



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

**May 11, 2021**

Mayor Dan Toland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in a virtual format due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The City Council Chambers was open for public to attend.

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Tovah Flygare

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Scot Simpson; Assistant City Administrator Jason Stroud; City Attorney Chris Gierhart; IT Manager Mike Reardon; others

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of Minutes – April 20 and 27, 2021, Minutes; April 20, 2021, Closed Session Minutes  
**MS Morrissette/Odeen move to approve minutes. The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills: \$2,110,431.02

**MS Downing/Bjerstedt move to approve bills subject to the Comptroller. The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

There were no public comments.

**Grow to Share Report**

Tovah Flygare from Grow to Share provided a brief update for Council. The community garden is located on City property near Hoffman Park. The mission is to provide nutritional assistance and hunger relief in collaboration with local organizations. Flygare spoke about delivering over 1,200 lbs. of fresh produce (over \$5,000 value) and close to 600 hours of volunteer time despite the Covid challenges. She talked about Grow to Share's partnerships, a growing list of supporters, and leveraging community space for more grants. She stood for questions.

Alderson Morrissette talked about touring the food plot in the past. He was pleasantly surprised and encouraged other Councilors to tour the community garden. Flygare said they would welcome visitors. Alderson Mueller thinks it is a fantastic program and looks forward visiting.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance 2021-03 – Amending Titles 16 and 17 of the Municipal Code, Pursuant to the Terms of the Cooperative Boundary Plan between the City of River Falls and the Town of Kinnickinnic – Second Reading and Disposition

**At 6:38 p.m., Mayor Toland recessed into a Public Hearing. There were no comments. At 6:38 p.m., the Mayor closed the Public Hearing and moved back into Open Session.**

**MS Morrisette/Downing move to approve the ordinance. As there were no question, the Mayor asked for a vote. The roll call vote was 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Resolution Designating Official City Newspaper→→*pulled by Plunkett*

Resolution Approving Purchase of John Deere Loader→→*pulled by Plunkett*

Resolution No. 6568 - Supporting UW-River Falls Proposed Science and Technology Innovation Center

**MS Odeen/Carow move to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda. With no other questions, the Mayor asked for a vote. The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

Resolution No. 6569 - Designating Official City Newspaper

Aldersperson Plunkett asked what the City spends per year for notices. City Administrator Simpson said for required notices it is about \$10,000-\$11,000. Simpson compared the current pricing to the proposed bids noting each of the bids are very close. State law dictates the publishing requirements. There was further discussion and clarification. **At the end of discussion, MS Plunkett/Bjerstedt move to approve resolution. The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

Resolution No. 6570 - Approving Purchase of John Deere Loader

Plunkett asked if there was more than one bid. Simpson said John Deere doesn't provide multiple dealers to bid against each other. Assistant City Administrator Stroud noted a quote was provided from CAT on page 46. He said the bid was higher and the trade-in was lower. He said for John Deere, we have to work with our dealer of record.

Plunkett asked the estimated life span of the loader. Stroud said we would like 15-20 years. He talked about the City using loader year-round which cuts down on its life. Plunkett asked about the price if the equipment was repaired and not replaced. Stroud said it would be \$30,000-\$35,000, repairs would be done offsite, plus there would be an additional cost of a rental unit. Plunkett asked further questions including the future replacement timeline and the cost per year. **At the conclusion of discussion, MS Plunkett/Morrisette move to approve the resolution. The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution No. 6571 - Awarding Bid for South Main Lift Pump Station Removal, Sanitary Sewer Improvements and Casing Installation Project

**MS Mueller/Morrisette move to approve the resolution.** Aldersperson Downing noting timing worked out well for the project saving the City both time and money. **The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

**REPORTS:**

Administrator's Report

Simpson talked about spring clean-up, road projects, the opening of the pool/splash pad, and trail repairs. He thanked the Council for continuing to invest in equipment and facilities. Simpson talked about the format of future Council meetings. Morrisette asked about road access for the spring clean-up event. Stroud noted it was the usual route due to it being a one-day event.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor's Appointments

Library Board

Reappointment of Dr. Whitney Rudesill through July 2024

Reappointment of Michael Metro through July 2024

Historic Preservation Commission

New appointment of Julie Huebel through January 2025

Appointment of Alderperson Plunkett as Council representative through April 2022

**MS Odeen/Downing move to approve the Mayor's appointments. The roll call vote passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

National Public Works Week Proclamation

Mayor Toland read the proclamation.

**At 7:06 p.m., MS Bjerstedt/Morrisette move to adjourn. The roll call vote passed 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk