

**CITY OF MANAWA
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2025 6:00 pm**

Proceedings of the Manawa Common Council meeting held Monday, April 21, 2025. Called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Frazier pursuant to open meeting regulations, Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Alderpersons present on roll call: Jim Roenz, Mark Lehrer, Mary Eck, Alice Brown, Ann Bonikowske(via phone), Aaron Timm, Mayor Mike Frazier. City Employees: Josh Smith, Jason Severson, Sue Vater Olsen, Angie Jacobsen.

Audience: Emily Doud, Ben Hlaban, Debra Linjer, Jason Bessette, Randy & Peggy Underwood, Deb Sarna, Scott Bonikowske, Paul Bonikowske, Norm Walbruck, Heather Walbruck, Melessa Habeck, Nina Much, Candace Grawvunder, Joy Griffin, Chuck Ostermeier, Jeremiah Nelson, Brian Finger, Doug & Judy Nelson, Marcy Wentworth.

Moved Eck/Timm to move the agenda item "Dam Updates" to first item on the agenda and to approve the agenda of April 21, 2025. Carried.

Moved Eck/Timm to approve the council meeting minutes of March 17, 2025. Carried.

Dam Updates: April 2, 2025 – Mayor Frazier and Jim Roenz went to Kaukauna to address the WI State Finance Committee to request some financial aid from the state budget to replace the dam. Members of the Town of Little Wolf will be going on April 29th to Wausau to speak to the State Finance Committee as well. Cedar Corp gave a new quote for a spillway with 2 gates for \$8.4 million. The April 25th deadline for the shoreline stabilization was unable to be met. Deadline has been extended to July 15th. The City applied with Tammy Baldwin's office for federal funding for the repair of the dam. The City will be going into closed session to discuss the terms of a possible dam agreement.

Moved Lehrer/Roenz to approve of the Bills of Allowance \$454,953.92. Carried.

Audience: *Jeremiah, Doug, Judy Nelson.* They purchased the old motel property at 535 N. Bridge Street. Paul Hanlon called them recently and expressed to them that they needed state approved plans for the updates done on the property. Doug Nelson stated that he contacted architects and found out that according to code SPS 361.40(1)(b) that they fall under the cubic feet requirements and do not need approved plans so they continued with the many updates. Doug stated that he met with the Waupaca County Health Human services for a pre-inspection. They have potential buyers but the buyers would not be interested in purchasing it as a motel but would be interested if it was a multi-family rental property. The Nelsons would like to rezone the property to R1 Residential because the efficiency units meet the 400 sq. ft. minimum requirements. They were informed that a Plan Commission meeting will need to be setup to change the comprehensive plan and zoning. They were instructed to call the City Clerk's office to set up the meeting. *Library Director Sue Vater Olsen* presented the Sturm Memorial Library's annual report.

Finance: Seasonal Park Position: Moved Eck/Roenz to hire Drake Frasier at \$15.00 per hour for the Seasonal Park Position. Carried.

Improvements: There has been no meeting. Dam Updates were given in the beginning of the Council meeting.

Protection: Municipal Court – Didn't meet. Fire Board – discussed budget quarterly numbers. They are bringing in more fees due to Flex Medic and higher rates.

Chamber request to allow bloody mary drinks during "Spring into Manawa" event: Moved Lehrer/Brown to allow the consumption and carry out of bloody mary drinks on the sidewalks and streets in the Manawa downtown during the Chamber's "Spring Into Manawa" event on May 4, 2025 from 9a-2p. Carried.

Wolves Den celebration on July 19: Moved Roenz/Lehrer to allow Wolves Den to set up a tent behind his property at 313 S. Bridge Street for a band, pig roast and selling of beer and alcohol with a fence around the tent on July 19, 2025. Carried.

Plan Commission: A meeting will need to be setup for rezoning at 535 N. Bridge Street.

Mayor: Mayor Frazier recognized Mark Lehrer 2 years, Aaron Timm 3 years, Jim Roenz 5 years, Alice Brown 16 years, Mike Frazier 16 years and Ann Bonikowske 20 years of service to the City. Midwest Athletic Fields have moved in equipment to start work on the fields at Lindsay Park.

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DPW: Josh went over his report. Sold items on Wisconsin Surplus website. Hoping to get well#3 back to full operation before Memorial Day weekend. Rented vac trailer to clean out storm inlets. Got an extension for the shoreline project. Getting the tar kettle next week to start filling potholes and street maintenance. Took down ash trees at Lindsay Park due to Ash Borer disease. Donor wall at Veterans Park was installed. Manawa Booster Club will be getting a fridge for softball field concession stand. Lions Club will be willing to donate their old coolers to put in the baseball and softball concession stands. Received 3 out of the 4 toilets to be replaced at the park.

Police: Police Chief Jason Severson went over his report. Spring clean-up dates will be Friday, April 25, and Saturday, April 26. Last week the chiefs and sheriff met about starting a law enforcement peer supporter group. We will be starting to gear up for the rodeo and the Manawa Night Out Soon.

Fire: Chief Josh Smith went over his report. Pancake Breakfast is April 27th 8am to noon. All the calendar raffle tickets were sold. Currently at 51 calls for the fiscal year.

Library: Alice Brown stated that it is going great and we have a great librarian and employees.

Clerk: Financial Report: General Fund balance – \$832,158.93; Government Pool – \$16,754.47

New Business: Will need to schedule a meeting for a request to vacate east side of Railroad Street. Ben Hlaban would like to know if the Council wants to meet with Baraboo representatives. Ben will contact the clerk's office.

Closed Session:

Moved Roenz/Eck to adjourn into closed session at 7:18pm per 19.85 (1) (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session for dam contract and 19.85 (1) (c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Moved Roenz/Eck to return to open session at 8:18pm with no recommendations.

Moved Brown/Eck to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Carried.

Minutes submitted by Angie Jacobsen, Deputy Clerk