

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

**Tuesday, November 24, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council chambers
of the Municipal Building at 450 S. Main St.**

Members Present: Mayor Paul Corcoran, Alderpersons Susan Fruit, Marie Rakow, Marsha Machotka, Jay Buchanan Mueller, Lester Parker and Dawn Elliott. Alderpersons Judy Shireman and Lorna Dilley were absent.

It was noted that the meeting was properly noticed and a quorum is present.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AMENDED AMBULANCE AGREEMENT WITH RICHLAND COUNTY OR PROCEED WITH DISTRICT OPTION: Mr. Fred Clary stated the City requested monthly payment and that had been changed in the agreement, he reviewed that the agreement has more members than initially proposed and the segregated account has been created. He stated that ambulance service is not guaranteed but they have backups available with Lone Rock and Muscoda and are working on details with Baraboo for additional backup. Mayor Corcoran stated that another two calls were missed yesterday and that if the primary rig is in the garage and no one has been disbursed to a call that the primary ambulance should be guaranteed. Mr. Clary stated it is not possible to guarantee coverage. Alderperson Machotka asked how long it would take for Baraboo Ambulance to be compatible with the county radio on local frequency. Mayor Corcoran stated he received word that it was resolved as of 4:00 p.m. today. Alderperson Rakow stated the contract does not state that the County would hire staff and maybe it should. Mr. Clary said they have been waiting to hear what the City decides to do before moving forward but they intend to hire four full time AEMTs as soon as the City makes a decision. He said Baraboo Ambulance had discussed having three Paramedics for about the same cost but it needs to be four and with supplies, the total cost would be higher than the county hiring staff. Alderperson Machotka said there used to always be a primary crew on call but that does not seem to be the case in the past few months. She said even if there was an all page that many EMTs would show up to respond. What has changed? Mr. Clary said the volunteers need help. Mr. Darin Gudgeon said there are 14 EMTs on staff and 6 in training. Mayor Corcoran stated there has been nothing other than dedication given by all volunteers but the county is unable to fill all the hours and get a system in place for full primary coverage. Mr. Gudgeon said he has struggled for more than 10 years to have enough volunteer staff. Some are retiring and training is an issue, however the bulk of the calls are taken by 7 or 8 staff. Mayor Corcoran said he had a meeting with Jeanetta Kirkpatrick and Darin Gudgeon and told them that if they guarantee ambulance coverage the City would sign right away. Alderperson Machotka asked how long it would take to hire the full time staff and the answer was one to two months. Ms. Sharon Schmitz spoke and encouraged all to vote in favor of the agreement noting it can be a temporary solution giving time to prepare for a better solution. Mayor Corcoran asked Fred Clary if he stated at the November 7th meeting with the State that the decision to hire or contract with Baraboo ambulance would be decided by the newly formed ambulance committee and the answer was yes.

Motion by Rakow, second by Fruit to approve the agreement with Richland County for ambulance service.

Alderperson Machotka asked how many villages or townships have signed their agreements and Mr. Clary said one for sure but he thought there was another. Alderperson Elliott said she would like to see the schedule for coverage for the remainder of the year. Mr. Gudgeon reviewed the scheduled for the next two days and mentioned there is a meeting tomorrow with Baraboo and the State and he would work hard to provide coverage. Motion carried 5-1 with Machotka dissenting.

CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION FROM ALDERPERSON LORNA DILLEY: Motion by Parker, second by Elliott to accept the resignation from Lorna Dilley. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Parker, second by Elliott to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0 at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes by Melinda D. Jones, City Clerk/Treasurer

Paul F. Corcoran, Mayor

Attest:

Melinda D. Jones, City Clerk