



**CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

January 25, 2022

Mayor Dan Toland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

City Council Members Present: Todd Bjerstedt, Nick Carow, Sean Downing (virtual), Scott Morrissette, Alyssa Mueller, Diane Odeen, Ben Plunkett

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Scot Simpson; City Attorney Chris Gierhart; IT Specialist Jon Smits; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Police Chief Gordon Young; Senior Accountant Sam Hosszu; City Clerk Amy White; Community Development Director Amy Peterson; Assistant City Administrator Jason Stroud; City Engineer Todd Nickleski; Assistant to the City Administrator Jennifer Smith; Finance Director Josh Solinger; Economic Development Manager Keri Schreiner

Others Present: Patricia LaRue, Matt Frisbie, others

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes – January 11, 2021, Minutes

MSC Morrissette/Bjerstedt move to approve minutes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Bills: \$6,222,142.70

MSC Mueller/Downing move to approve bills. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Patricia LaRue, 489 Marcella Court – addressed decorum, respect, and the responsibility of elected officials saying she expects the Council to do the City’s business and address resident issues. LaRue doesn’t expect to hear petty comments and innuendo that serve no purpose other than to burden and harass another official. It makes for a toxic atmosphere. She expects better.

Aldersperson Plunkett noted that Covid tests are hard to find. The federal government is shipping four free Covid tests to every household. He encouraged residents to request the free Covid tests through covidtests.gov.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Acknowledgement of the following minutes: Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 11/17/21; Historic Preservation Commission – 11/10/21; Utility Advisory Board – 11/15/21; West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility – 10/14/21; 10/21/21; BID Board – 12/14/21; Bike and Pedestrian Steering Committee – 1/5/22; River Falls Housing Authority – 12/8/21

Resolution No. 6645 - Approving Appointment of City Treasurer

Resolution No. 6646 - Awarding Watermain Relocation Project (Troy St. to E. Pomeroy St) to Skid Steer Guy

Resolution No. 6647 - Approving City Administrator Annual Performance Review Process

MCS Odeen/Morrissette move to approve Consent Agenda. Unanimous.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 6648 - Approving Development Agreement Between the City of River Falls and LB River Falls, LLC

MSC Morrissette/Bjerstedt move to approve resolution. Unanimous.

Resolution No. 6649 - Amending Development Agreement Between the City of River Falls and River Falls QOZB, LLC

MSC Bjerstedt/Morrissette move to approve resolution. Unanimous.

REPORTS:

Comptroller's Report for December 2021

Comptroller Odeen read the following report: preliminary year end General Fund revenues were \$11,590,598 with expenditures of \$10,776,736 resulting in a net surplus of \$813,862. Please note that the 2021 accounting period is still open and year end adjusting entries are still being made. Additional revenues and expenses will be allocated to 2021 as final invoices and expenses are received and recorded. All numbers listed herein are preliminary and are subject to change prior to the close of the accounting period.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor's Appointments

River Falls Housing Authority

Appointment of Jason Stroud to replace Amy Peterson through December 2022

Historic Preservation Commission

Reappointment of Jayne Hoffman through January 2025

MS Morrissette/Bjerstedt move to approve the Mayor's appointments. Alderperson Carow opposed the appointment of Assistant City Administrator Jason Stroud to the River Falls Housing Authority. He clarified the reason wasn't because Stroud was not qualified but felt another citizen should be on the commission. He believed it was important not to have staff involved in the committees noting that Alderperson Bjerstedt was on the committee and could provide information to the Council. Carow understood these are the Mayor's appointments but stood in opposition to having an existing City staff on the committee. **With no other comments, the Mayor asked for a vote on the appointments. All voted in favor except for Carow who voted against.**

Mayor Toland read a Proclamation for Big Brothers, Big Sisters 'Thank Your Mentor' Day.

MSC Bjerstedt/Morrissette move to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk