



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

**February 22, 2022**

Council President Morrissette 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, Scott Morrissette, Alyssa Mueller (virtual), Diane Odeen, Ben Plunkett

**Members Absent:** Mayor Dan Toland

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Scot Simpson; City Attorney Chris Gierhart (virtual); IT Specialist Jon Smits; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Police Chief Gordon Young; City Clerk Amy White; Community Development Director Amy Peterson; Assistant City Administrator Jason Stroud; City Engineer Todd Nickleski; Finance Director Josh Solinger; Economic Development Manager Keri Schreiner; Public Works Director Mike Stifter; Senior Civil Engineer Zach Regnier

**Others Present:** Fred Barr, Colleen Gehring

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2022, Workshop and Regular Minutes

**MSC Plunkett/Bjerstedt move to approve minutes. Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills: \$6,470,247.41

**MSC Downing/Bjerstedt move to approve bills. Unanimous.**

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

Aldersperson Downing thanked the City for allowing him to represent River Falls at the Municipal League Affordable Housing Conference on Monday and at past conferences.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Storm Water Permit - 2021 Annual Report and Resolution No. 6651 - Authorizing Content of 2021 Annual Report to Discharge Water

Senior Civil Engineer Zach Regnier provided a presentation on the City's stormwater. Highlights included Public Works Awareness Week which involves programming for the City's second graders, a big stormwater reconstruction project for Golf View Drive channel, and snowplow simulator training. Regnier talked about stormwater ordinance standards which were updated in 2021. He concluded the presentation by talking about a specialty mower which is able to mow wet areas near stormwater ponds.

**At 6:38 p.m., President Morrissette recessed into a Public Hearing. With no comments, President Morrissette moved back into Open Session. MSC Bjerstedt/Carow move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Request for a Combination "Class B" Liquor and Class "B" Beer License for Tarnation Tavern LLC dba as Tarnation Tavern

**At 6:39 p.m., President Morrisette recessed into a Public Hearing. With no comments, President Morrisette moved back into Open Session. MS Downing/Bjerstedt move to approve license.**

President Morrisette asked Agent Fred Barr to come forward. Morrisette asked if Barr understood the role of an agent, if he possessed a responsible server's certificate, and if he understood that if an alcohol related violation occurred and he wasn't in the facility, he is responsible. Barr answered yes to all.

Alderson Plunkett asked Barr what steps he would take to ensure his establishment doesn't overserve customers. Barr said the responsible server's course lays out great guidelines on recognizing and not overserving customers. He has experience owning a bar in Stillwater and talked about the training he has done with staff to recognize people who are approaching or who have been overserved. Barr said all of the servers will be trained. He provided further details.

**With no further questions, Morrisette asked for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all voting in favor.**

Ordinance 2022-01 – Ordinance Amending the Traffic Control Map Adding a Stop Sign on Hamilton Drive at Washington Street and expanding Westside Elementary School Zone to 296 Sylla Street – First Reading

**At 6:41 p.m., President Morrisette recessed into a Public Hearing. With no comments, President Morrisette moved back into Open Session.**

Ordinance 2022-02 - Ordinance Amending Official Parking Control Map Creating No Parking Zone at 403 N. Eighth Street – First Reading

**At 6:42 p.m., President Morrisette recessed into a Public Hearing. With no comments, President Morrisette moved back into Open Session.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Acknowledgement of the following minutes: Housing Authority – 1/12/22; Library Board – 1/10/22; Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 1/19/22; Utility Advisory Board – 1/18/22; Plan Commission – 12/7/21; Historic Preservation Commission – 12/8/21; West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility – 11/18/21; 12/1/21; 12/16/21; 1/20/22

Resolution No. 6652 - Affirming the City's Intent to Apply for a DNR Dam Removal Grant

Resolution No. 6653 - Proclaiming World Migratory Bird Day

Resolution No. 6654 - Approving Data Privacy Policy

Resolution Approving Letter of Agreement with KCC for Powell Falls Hydro Dam Decommissioning and Removal→→*pulled by Downing*

**MCS Odeen/Bjerstedt move to approve remainder of the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6655 - Approving Letter of Agreement with KCC for Powell Falls Hydro Dam Decommissioning and Removal

Alderson Downing requested that a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding be sent to the Council as some members were not serving on the Council at that time. **MSC Downing/Bjerstedt move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

**REPORTS:**

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Strategic Plan Report

President Morrisette asked if there were questions. Downing asked about the pattern for reporting. City Administrator Simpson said there has been infrequent and irregular reporting on the KCC. The LOA that was agreed upon tonight would be a quarterly report. It may be a written report or may be accompanied by a presentation. Those reports will include updates on fundraising and other commitments. Downing noted the commitments were very important.

Comptroller Report for January 2022

Comptroller Odeen read the following: General Fund revenues through the end of January were \$1,214,671.05 and include the January property tax settlement and State streets aid. Expenditures for the same period were \$752,871.38. Net revenues over expenditures as of January 31, 2022, were \$461,799.67.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**At 6:49 p.m., MS Downing/Odeen move to recess into Closed Session per Wisconsin State Statutes §19.85(1)(e) for the following purposes: “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, to wit: Properties near Mann Valley Corporate Park” and “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, to wit: Sale of Property in Mann Valley Corporate Park”.**

City Administrator Simpson indicated that most likely there would be no action taken coming out of Closed Session other than adjournment.

**The roll call vote to move into Closed Session passed 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

**MS Plunkett/Odeen move to reconvene into Open Session at 7:52 p.m.**

**MSC Bjerstedt/Downing move to adjourn at 7:52 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy White, Administrative Services Manager/City Clerk