

# City of Bayfield Common Council

Bayfield City Hall, 125 South First Street, Bayfield, WI 54814 \* 715-779-5712

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## Minutes of Wednesday, September 18, 2019 – 5:00 pm

**Call to Order – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Ringberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Bayfield City Hall followed by roll call vote as follows:

Present: Cirillo, Bryan, Burkel, Johnson and Mayor Ringberg

**Others:** Aimee Kaufmann, Megan Boyle, Ted and Mary Dougherty, Diane Fizell, Kylie and Mark Ludeking, Skye Bingham and Matt Zawislak, Becky McDowell, Jake Beagan and Kate Kitchell

**Staff:** Treasurer Johnston, PWD Kovachevich, GBWWTPC Operator Pearson, Clerk Hoopman, Joseph Jamison, and Roy Bainbridge

**Review/Approve Agenda:** Johnson/Bryan made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The Mayor made a brief statement about ATV/UTVs. He noted the Council was not at decision making point and all comments are welcome. Carried.

**Review/Approve the Common Council minutes of August 21, 2019:** Bryan/Johnson moved to approve the minutes of August 21, 2019 as presented. Carried.

### Public Input on Agenda Items:

- Ted Dougherty said he lives at 9<sup>th</sup> and Rittenhouse Avenue. He's owned, sold and trailered ATV's in the past. He is not in favor of changing the ordinance and noted noise, congestion downtown, and safety. This issue didn't arise from the Chamber or Plan Committee. He cited safety issues and provided the documents he was referencing. He asked the Council to do their due diligence on this issue. Where is this coming from and where is the demand?
- Aimee Kaufmann, Town of Russell resident who works in Bayfield, cited some additional accident information noting there has only been two incidents in a five-county wide area. Safety issues are mostly due to high rates of speeds and operating while drinking. Every other area is allowing them in their communities. Her truck is louder than the ATV. She would like to be able to get gas and access the MIFL. She doesn't feel there will be large number of them in the communities and agrees riding on the road isn't desirable.
- Matt Zawislak said he hasn't seen any public announcements about this issue and is disappointed about the lack of information that has been available. What is the purpose or reasoning for allowing them? Who is spearheading this issue? He said he is concerned about safety, traffic issues and noise. His research showed there were 27 deaths in the State of WI; most didn't have helmets, additionally alcohol and age were factors. He mentioned that 12 years olds are legally allowed to drive them. He feels there is lots to discuss, and hopes there is an opportunity for more public input. Please be mindful of our seasonal residents, wants everyone informed. Is everyone on the trail aware?
- Mark Ludeking – said ditto to all the public safety concerns noted. He discussed how manufacturers admit they are not designed for the roads, so why allow them on the roadway. He asked the Council to understand that a lot of incidents go unreported. It's hard to gage what the impact will really be. He cautioned the Council to consider the Impacts to PD, for additional costs and time. If enough homework is done in advance it might avoid future headaches on this issue. Incidents do happen on the roads and don't and 73% of the time alcohol was involved. Separate from Public Safety, it's well documented that manufactures are funneling money to groups/organization to help pass use laws. Because we're an island is not a good reason to pass new laws. Who is behind this effort?
- Roy Bainbridge a south Second Street resident said he would love to be able to ride into town to get gas. Helps to support our local gas station too by filling up there.
- Dionne Johnston a resident who lives on North Fifth Street voice her concern for public health and safety, especially during the summer and is not in favor of allowing ATV/UTV's in the City.

- Tom Kovachevich – Said he’s the City of Bayfield Public Works Director and he’s the one who brought it to the Council and noted that’s why it’s on the agenda. He said there is value in being able to get to Bayfield to get gas. He didn’t believe we’d have thousands of them in our community since we already have a bad reputation now for motorized use groups (snowmobile/ATVs, etc.). For years they have been allowed in the City from Nov. 1 to April and there haven’t been any documented problems. Gives a new user group the opportunity to come to Bayfield who can help support our local businesses.

## **Agenda**

- 1. Bayfield Heritage Association’s Request to purchase Block 74, Lot 19 –Review schematic of parking lot and expansion for review.** Megan Boyle, BHA Director gave a brief presentation of their proposal noting their Architect, John Gerzina drafted a conceptual plan for an expanded parking lot mostly on Lot 20 and the BHA proposed expansion. Burkel/Cirillo made a motion to move forward with BHA’s offer to purchase a portion of Block 74, Lot 19, per the specs that have been presented/the South 36’ of Lot 19; price and terms to be negotiated. Drainage is an issue and needs to be dealt. The parking lot design should be reviewed by the Public Works Committee at their next meeting. Not sure an entrance off of Broad Street is feasible. Carried.
- 2. City of Bayfield 2019 Comprehensive Plan: Action Items**

A round of applause and a hearty thank you was given to Kate Kitchell for her work and efforts. She noted that Nan Fey and all committees/members also deserve a big thank you for their perseverance to continue moving forward. She noted there are some clerical issues to follow with actually putting this into the 2019 Comprehensive Plan document. It may come back to the Council when in its final format. Johnson/Burkel moved to accept and approve the action items and crossover worksheets for inclusion into the 2019 Comprehensive Plan. It’s time to start implementing these actions! Carried; all eyes.
- 3. All-Terrain Vehicles / UTV – Proposed City of Bayfield Routes & Trail Access**

The Mayor asked the Council, do you want to continue moving forward or to stop reviewing this idea? Bryan gave a brief statement on how we got to this point; we’re an island. The rationale of the PW Committee is that it’s rapidly increasing in popularity. Ashland, Washburn, and Hayward allow them with some restrictions and none have had significant issues in their communities. Never was it considered to open the entire City, only designated routes. He believes we need to add allowable hours of operation and that all laws to be followed. At this point he believes we could move forward, but noting all laws can be changed or amended as needed.

Bryan/ Johnson moved to recommend we continue developing an ordinance to allow limited use of ATV/UTVs in the City of Bayfield. Cirillo asked for point of clarification on the process. The draft ordinance and safety rules and regulation information that was cited today will go back to the Public Works Committee for further review and consideration. They will bring back a recommendation to the Council at their October 16, 2019 meeting. The Council is not planning to take action at the October 16, 2019 meeting. It was clarified the City Council would hold a Public Hearing on the matter before taking any action on a revised ATV/UTV ordinance. Carried.
- 4. Resolution #555 – Bayfield Volunteer Fire Department Fundraising Events**

Johnson/Burkel moved to approve Resolution #555 supporting the Bayfield Volunteer Fire Departments Annual Apple Festival Fundraising activities which includes a Fish Fry, and local dance where beer will be cold at both events. Carried.
- 5. Sanitary/Dumpster Issues**

Alderperson Cirillo asked for this agenda item to be listed. She’s noted ongoing refuse/trash issues with two local businesses. She understands that due to the seasonal change, the problem will go away but doesn’t want this to be ongoing and carry forward to future years. Chief Fangman address the issue and told the Council he made personal visits to these two businesses which resulted in compliance. Discussion

ensued. The Council agreed that the City should send a last chance letter, noting the next violation after that would result in a citation/or citations being written; no more warnings would be given. Additionally, they noted that the Plan Commission should revisit the Dumpster/Trash ordinance(s) and reconsider the requirements for screening.

**6. Committee Appointments/Resignations: Parks and Recreation:** Kate Kitchell addressed the Council and said after a few-month search, Skye Bingham, has agreed to be a member on the Parks and Recreation Committee. Bingham told the Council she feels parks are vital to the health of a community and is happy to serve. Bryan/Johnson moved to approve the appointment of Skye Bingham to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Carried.

## **7. Project Updates:**

- a. Old Jail – Bayfield Heritage Association – Nothing new to report.
- b. Green Tier Legacy Community Alliance for Health Project – Nothing new to report.
- c. Marina Breakwall/Seawall Evaluation – Hoopman provided information on a new WIDOT grant opportunity to our engineer. Applications are due in November.
- d. GBWWTP Solar Project – Operator Pearson told the Council the State Inspector was here last week, and some corrective action need to be done by Jolma. They are aware and Pearson believes the project is close to completion.
- e. Bayfield & Ashland County Regional Housing Study – The Mayor told the Council that the Towns of LaPointe and Bayfield are now on Board.
- f. Big Ravine & Wayfinding System Project: Review/Approve Submitted Design Proposals
  - Johnson/Cirillo made a motion to award the Trail Design bid to Trails Anonymous in the amount of \$4480. Carried.
  - Johnson/ Bryan moved to endorse the Parks and Recreation Committees recommendation to proceed with additional steps toward contracting for stairway/trail design at the Bayfield School, and to work toward securing additional funds for the added cost for engineering and construction. Carried.
  - Brief discussion ensued on Sign-Sub Committee’s work. They are looking at clarifying and revising the ordinance as it pertains to directional and wayfinding signage. Cirillo noted she is doing an inventory of all the existing signs.
  - The Daily Press had a very nice article on the Big Ravine Trails project.
- g. Bayfield Area Trails (BATS): Work continues.

## **8. Mayor’s Report**

- He’s excited about the Regional Housing Study progress. Kudos to Kellie Pederson and NWRPC for their continued efforts! All seems to be moving along nicely.
- October 1 – Bayfield County is celebrating their 125 anniversary. All are invited to attend the event and let them know we, of course, still hold a grudge for stealing it away!
- The League of WI Municipality’s Annual Meeting is in October. The Mayor is unable to attend and he asked the Council if any of them are interested in attending. It’s October 23-25 and will be held in Green Bay.
- Staff have been working on the City’s Budget; it’s going to be tough!

### **File Reports from Committees, Commission & Boards:**

**Ambulance:** Minutes of June 20, 2019

**Courthouse:** Minutes of August 20, 2019

**Finance:** Minutes of August 21, 2019

**Fire Department:** Minutes of August 5 and September 9, 2019

**Fire Protection:** Minutes of August 20, 2019

**Library:** Minutes of July 24, 2019

**Parks and Rec.:** Minutes of September 3, 2019

**Pavilion:** Minutes of August 26, 2019

**Planning:** Minutes of August 27, 2019

**Police Department:** August 2019 Report, Grant Award and Vehicle Purchase

**Public Works:** Minutes of September 11, 2019

Burkel/Johnson made a motion to place the minutes above on file in a block format. The PD was acknowledged for their recent computer grant award. Way to go! The Council was also alerted to the need for them to move forward with a vehicle purchase this year rather than waiting until next year. Detailed financing information will be provided at a future meeting.

Carried.

**Correspondence:**

- Bayfield County Resolution No. 2019-62 – September as Bayfield County Preparedness Month
- Town of Barnes EMS Concerns

Information only, no action required. Hoopman informed the Council about a bill being circulated that would grant tax credits to both EMS and Fire Personnel. They agreed we should send a letter of support on those Assembly/Senate bills.

**Treasurer: August 2019 Voucher Payments, Fund Summary, Treasurer's Reports & Budgets**

Bryan/Johnson made a motion to approve the August 2019 voucher payments, and to place the fund summary, treasurer's report and budgets on file. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Johnson, Cirillo, Bryan and Burkel – yes.

**Next Meeting:** October 16, 2019, 5 p.m. Bryan asked the Council to consider at their next meeting, moving meeting time to 4 p.m. during winter months.

**Adjournment:** Johnson/Cirillo moved to adjourn. Carried. (6:25 p.m.)

*Minutes by: Billie L. Hoopman, Clerk*