

CITY OF BERLIN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, October 4, 2022 7:00 PM  
COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL

Mayor Bruessel called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Ald Boeck, Burgess, Dretske, Erdmann and Stobbe. Absent: Nigbor Staff present: Sara Rutkowski, Scott Zabel and Midge Seaman

There were no virtual attendees.

There were no members of the public present to participate in this meeting.

Erdmann made a motion to accept the Minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting on September 6, 2022. Dretske seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Mayor Bruessel moved to the next agenda item. Ordinance #02-22 Amending Section 1-19 of the Code of City of Berlin Establishing a Municipal Court for the Cities of Fond du Lac and Ripon, Towns of Auburn, Calumet, Empire, Fond du Lac, Friendship, Oakfield, Osceola, Ripon and Taycheedah in Fond du Lac County and Wilson in Sheboygan County, and the Villages of Brandon, Campbellsport, Fairwater, N. Fond du Lac, Oakfield and St. Cloud, in Fond du Lac County, and the City of Berlin in Green Lake and Waushara Counties, the Cities of Green Lake, Markesan and Princeton in Green Lake County. Erdmann made a motion to Recommend to Council the Amendment to Ordinance #02-22, section 1-19 as presented. Burgess seconded the motion. Roll call Resulted in 5 Ayes and 1 Absent, motion passed.

Next, the Mayor brought forward the Municipal Court Intergovernmental Agreement for North fond du Lac to Provide Municipal Court Services to te Cities of Fond du Lac and Ripon, Towns of Auburn, Calumet, Empire, Fond du Lac, Friendship, Oakfield, Osceola, Ripon and Taycheedah in Fond du Lac County and Wilson in Sheboygan County, and the Villages of Brandon, Campbellsport, Fairwater, N. Fond du Lac, Oakfield and St. Cloud, in Fond du Lac County, and the City of Berlin in Green Lake and Waushara Counties, the Cities of Green Lake, Markesan and Princeton in Green Lake County to Commence on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and authorize the required signatures. Burgess moved to Approve the Agreement as presented, with a second by Nigbor, which passed on a voice vote.

Next the Mayor asked for an update on the Virtual Equipment. Rutkowski reported all equipment is now working, but still waiting on a part from Spectrum. Erdmann asked why we did not receive new microphones when it is in the contract but was reminded by other Council members they chose to forego them early on in the equipment discussions. Boeck moved to approve the completion of Virtual equipment agreement. Burgess seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Next Rutkowski gave options to the Committee for Wi-Fi service at the City Park to enable the security Cameras to operate properly. The Committee asked several follow up questions to understand fully all All options on the table and chose the least expense option which was to connect off the Superintendent of Park's office and trim up some trees to ensure clearer images. Stobbe made a motion To recommend to Common Council to utilize ARPA Funds to pay for the equipment and Wi-Fi connections and to run the Wi-Fi off the Superintendent's Office and gave Rutkowski the go-ahead to start the installation process. Dretske seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

The next item the Mayor brought forward on the agenda, was the State of Wisconsin Income Continuation Insurance for Employees of the City. Rutkowski explained this is basically short term/long term disability insurance. She informed the Committee Members we qualify for this benefit because we are a member of the Wisconsin Retirement System. She further explained employees have requested this for quite some time. She went on to explain there is no charge to the City and no charge to the employees but can help employees if they have to be out of work for an extended period of time for qualifying events. Erdmann made a motion to recommend to Common Council to move forward with this benefit to assist our City Employees in the event they are out of work for an extended time. Boeck seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote with Stobbe abstaining from voting.

The last item of the evening was a progress report given to Committee Members on the 2023 Budget. Rutkowski gave a thorough overview of her findings to date, and presented some items for consideration in all areas of the budget, both controllable and non-controllable. Rutkowski has put a lot of time and effort into researching the major items brought forward to enable the group to be as prepared as possible for future budget discussion and decisions that will ultimately fall on the Council Members in the coming weeks.

*Midge Seaman, Deputy Clerk*