ballfield. The Recreation programs are suspended at this time due to COVID-19. The last week of winter events have been cancelled. The Spring gymnastics program has been put on hold at this time. We will wait and see what will happen as far as the spring programs. We will continue to work on hiring for the summer aquatic center program. There may be delays in rec program registrations until more is known on the COVID-19 pandemic. Recreation Park major events have been canceled or postponed at this time. Tomah Hockey is removing ice this week at the Ice Center.

Public Works & Utilities Director – Water, Sewer, Public Works, and Lake Updates. Street Department: Dir. Arity provided a written report advising staff has cut down approximately 100 more ash trees this month and expect to complete the curb cut on the proposed bus parking just north of Culvers. Letters have been delivered to most of the businesses on the north side of the City describing the chip sealing and fogging process that will be done. **Sewer Department:** The lime stabilization project is still dealing with startup issues. The Arc Flash training was completed. **Water Department:** Operations are normal. There will be no disconnections due to COVID-19 orders per the PSC. **Lake Committee:** The Committee will meet March 26th.

Police Department Monthly Report. A written report was provided.

2019 Annual Police Dept. Report. A written report was provided.

Fire Department Monthly Report. Chief Adler advised that they are working on an eligibility list to hire needed fire fighters. All fire drills have been canceled going forward due to COVID-19. Chief Adler and Director Dunford met with Keller & Assoc. regarding the proposed building project.

Ambulance Department Monthly. A monthly written statistics report was provided. Director Dunford advised there were 182 calls for service. Three new part time EMT employees have been hired. Mitch Larkin has been hired as a fulltime paramedic and Andrew Rinehart has also accepted a fulltime paramedic position. Jeremy Schaller and Lisa Hart have passed their Critical Care licensing process. The formal contracts with surrounding municipalities have been mailed out. Tomah Ambulance Service was recognized by Wisconsin Technical College as an industry partner in helping to train the next generation of workers.

Bartender Licenses. Motion by Yarrington, second by Cram to recommend the Common Council approve bartender licenses for the period of March 18, 2020 to June 30, 2020 as follows: 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. Motion passed without negative vote (Murray abstained).

Special Beer Permit for Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce, Business After 5 on April 23, 2020

Motion by Murray, second by Evans to recommend the Common Council approve the Special Beer Permit for the Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce for Business After 5 on April 23, 2020 at 201 Helen Walton Drive, Suite 6. Motion passed without negative vote (Cram abstained).

Special Beer Permit for VFW Post 1382, Chicken Q Fundraiser on May 2, 2020

Motion by Cram, second by Evans to recommend the Common Council approve the Special Beer Permit for the VFW Post 1382, Chicken Q Fundraiser on May 2, 2020 at 1618 S. Superior Avenue. Motion passed without negative vote.

Special Beer Permit for VFW Post 1382, Chicken Q on September 12, 2020

Motion by Evans, second by Holme to recommend the Common Council approve the Special Beer Permit for the VFW Post 1382, Chicken Q Fundraiser on September 12, 2020 at 1618 S. Superior Avenue. Motion passed without negative vote.

Request by Heather McKenzie for Consideration of Bartender License. Chief Nicholson is recommending denial of this bartender license due to a felony conviction within the last 10 years involving alcohol or drugs. Heather McKenzie appeared before the Committee of the Whole and advised she has changed and would like to move on from her past.

Motion by Murray, second by Yarrington to recommend the Common Council deny the bartender license for Heather McKenzie due to previous violations related to the licensed activity. Motion passed without negative vote.

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. This requires approval of an amendment to the liquor license by the Council. There is no fee and a new application is not required. Mr. Koput has advised the City of the name change and provided a new copy of the WI Seller's Permit showing the name change.

Motion by Murray, second by Evans to recommend the Common Council 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. As a condition, the ordinance is to be reviewed by the WI Dept. of Transportation. A DOT representative noted that the ordinance does not allow for the operation on the intended roads within the City with a speed limit of 35 mph or less. It is requested that the language be more specific regarding the designated route.

Motion by Yarrington, second by Cram to recommend the Common Council adopt 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 Murray, second by Cram to recommend the Common Council approve 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.

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 Murray, second by Evans to recommend the Common Council approve the Resolution and Statement of Project Intentions as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

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 Cram to recommend the Common Council approve the Resolution Regarding Passenger Rail Service as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

Resolution to Update the Depository List.

Motion by Evans, second by Zabinski to recommend the Common Council approve the Resolution Designating Public Depositories as presented. Motion passed without negative vote.

Resolution Authorizing Payment of Monthly Bills.

Motion by Yarrington, second by Holme to recommend the Common Council approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$4,143,506.28 as presented. Motion carried without negative vote.

Monthly Financial Report - January 2020

Motion by Cram, second by Zabinski to accept the Monthly Financial Report for January 2020. Motion passed without negative vote.

Monthly Financial Report – February, 2020

Motion by Evans, second by Gigous to accept the Monthly Financial Report for February 2020. Motion passed without negative vote.

Adjourn.

Motion by Zabinski, second by Holme to adjourn. Motion passed without negative vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Cram, City Clerk