



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

The City of Tomah Emergency Management Committee (EMC) met in session on **Wednesday, June 5, 2024**, at 9 a.m. at Tomah Emergency Services Building, 400 North Glendale Ave, Tomah, WI. The meeting access information was provided on the posted agenda. The meeting agenda notice was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in compliance with the provisions of Section 19.84 Wisconsin Statutes.

Call to Order & Roll Call: Public Safety Director/Fire Chief, Tim Adler, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Members present: T. Adler, Police Chief Scott Holum, Public Works Director Kirk Arity, Tomah Health designee James Newlun, Tomah Area School District designee Joe Janusheske, County Emergency Management Coordinator Jared Tessman, and City Attorney Penny Precour. Not present Mayor Paul Dwyer and Tomah VA Hospital designee Jason Herman. Also present were Deputy Fire Chief Jeremy Likely, Deputy Ambulance Chief Adam Robarge, Assistant Police Chief Eric Pedersen, Lieutenant Jarrod Furlano, Monroe County Chief Deputy Chris Weaver, and Deputy City Clerk Nicole Jacobs.

Approval of October 28, 2021, meeting minutes: Motion by K. Arity, second by S. Holum, to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2021, meeting. Motion carried.

Discussion and review of Emergency Management Operational Plan: T. Adler presented changes to the City's Emergency Management Operational Plan, which was drafted in a coordinated effort between Adler, the City's Public Safety Director and J. Tessman, the County Emergency Management Coordinator. There was much debate amongst committee members as to who should be designated in the plan as the city's Emergency Management Director. The consensus among committee members was that in the event of a large emergency, the city's Public Safety Director would be busy handling the emergency itself and that coordinating necessary resources and outside entities, would be a better job left for the County Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion by J. Tessman, second by P. Precour, to postpone approving the plan as written until presented to City Council and it makes a decision regarding updates to the current city ordinance. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding a weather event that took place on July 28, 2023: J. Tessman reminded the committee that the Recreation Park Emergency Operations Plan was approved by City Council and claimed that on July 28, 2023, during a weather event at Recreation Park, the plan was not followed. Tessman explained there were attempts to communicate his recommendations with members of the MCAS during the weather event to make an announcement to attendees of a rodeo that was taking place. During the committee's discussion, a question was raised as to who has the final authority to shut down an event during an emergency as the plan does not currently specify. Committee members felt it should be a coordinated effort between Tomah Police Department, Tomah Fire Department, and Monroe County. No official action was taken.

Review and discussion of Recreation Park Emergency Operations Plan: T. Adler explained that in June 2023, the plan was drafted and presented to the Monroe County Agricultural Society (MCAS), who host the Budweiser Dairyland Supernational Truck and Tractor Pull as well as the Monroe County Fair, two large events held at Recreation Park. City Council then approved the plan. During an emergency weather event at Recreation Park in July 2023, there seemed to be some confusion as to who had the authority to shut

Emergency Management Committee – June 05, 2024

down an event. After much discussion, the committee gave P. Precour direction to work with T. Adler to amend the plan to clarify who has the authority to give direction to event coordinators at Recreation Park in the event of an emergency. The amendment will then be presented to the City Council at its meeting on June 18, 2024. No official action was taken.

Adjournment: Motion by S. Holum, second by J. Newlun, to adjourn at 11:03 a.m. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by:

Nicole Jacobs, Deputy City Clerk, June 17, 2024