

CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

Council Chambers – Municipal Building
150 N McKenzie Ave – Gillett, WI 54124

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022 AT 6:00 PM
MINUTES**

1. Mayor McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Josh McCarthy, Alderpersons Nanette Mohr, Debbie Rudie, Gary Spaulding, Jon Gildemeister, Marie Blaser, Matt Stroik, Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson, Librarian Shannon Stoner, Police Chief Shane Breitenbach, Fire Chief Kurt Hicks, Utility and Public Works Department Head Ron Anderson, and Katie Daul Tourism and Marketing, Alex Sickel Hinkfuss, Sickel, Petitjean and Wieting Attorneys at Law, Superintendent Todd Hencsik Gillett School, Don Asher Fire Suppression Presenter, Kevin Smith, Renee Carlson, Fire Department Assistant Chief Tim Via, Gillett Board Member Ron Lenz, and New Media Warren Bluhm.

2. **Clerk informs the Council that the Open Meeting Law has been complied with**
3. **Public Input:** None

MOTION: Blaser/Stroik

Motion to move School Presentation under public input.

Voice Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

4. Gillett School District Referendum Facts and Questions- Referendum on November 8 ballot, to maintain small class sizes and keep all classes. Most funding comes from state aid, which has been frozen for school districts. Creates a gap from inflation. Packet attached with all information.
5. Presentation from Hinkfuss, Sickel, Petitjean and Wieting Attorneys at Law- Mr. Sickel 14 years in practice came to meet with us and explained his services. Represents many municipalities like us and feels their practice would be a good fit for us.
6. Presentation of Fire Suppression Donation- From the Masonic Lodge of Shawano- Fire suppression tool donated to the City of Gillett. It is a device about eight pounds, helps with less water damage, it is a heavy aerosol to reduce oxygen and heat. Provided by Acts of Kindness, normally this device is \$1,200, it is also recyclable and to be reused. The City of Gillett is very grateful.
7. Discussion & possible action on minutes for August 4, 29, & September 15, 2022
MOTION: Mohr/Blaser
Motion to approve minutes from August 4, 29, & September 15, 2022
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

8. **CDA Report:** Alderperson Mohr – no report.

9. **Library Report:** Librarian Shannon Stoner reported-

October Events:

The Oconto County Commission on Aging will be at the Gillett Library Community Center on Tuesday, October 11 from 4:30-5:30 pm to inform residents of services offered to seniors and their caregivers.

CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

We are starting an after school teen program at the library. It will be held once a month and could become more frequent if it proves a popular program. On Tuesday, October 18th, we are going to paint pumpkins.

Drop into the Gillett Public Library on Friday, October 28th during our open hours (10 am-5 pm) to decorate a canvas tote bag for holidays or however you want! One bag per person per family and they will be available while supplies last! Our Haunted Square will return this year in October 2022!

Enjoy "A Night at The Museum" with a cast of characters and some tricks and treats along the way. Our Haunted Square will be held during Trick or Treat Hours on Monday, October 31 from 4-6 pm.

ARPA GRANT: We received a big monitor, a portable 80-inch projection screen, and meetup video conferencing equipment.

Makerspace: We have our Makerspace. Now it is a matter of how and where to set it up.

Coffee with a Cop went well, 2nd year in a row, great turnout.

10. **Tourism & Marketing Commission:** Katie Daul reported Harvest Days went great, 20 vendors and activities, very successful. Had dress up days, a beanbag tournament, and yard signs for community engagement representing school alumni and staff. This event will happen again next year. Thanked Fire Department for hosting the bonfire in the park. Continuing with the Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce start up, first meeting will be next week. Asked to dissolve Gillett Tourism and Marketing to not conflict with the new Chamber.
11. **Financial Report:** Clerk Treasurer
 - a. Updated Monthly Check Register Provided and Budget
MOTION: Rudie/Stroik
Motion to approve August and September 2022 Check Register and Budget.
Roll Call Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**
12. **Police Department Report:** Police Chief Breitenbach
 - a. Discussion on Training, Public Relations, and Incident Summary Report -Chief Breitenbach provided the incident report. :Training and Public Relations-
 - 335 incidents through August 1- September 30.
 - The Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Shelter has utilized the Gillett Police Department parking lot as a designated Secure Child Exchange for some time now. The Rainbow House has graciously donated a security camera and signage to the Gillett Police Department. The camera and signage have been installed. Rainbow House is also covering the maintenance and storage fees for the video footage.
 - The 2022 Oconto County Youth Fair was a great success. The brand new Oconto County Emergency Management trailer was on display and was being utilized as a community relations/ recruiting station throughout the weekend. Multiple emergency responder agencies were able to sign up new members to their departments. I wish to extend a special thank you to WI State Patrol SGT Jenny Austin and her troopers for all of the additional manpower assistance provided over the fair weekend; it was greatly appreciated. As far as the fair went, any issues that occurred were minimal.

CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

- I attended the Oconto County School Safety Committee Meeting at the Oconto County Sheriff's Office. Superintendents of all of the Oconto County School Districts, all Oconto County Police Chiefs, and multiple members of the Oconto County Sheriff's Office were in attendance. Various topics were discussed including digital mapping of school facilities, enhancing facility security measures, ASHER (Active Shooter/ Hostile Event Response) model, and the possibility of adding school resource officers in at various locations. There was also discussion on organizing a large scale ASHER training event. This event would involve many law enforcement, fire, and EMS agencies working alongside school staff members, to train to be better prepared in the event that an actual incident were to occur.
- I wish to update the city council on my proposed school resource officer (SRO). I have been working directly with Village of Suring Police Chief Kevin Schneider about having a joint school district SRO with the Suring School District. Chief Schneider has approached the Suring School Board and the Village of Suring. At this time, the Village of Suring School District is looking into employing their own full time SRO. I have met with the Gillett School District Superintendent Todd Hencsik and he told me he supports the project. Mr. Hencsik told me there has been public support for an SRO expressed at Gillett School Board meetings. I continue to work on cost analysis for the position along with and multiple grant opportunities.
- I, along with Deputies Austin Marquardt and Andy Drjya with the Oconto County Sheriff's Office, and WI State Patrol SGT Jenny Austin all participated in the 2nd annual Coffee With A Cop event held at the Gillett Community Center. We had a great turnout and wish to thank Shannon and her staff for organizing the event.
- On October 29, the Gillett Police Department will be hosting the annual National Fall Drug Take Back Day event at the Gillett Police Department. Citizens can bring in their expired /unused medications for proper disposal.
- On a somber note, the Gillett Police Department was not awarded the grant for the purchase of the Bolo Wrap detention systems. We were invited to resubmit the project next year.
- I wish to present to the council for consideration the purchase of two new portable radio units. The Gillett Police Department currently has three working radio units and one obsolete/non repairable unit. The three working units are nearly 20 years old and replacement parts are difficult to locate or no longer produced. This piece of equipment is essential for the safety of our officers and the public they serve. I have been working with Bay Com of Green Bay and they have submitted a quote for consideration.
- City of Gillett is mutual aid for the County. We assist when all other officers are occupied.

13. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Hicks

- a. Discussion on Training, Public Relations, and Incident Summary Report- August: Seneca Alarm x2, Serenity garden alarm, Gary Ort alarm x2, auto aid, 6 lift assists, brush fire Sept 2, and a kitchen stove fire. Walk through at Gillett Milling for training, about 25 members attended. Will do more walk-throughs over winter. Applied for a DNR grant, which is 50/50 match. Labor Day parade at Suring went great. Fire and Iron Ride came through Gillett and we had some trucks out for the event. Golf Outing was a success even though it was rained out on original date. Going back into School for training and will put a program on for each grade and do fire drills. Voted in two new fire fighters. All new LED lighting will be put in the garage, GAFA (Gillett Area Firefighter Association) will pay for upgrade.

CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

The Fire Department would like to expand hydrant mapping for I AM RESPONDING. It is a tool for members to see member's location of trucks, hydrants, and much more. It has the capabilities to include mapping for hydrants. Utility will give Fire Department location of hydrants.

14. **Health, Protection and License Committee Report:** Alderperson Blaser
 - a. Discussion and Possible action on Operator License for Christopher Druckrey
MOTION: Rudie/Spaulding
Motion to approve Operator License for Christopher Druckrey.
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**
 - b. Discussion and Possible Action On Town of Brazeau joining our Joint Municipal Court contingent upon ending current contract
MOTION: Spaulding/Mohr
Motion to approve Town of Brazeau joining our Joint Municipal Court contingent upon them ending their current contract.
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**
 - c. Discussion and Possible Action On Golf Cart Ordinance-Leave Lay
 - d. Discussion and Possible Action On Ridgewood Covenants- Leave Lay
 - e. Discussion and Possible Action On Sign ordinance- Leave Lay
15. **Board of Public Works Committee Report:** Alderperson Stroik apologized for missing meetings and stated it was for personal reasons-
Utility/Public Works Department Head Ron Anderson stated chipping season is now over and leaf vac season will start next week. Rehabbing storm sewers, fixing one by Robinhood Lane now. Getting ready for Spring Construction of Washington Street. Lawn mowers are aging and need to be replaced. Will use Utility Department's lawn mower for leaf pickup this year of our parks.
16. **Utility Committee Report:** Utility/Public Works Department Head Ron Anderson stated the divers were in the water tower to look at the paint and inspect. They cleaned it and did a thorough inspection. Inspection came back positive. Some heavy staining from our water but no gouging- will need a new ladder next time it is redone. Many main break patches were repaired. Two hydrants were upgraded and replaced because of age. Assistant Eric Anderson is studying for wastewater license. Canning season ended so demand for water will go way down. Hydrant Flushing will be October 17th.
17. **Finance and Personnel Committee Report:** Alderperson Rudie- Budget meeting will be set soon.
18. **Park and Cemetery Committee Report:** Alderperson Gildemeister-
 - a. Discussion and Possible Action on dogs in park- will put up signage and talk about a security system during budget meeting.
 - b. Discussion and Possible Action on Christmas in the Park
MOTION: Mohr/Blaser
Motion to approve Christmas in the Park December 3 11a-6p.
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**
 - c. Discussion and Possible Action on playground equipment – committee will make a plan and schedule a meeting in a couple weeks to approve.

CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

19. **Planning Committee Report:** Alderperson Spaulding-
- a. Discussion and Possible action on variance fee
MOTION: Gildemeister/Spaulding
Motion to approve \$200 dollar variance fee for Driveway Variances.
Voice Vote: Gildemeister, Mohr, Blaser, Spaulding Voting Aye, Rudie, Stroik Abstain –
MOTION CARRIED
 - b. Discussion and Possible action on 160 W Park Street Gary Ort items on property- have Police Department see if owner obeyed his court stipulation.
 - c. Discussion and Possible action on 230 Birch Avenue New House Build
MOTION: Gildemeister/Spaulding
Motion to approve new house build at 230 Birch Avenue contingent upon meeting the required square footage.
Voice Vote: Gildemeister, Mohr, Spaulding, Blaser Voting Aye, Rudie, Stroik Nay - **MOTION CARRIED**
20. **Clerk Treasurer's Report:** Clerk Treasurer stated October 15th letters have been sent out, anything not paid by November 1 will be put on taxes. I put the winter parking notice in the paper, no parking on city streets November 1 to April 1 from 2 am-6 am. Lisa and I completed our court clerk requirements for the next two years. Greg Reimer will have his decision on selling us land by October 12.
21. **Attorneys Report:** Hanaway Ross Law Firm- No report.
22. **Mayor's Report:** Mayor McCarthy stated he went to Harvest Days and thought it turned out well and stated he is working on preparing a budget.
23. **Adjourn at 8:00 PM**
MOTION: Stroik/Rudie
Motion to adjourn.
Voice Vote: All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,
Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson