

City of Fox Lake
Committee of the Whole Synopsis
August 16, 2023

The August 16, 2023 committee of the whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Bednarek, at 6:39 p.m. In attendance were alderpersons Dan Ault, Marcy Benz, Bruce Harned, Peter Hartzheim, Dennis Linke and John Mund. Also attending were City Attorney Mike Devitt, City Administrator Kelly Crombie, DPW Superintendent Geno Huettner, Police Chief James Rohr, City Clerk-Treasurer Jenny Quirk and Deputy City Clerk-Treasurer Jane Fude.

Water/sewer utilities:

Fire/Police:

City Administrator:

- Discussion of City owned tax foreclosure parcel on Hamilton Street: Further discussion on handling the 2 small parcels on Hamilton St. One parcel was part of Hamilton Street and part of the unimproved cul-de-sac. The other parcel was the other half of the unimproved cul-de-sac. Daenna VandeZande, the property owner of the surrounding land, would like to have the unimproved cul-de-sac and let the City keep the Hamilton St. road portion. It was decided to allow VandeZande to purchase the unimproved cul-de-sac for \$1 and pay up to \$3000 for the survey expenses for the parcels.
- Discussion of ordinance relating to tourists rooming houses and bed and breakfasts: A draft of the comprehensive ordinance was presented to the council for review. An updated fee schedule will be presented at the September meeting to reflect the annual fee.
- Discussion of Clausen Park Plans: Crombie shared copies of the draft cost estimates and plans for the Clausen Park project. The Clausen Park Ad Hoc Committee will meet to review this and then they will be officially presented at the September council meeting.
- Discussion on National Night Out: This is an event always held on the 1st Tue of August. It is an event that the police department puts on to help with community policing and build better relations. There has been a request to discuss planning this event for Fox Lake in 2024.
- Discussion of ordinance on building permits for roofs: The building inspector requested that the council discuss the issue of whether building permits should be required for reroof projects. The council did not feel it was necessary to change the ordinance. It will remain that no permit is required for roof replacement.
- Discussion of utility rate studies: Crombie explained that water rates are regulated by the PCS and the sewer rates are regulated by the council. The City last established water rates in 2015, leaving us with some of the oldest rates in the area. The sewer rates were last adjusted in March of 2023. There was also discussion on whether, or not, to move public fire protection charge or hydrant rent to the water bill. This will be discussed further in September.
- Discussion of 2024 Budget: The council had further discussion on the upcoming budget relating to donation requests made to the City and employee wage increases. There will be further discussion at the next meeting.
- City Administrator report was presents by Administrator Crombie.

Building & Parks:

License & Finance:

Personnel:

Library:

- A printed copy of the library board minutes was provided to the council.

Audit & Review:

Cemetery, recycling & transfer station:

Public Works:

Motion by Hartzheim, seconded by Benz to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(g), conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or likely to become involved. Specifically to discuss possible litigation involving the Green Street construction issues. Vote in favor: Hartzheim, Linke, Mund, Ault, Benz and Harned. Motion carried.

Motion by Benz, seconded by Linke to reconvene to open session. Vote in favor: Linke, Mund, Ault, Benz, Harned and Hartzheim. Motion carried.

With no other business to come before the committee of the whole, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.