

CITY OF DARLINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION
DECEMBER 15, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mike McDermott at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited. Present at roll call were: Steve Pickett, Erin Gallagher, Ray Spellman, Dave Gough, Josh Goebel and Dave Roelli. Absent: None. Also present were: Bill McDaniel, Mary Jo Erickson, Tammy King, Abby Haas, Ben Conway, Nick Mantsch, Dave Ohnstad, Bob Hermanson, Tim McComish, Wade Berget, Jeff Berget, Kayla Ruf, Jason King, Brian Lund and Phil Risseuw.

Motion by Pickett second by Gallagher that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Gallagher second by Pickett to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under unfinished business, Alderperson Spellman recommended that the Wellness Center be re-opened, following the protocols in effect when it was recently closed, effective December 21, 2020. It was the consensus of those present to concur with this recommendation and re-open the Wellness Center as stated.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning the following recommendation from the Park and Recreation Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes and supplemental information from Wade Berget were included in the agenda packet.

- Donation of all unexpended funds from 2020 swimming pool operations to the Swimming Pool Fundraising Campaign checking account. Wade Berget attended the meeting to present information and answer questions. Wade reported on the remaining unexpended expense amounts, and lost revenue. He stated at this time, there is \$30,107.67 net funds available to donate to the new swimming pool project. After discussion and consideration, motion by Spellman second by Pickett to authorize the transfer of \$30,107.67 to the Swimming Pool Fundraising Campaign checking account. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Spellman, Gough, Roelli and Pickett. Nays: Gallagher and Goebel. Motion carried.

Wade Berget, Mary Jo Erickson and Tammy King then left the meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning EMS coverage for the City of Darlington. Discussion items included the following:

- Alderperson Goebel presented information he requested from Southwest Health System Ambulance Service, and Green County EMS.
- Josh stated Southwest Health System is interested in offering short term coverage and long-term EMS service to the City of Darlington, under certain terms and conditions not yet finalized. It was suggested discussion should be held with representatives of Southwest Health System regarding EMS coverage for the residents of Darlington.

- Abby Haas reported on Lafayette County's development of an EMS Committee, and progress toward creation of a County EMS Service. Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County has set aside \$200,000 toward the startup of the EMS Service. A consultant will be hired to assist with the establishment of the EMS Service. They are hoping to be operational in less than six months.
- Tim McComish, Dave Ohnstad and Bob Hermanson reported on steps being taken by Rural Medical Ambulance Service. They stated they are working with Green Co. EMS to provide coverage until Lafayette County's EMS Service is operational. They are meeting again Monday night with Green Co. EMS representatives. Rural Medical will pay operational cost until Lafayette County EMS Service is ready to go. Rural Medical plans to transfer assets to Lafayette County EMS Service when appropriate.

Discussion was then held concerning a recommendation to rejoin Rural Medical Ambulance Service. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Roelli to rejoin Rural Medical Ambulance Service; who will provide EMS service to the residents of the City of Darlington until Lafayette County EMS Service is operational. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Spellman, Roelli and Pickett. Nays: Gough, Goebel and Gallagher. Tie Vote. Mayor McDermott voted Aye. Motion carried. Abby Haas, Tim McComish, Dave Ohnstad and Bob Hermanson then left the meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning proposed Resolution 2020-14, A Resolution Transferring Funds. A copy of the proposed resolution was included in the agenda packet. This resolution transfers budget funds from those accounts with unexpended funds to those accounts where expenditures are anticipated to exceed the adopted budget. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Roelli to approve Resolution 2020-14, A Resolution Transferring Funds as presented. Motion carried.

The November 30, 2020 financial statements for the City, Water Dept. and Sewer Dept. were then presented for approval. Copies of these financial statements were included in the agenda packet. After discussion and consideration, motion by Roelli second by Goebel to approve the November 30, 2020 financial statements as presented. Motion carried.

Under reports of committees, it was suggested a meeting of the Policies, Procedures and Ordinance Committee be held to discuss approval of meeting agendas, and changing of Aldermanic positions by Aldermanic District, to At-Large Aldermanic positions. And Alderperson Pickett reported on a memo from Jason Funkhouser, Darlington Chamber/Main Street Director, regarding assistance needed from the City related to the Hwy. 23 reconstruction project in 2021 and 2022.

Motion by Gough second by Roelli to go into closed session in accordance with Section 19.85 (1) (c) Wis. Stats., to consider proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Darlington and Wisconsin Professional Police Association regarding the hiring of a Police Officer. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Goebel second by Gallagher to reconvene to regular session in accordance with Section 19.85 (2) Wis. Stats., to take action if necessary, concerning proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Darlington and Wisconsin Professional Police Association regarding the hiring of a Police Officer; and adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Gallagher to approve the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Darlington and Wisconsin Professional Police Association regarding the hiring of a Police Officer as presented. Motion carried.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Goebel second by Pickett to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

Philip A. Risseeuw, Clerk-Treasurer