

MINUTES FOR COMMON COUNCIL MEETING 02/14/2023

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Council President Adam Gigous. After the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken. Present: Adam Gigous, Richard Yarrington, Shawn Zabinski, John Glynn, Mitchell Koel, Lamont Kiefer, and Dean Peterson. Absent: Michael Murray and Nellie Pater. Also present: Kirk Arity, Becki Weyer, Shane Rolff (remote), Tim Adler, Joe Protz, Irma Keller, Pam Buchda, and Tina Thompson. All motions are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

**Resolution in Recognition of Honor to William H. Kobleska, Jr. For Service to the City of Tomah**

Gigous read through the resolution to thank Bill Kobleska for his years of service with the City. Motion by Koel, second by Koel, to approve the Resolution in Recognition of to William H. Kobleska, Jr. For Service to the City of Tomah. Motion carried.



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF HONOR TO WILLIAM H. KOBLESKA, JR. FOR SERVICE TO THE CITY OF TOMAH 1981-2022**

**WHEREAS**, on March 2, 1981, William H. Kobleska, Jr. began his 41 years of service to the City of Tomah; he started as a sanitation operator for Public Works, became a truck driver in 1986, a water maintenance worker in 1989, an equipment operator in August of 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2008, Bill was promoted from equipment operator to the position of Foreman for the Public Works Department. In June of 2013, the foreman position was abolished for the creation of the Public Works Supervisor, which Mr. Kobleska has held until his retirement; and

**WHEREAS**, one highlight from Bill's City of Tomah career includes a Certificate of Appreciation from the Public Works and Utility Commission for 15 years of dedicated service to the City in February of 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, he has distinguished himself with his knowledge of various operations and a willingness to learn new skills and apply them to his job. Mr. Kobleska was often complimented on his ability to listen to instructions, and complete top-quality work; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill was always willing to work with the public in a courteous manner, handled difficult situations appropriately, and he never let personal matters affect his work; and

**WHEREAS**, his colleagues knew him as a dependable, responsible, clean, and safe co-worker who never complained about new assignments, had a positive attitude, which helped curb others negativism, and always worked well with others.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I Michael Murray, Mayor, City of Tomah, do hereby express my sincere appreciation and gratitude for Mr. Kobleska's dedication and commitment to the City, and congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement from the City of Tomah, and wish him the best, and continued success in his retirement and future endeavors.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023

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Michael Murray, Mayor

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ATTEST: Rebecca Weyer, City Clerk

**ANYONE DESIRING TO APPEAR TO COUNCIL**

**Discussion and Presentation by n.a.s.a of potential TEACH center in the City of Tomah**

Dave Stutzman, from n.a.s.a. appeared to the Council to present a potential partnership opportunity between the City of Tomah, Breathe, and n.a.s.a., to create a center within the city that would provide equine-assisted therapies to children and adults. B.R.E.ATHE is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. The center would service people with a wide spectrum of disabilities, ranging from spinal injuries to autism. Using Equine-Assisted Therapeutic Riding, individuals may improve both physically & psychologically (e.g., demonstrating increased attention, motivation, and communication skills). Executive Director Chris Singer and President Ed Singer from B.R.E.ATHE also appeared to answer questions from the Council. The proposal is for the city to designate a 30-acre parcel as a new park, which would open opportunities for grants and fundraising. The city would retain the property. n.a.s.a would take the full responsibility of fundraising, and the intention is to use those funds to build the facility which would be dedicated back to the city upon completion. One property off County CA has been considered an appropriate parcel for this venture. The plan would be to complete this facility as soon as funds can be raised, which would likely take two years.

A poll of the council revealed unanimous desire for the Senior Executive Team to continue looking into the possibility of this joint venture.

**Mayor**

The Mayor was not present. The primary election is on February 21<sup>st</sup>; Gigous encouraged voters to go out and vote.

**Senior Executive Team**

The Senior Executive Team provided a monthly report.

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### **Public Safety**

Chief Adler provided a written monthly report.

They passed the DSPS Audit. The building is moving along on schedule. Adler offered tours to council members if they are interested, they should contact Adler. The UTV has been used twice so far for emergencies.

They are currently advertising for one full time EMS worker. Adler covered the transfer numbers from his monthly report.

### **Library**

There were 6,517 total checkouts in January. Hot Reads for Cold Nights is still running. Dir. Keller passed out a handout with all the new books at the Library.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Dir. Protz provided a monthly written report for review. Freezefest went well, and all of the Freezefest buttons sold out this year. There was a good turnout this year. Finalization of bid documents are underway for the Flare Ave and Ice Center additions. Contractors have predicted construction will be completed at Winnebago park on May 1, 2023.

### **Senior & Disabled Services**

Dir. Buchda provided a written report for review. Buchda covered the attendance numbers for last month, which is increased from last year. Buchda covered upcoming events this month, including events for education on current elections and on Medicare.

### **Planning & Building Inspection**

January Building Permit Report & Annual Building Permit Report

### **Chamber/Convention & Visitors Bureau**

At the CVB meeting, they formally supported the n.a.s.a project. Thompson provided the Council with an update on the compilation project. Their annual banquet is the last Monday of February. They are looking at more ways to sponsor tourism events. They are still waiting on final repairs to the leak in the office at the Chamber.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Zabinski, second by Peterson, to approve the following consent agenda;

- A. Secondhand Article Dealer License Application for Sunshine Resale of Tomah
- B. Special Event Outdoor Cabaret License for the Greater Tomah Area Chamber of Commerce for the 800 and 900 blocks of Superior Avenue for six “Downtown Thursday Nights” concert events in July and August of 2023.
- C. Special Beer Application by Families First of Monroe County Trivia Night on March 11, 2023
- D. Special Beer and Wine Permit Application by Tomah Baseball Club Inc Opening Night on March 4, 2023
- E. Special Beer Permit Application for the Tomah Lions Club for Downtown Thursday Nights in July and August of 2023
- F. January 31, 2023 Cash and Investments Report
- G. Approval of Minutes from January 17, 2023

Motion carried with one abstain (Gigous). Motion carried.

### **Ordinance revising Ordinance Sec. 38 Streets, Sidewalks & Other Public Places (Second Reading and Adoption)**

Motion by Yarrington, second by Kiefer, to waive the second verbatim reading of the the Ordinance revising Ordinance Sec. 38 Streets, Sidewalks & Other Public Places with the removal of the redundant wording “shall keep.” Motion carried.

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ORDINANCE NO. 2023-01-01-D

Ordinance Amending Sections 38-2 and 38-80 of the City of Tomah Municipal Code

The Common Council of the City of Tomah, Monroe County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

**SECTION ONE:** Section 38-2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**38-2. Building permits; plot plans.**

For the purpose of preserving the integrity of the official map, no permit shall be issued for any construction or disturbance in the bed of any street, highway or parkway shown or laid out on the map, except as provided in Wis. Stats. § 62.23(6)(d) or (e). The proper official authorized by the city council to issue building permits shall require each applicant to submit a plot plan certified by a qualified surveyor for approval. The plot plan shall accurately show the location of any proposed building with reference to any street as shown on the official map.

**SECTION TWO:** Section 38-80 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 38-80. Permit required.**

No person shall dig or cause to be dug any ditch or other excavation in the platted way of any public street or public alley in the City without having obtained a permit. Application for the permit shall be in writing on forms provided by the City and signed by the person contemplating the work or by the authorized agent of such person and filed with the City not less than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the excavation. Upon receipt of such application, the City shall investigate and determine whether a permit shall be issued and may prescribe terms and conditions for the issuance of the permit, which terms may include, at the discretion of the Director of Public Works or Zoning Administrator, submission of a certificate of liability insurance covering the applicant and the City during all phases of the opening and closing of the ditch or excavation. Such conditions as prescribed by the City shall be set forth in writing on the permit. The City shall keep a record of all permits issued hereunder, which record shall indicate the date the permit was granted, the location of the ditch and any special terms or conditions prescribed. Failure to obtain a permit prior to commencement of the excavation, except as provided for in Subsection B, will result in a forfeiture as provided in § 240-9 of this chapter.

**SECTION THREE:** All ordinances in conflict with the foregoing are hereby repealed.

**SECTION FOUR:** This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Michael Murray, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Weyer, Clerk

READ: 12/20/2022

PASSED: 02/14/2023

PUBLISHED: 02/27/2023

Motion by Kiefer, second by Zabinski, to adopt the Ordinance revising Ordinance Sec. 38 Streets, Sidewalks & Other Public Places with the removal of the redundant wording “shall keep.” Motion carried.

**Resolution for Payment of Monthly Bills**

Motion by Zabinski, second by Kiefer, to approve Resolution Authorizing Payment of Monthly Bills in the amount of \$5,309,701.90.

RESOLUTION NO : \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Tomah that the Committee of the Whole has reviewed the monthly bills and recommends the City Council approve said bills as follows:

1. Pre-Paid Checks:	2023	\$4,001,231.76	Check #'s:	141789 141849	141830 141972
2. Payroll:		\$304,067.50	Dir Dep #'s:	9298046	9298308
3. Wire/ACH Transfers:		\$460,450.82			
4. Invoices:		\$543,951.82			
Total:		<u>\$5,309,701.90</u>			

Mayor

Clerk

Requested by: Finance Department

Submitted by: Committee of the Whole

February 7, 2023

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**Adjourn**

Motion by Koel, second by Peterson, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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Michael Murray, Mayor

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Attest: Rebecca Weyer, City Clerk

To be approved 03/21/2023