

**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 7:30 P.M., City Hall**

1. **ROLL CALL-** Mayor Martin Becker convened the Common Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Alderpersons Deborah Postl, Paul Neumyer, Mike Gasper, Dan Benning, Jonathan Pleitner, Pat Tearney and John Sigwart. Also present was City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven, City Planner Bob Harris, City Attorney Eric Eberhardt, City Administrator Anthony Brown and City Clerk Susan Westerbeke.
2. **PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG-** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings-** MOTION MADE BY ALD. POSTL, SECONDED BY ALD. BENNING TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **MAYOR'S BUSINESS**
  - A. **Proclamation 2020 Arbor Day And Tree City USA-** Mayor Becker read the proclamation.
  - B. **Approval Of 2020-2021 Appointments to City Boards, Committees and Commissions-** Mayor Becker requested approval of appointments. MOTION MADE BY ALD. NEUMYER, SECONDED BY ALD. PLEITNER TO APPOINT KAY GOODWIN TO THE LIBRARY BOARD AND CHERI CORNELL TO THE COMMISSION ON AGING. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **OFFICERS'/STAFF REPORT**
  - A. **Report On 2020 Street Improvements-** The City Engineer reported that water main work continues, and Visu-Sewer is working on televising the sewers in that area.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES**

*Your comments are welcome. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. If you need more time, contact the City Administrator and ask that your topic be placed on a Common Council Agenda.*

Dave Ross- Owns properties on N. Spring Street and is concerned about the flooding issues in that area and would like it to be a priority by the city to fix it.
7. **COMMITTEES**
  - A. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**
    1. **Review Of Telecommuting Policy For City Employees-** The City Administrator reviewed the new policy for employees that may need to work from home for a specific period of time. This gives management the flexibility to handle these requests on a case by case basis. There is also a Telework Agreement form for employees to sign.
8. **BOARDS/COMMISSIONS-** None.
9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS-** None.
10. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **Presentation On Proposed Cedar Gorge Land Trust Acquisition And Related Fund Raising Efforts-** The City Planner reported on the proposed acquisition and funding opportunities. Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Director Andrew Struck and Ozaukee Washington Land Trust (OWLT) Executive Director Tom Stolp gave a virtual presentation on plans to purchase 135 acres of land south of the Gorge. This is a portion of the land formerly known Cedar Vineyard, which is owned by Waukesha State Bank. This land would be known as the Cedar Gorge Clay Bluffs Nature Preserve (The Preserve). Fund raising efforts by OWLT and Ozaukee County are successful, and the County will acquire, and manage the property as a public nature preserve in the Ozaukee County Park System. A Nelson Knowles grant application requires a resolution from the City in support of the OWLT preservation efforts. Ald. Gasper expressed concerns over the proposed area on the City's southern border, hindering the expansion of future sewer and water service for development. He proposed the land being separated and reserved for the city or a future developer to extend services if needed. Further discussion was held, and this item will come before the Council again on the June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - B. **Departmental Operations Review As A Result Of COVID-19-** The City Administrator reviewed how each City Department is working with social distancing and other modifications to daily operations for safety during COVID-19. There are concerns about the pool, it may not be possible to open it this summer

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with the current health situation, safety to staff, residents and expenses that would be involved. The Village of Grafton and City of Cedarburg have closed their pools for the summer. Discussion was held, which included beach safety for the summer.

**B. Review Guidelines For Public Event Authorization-** The City Administrator reviewed the Badger Bounce Back Plan and phased approach for reopening of public areas and events in the City for the summer. The phase two guidelines include social distancing and participation maximums of 50 people. We are currently in phase one, which allows 10 people maximum. The July events include Beer Gardens and 4<sup>th</sup> of July events were discussed. The City Attorney is currently working with the city insurance carrier to obtain information on the exposure for the City with this situation. This item will be discussed again at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

**11. FORTHCOMING EVENTS-** Various comments.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES-** The City Engineer gave an update on the rain event Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. There was approximately 6 ½ inches of rain and flooding in areas of N. Spring Street and Larabee Street, including the detentions ponds in that area. North Lake Street overflowed due to the culvert being overwhelmed. This resulted in the Water Filtration Plant being flooded and the Wastewater Treatment Plan being bypassed due to the overflow. Sauk Road and Harris Drive overflowed, Moore Road at the Street Department flooded, Norport Drive at Valley Creek overflowed and there was surface flooding on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Resident's that may have had sanitary sewer backup should notify the City Engineer.

**13. ADJOURNMENT-** MOTION MADE BY ALD. POSTL, SECONDED BY ALD. NEUMYER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by  
Susan L. Westerbeke, City Clerk