

City of Fox Lake
Committee of the Whole Synopsis
July 6, 2022

The July 6, 2022 committee of the whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Bednarek, at 6:35 p.m., following the common council meeting. Those in attendance were Alderpersons Dan Ault, Marcy Benz, Bruce Harned, Peter Hartzheim, Dennis Linke and John Mund present. Also attending were Police Chief Jim Rohr, City DPW Superintendent Gene Huettner, Utilities Superintendent Bradley Ruenger, Librarian Erin Anders, City Administrator Kelly Crombie and City Clerk Jenny Quirk.

In the audience were Lori Schultz, Jan Okrasinski, Kathy Jenswold, JoAnne and Skyla Bernhardt.

Public Works:

Water/sewer utilities:

Fire/Police:

City Administrator:

Crombie provided a City Administrator Report to the council.

Skyla Bernhardt addressed the council with a request to place a free small library in Clausen Park as part of her Eagle Scout project. The council granted her permission to move forward with her project.

Huettner shared that he would like to declare the 14 foot enclosed utility trailer surplus and sell it. Council decided to allow sealed bid to be collected. This will be voted on at the next council meeting.

Crombie shared a draft resolution for creating the Clausen Park Ad Hoc Committee for review.

The council discussed the plan for the 2023 budget process and schedule. The council was satisfied that with the plan in place.

The council discussed the golf course request to detach the narrow strip of land on Oaks Rd from the City to help facilitate development of a couple homes on this property based on the Town rules instead of City rules.

The council further discussed regulating of food truck within the City. It has been decided that since there was only one request until now to just wait and see if there is more interest in the future. If need be the topic can be brought up at a later date.

The possible cemetery expansion was discussed with the council. Crombie share that the cemetery committee met on June 1st. The unanimous recommendation of the committee is that the City acquire an approximately 1.5 acre lot next to the cemetery for expansion. The council will plan a closed session meeting to discuss further details.

There was discussion of multiple infrastructure issues relating to: issues with Green St, Linden Lane pavement, Forest St. utility upgrades, Center St. slip lining and the 2022 DPW street work bids that have been awarded.

Crombie noted the difficulties the YMCA has been having with finding lifeguards to run the public pool, which has caused pool closures. This opened up to discussion on staffing and planning for next year if this shortage remains an issue.

The Mayor noted the large amount of dead trees in the City, many being Ash trees. Crombie provided guidance from the DNR and our City ordinances. At this time the council feels it is best to just focus on dead trees that can become a hazard.

The council discussed municipal debt relating to the City acquiring the Meagher Land. The two options talked about were to either keep this debt as general obligation debt or move it to RDA debt. The council felt keeping the debt as GO debt was the better option. This will be brought back to the next council meeting.

Crombie shared that the Fox Lake Fire Association initiated discussions of proposed changes to the Fire Association Agreement. Russell Kottke put the proposed revised agreement together. The Association may be looking for each governing body to approve this revised agreement.

Members of the library board spoke regarding their request for a new ADA bubbler and water bottle filling station to be installed at the library, replacing the current bubbler. The Mayor requested they gather bids to show the cost for the purchase and installation, since this was not an item included in the current budget.

Building & Parks:

License & Finance:

Personnel:

Library:

Anders shared the June and July Library Board minutes with the council.

Audit & Review:

Cemetery, recycling & transfer station:

With no other business to come before the committee of the whole, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.