

# CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

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

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023 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, Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson, Alderpersons Nanette Mohr, Jon Gildemeister, Marie Blaser, Irene Drake, Jacob Ketchem, Attorney Alex Sickel, Police Chief Shane Breitenbach, Librarian Shannon Stoner, and Public Works Foreman Nate Anderson. Public David DeLand, David Zeitler, Scott Shackelford with New View Industries and Health and Human Services, Chris Byars, and Kevin Smith.

Excused: Utility and Public Works Department Head Ron Anderson, Fire Chief Kurt Hicks, and Alderperson Jerry Luther.

2. **Clerk informs the Council that the Open Meeting Law has been complied with**
3. **Public Input:** Scott Shackelford asked if it would be possible to place a sign near or on our Industrial Park sign to promote their Resale Store. David Zeitler gave a presentation on voting in America and asking us to go back to paper ballots and hand counting only. David DeLand asked if the street signs could be put back up for his street. Public Works will put up a new sign. He also asked if the new radios for the police department had been ordered, they have, but are 6 months out on back order.

4. Discussion & possible action on minutes for July 6, 2023

## **MOTION: Mohr/Ketchem**

*Motion to approve minutes from July 6, 2023*

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

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

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

Programming: Our National Night Out was a tremendous success! We had so many activities for families such as outdoor games, face painting, raffle, taco truck, K-9, root beer floats, free cheese, EMS vehicles, pie from OJ's....Thank you to local businesses and organizations for helping us make this great community event possible. We look forward to NNO 2024! We would like to add Bumper to Bumper to our list of donors! Thank you!

Story times are Fridays 10:30-11:30 am in the Ebenreiter Square at Gillett Public Library, 200 E. Main Street. All ages are welcome to story time! Visit [www.gilpubliclibrary.org](http://www.gilpubliclibrary.org) or call 920-855-6224 for more information.

Tuesday, August 1 5:30-7:30 pm: National Night Out

Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 3-4 pm: Dinosaur Dimensions

Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>: Destination Poland! (SRP)

Friday, August 11 10:30-11:30: Menominee Story time (SRP)

Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>: Gillett Police Story time (SRP)

Friday, August 25: Destination: Japan (SRP)

ADRC Memory Café : Oconto County Humane Society

New Newsletter releases at the end of the month

American Red Cross doing a Blood Drive at the Library Community Center on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12-5:30.

Library closed on September 22<sup>nd</sup> for staff training in Brown County.

Harvest Days-we are having a table at Harvest Days-making a DIY Apple Nacho Bar to promote the library and activities.

The Gillett Public Library is looking for a way to be involved at Harvest Fest 2023. We propose to set up an Apple Nacho Bar with apple crafts for the kids. The Apple Nacho Bar would consist of apple slices, chocolate sauce, sprinkles, caramel sauce, candy, and let people make their own apple nachos. We will ask if Lambrecht's can donate the apples.

Another possibility is doing an Apple Dessert Contest. People will bring in their apple desserts and there can be prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

7. **Tourism & Marketing Commission/Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce:** Pastor Chris Byars handed out a contract looking to collaborate with the City of Gillett in funding the Chamber of Commerce; the Finance Committee will look over.

8. **Financial Report:** Clerk Treasurer

a. Updated Monthly Check Register Provided

**MOTION: Mohr/Ketchem**

*Motion to approve July 2023 Check Register.*

**Roll Call Vote:** All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

9. **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- From the Chief's Desk; Gillett Police Department / 109 incidents / July 2023

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, I attended a meeting hosted by the Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Shelter in reference to a trial program being implemented in Oconto County for digitizing all of our strangulation /domestic abuse incident forms. The digital format information will be incorporated into our records management system streamlining the process of information sharing with the Oconto County District Attorney's Office, and other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. This particular program is being tried in one other law enforcement agency in the state. Later in the evening, I attended an Oconto County Fair Board meeting to discuss and finalize the Emergency Response Plan for the upcoming 2023 Oconto County Youth Fair.

On July 25<sup>th</sup> the Oconto County Crisis Collaboration team met for our quarterly meeting. Topics discussed included the sharp rise in mental health/ crisis issues affecting Oconto County. The Oconto County Crisis team has handled approximately 1400 cases already this year. The mean age of persons being assisted is 14 years old. These cases are very demanding and require large amounts of man power hours and resources. There has also been a sharp increase in homeless persons throughout Oconto County. We were made aware of an additional homeless resource in the area bringing the total up to four; one in Green Bay, one in Menominee, Michigan, and two in Shawano. These facilities typically have no vacancies.

This month all members of our department will be attending our bi-annual EVOC certification training in Oconto Falls. This training is required by state law and will encompass emergency vehicle operations and the newly implemented traffic stop vehicle contact model.

In addition, the National Night Out event was a huge success. The Gillett Police Department wishes to thank all of those that volunteered and supported this event. Also special thank you to Gillett Librarian Shannon Stoner and library staff members, Anne and Nicole for co-sponsoring this event. If anyone is interested becoming involved in next year's event please let us know! Again a huge thank you to everyone for all of the help!

On July 14<sup>th</sup> Officer Buettner and her husband welcomed a beautiful baby girl. Everyone is doing great! We wish the best for the Buettner's and look forward to seeing Officer Buettner back sometime in October!

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

a. Discussion on Training, Public Relations, and Incident Summary Report-

July 12 Auto Aid Brush Fire, July 14 Underhill False alarm, 17<sup>th</sup> Lift Assist, 21<sup>st</sup> Power lines down Gillett, 22<sup>nd</sup> Tree struck by lightning Gillett, 23<sup>rd</sup> Underhill Auto Aid.

Training: Trained at burn house in Suring. Trained in search and rescue, attack advancement, accountability, radio communication, and interior attack. Golf Fundraiser will be Saturday, August 12, 2023 at Golden Sands in Cecil, GAFA (Gillett Area Firefighters Association) sponsored.

**11. Health, Protection and License Committee Report:** Alderperson Blaser

**12. Board of Public Works Committee Report:** Public Works Foreman Nate Anderson reported he will be in contact with New View and the sign request from Public Input. He stated the Washington Project should have another crew coming in to speed along production. New lights were installed in the shop and many streets were cold patched, the electronic sign base was painted, picked up garbage in the park, and fixed some vandalism in the park. He noted some problems in the beer stand of trash not being put in the bins.

**13. Utility Committee Report:** Alderperson Drake- Report from Utility Operator Ron Anderson  
The Utility would like to extend its condolences to the Luther family for their tragic loss of a family member, Shawn will be missed.

Construction is still moving along slowly the way I see it, the residents from campground to bridge are hooked to the new water and sewer lines. Hoping that the main sewer line on Washington Street will be done by the end of this week. We did dig up and replace the curb stop on Green Bay Avenue. Of course, we had another main break at the end of Green Bay Avenue, next to clinic, Dorner dug it and fixed. The last bid to upgrade the SCADA system is in and will be having a meeting on that. All the backup generators have been serviced for another year. On the wastewater side- still waiting for the ferric salt tank to arrive. We have a bad recirculation valve and are working on replacing that. The backup generator at the utility garage is up and running and works perfectly. The jetters are done cleaning what is left of our old sewer mains. Peshtigo Bank for interim financing for the project is completed. Budget is completed. Checking for some discrepancies when the bookkeepers, Kerber Rose, get stuff updated. Copper and lead sampling is completed, waiting for results. Working on a public meeting for sewer user fee to increase to help cover the cost of the Highway 22 project. Looking at the water sewer ordinances to update and will be having meeting on that.

14. **Finance and Personnel Committee Report:** Alderperson Mohr-
  - a. Committee may go into closed session to discuss matters of preliminary consideration of specific personal issues pursuant to 19.85 (1) (f) Wis. Stats.  
**MOTION: Drake/Mohr**  
*Motion to go into Closed Session, to include Police Chief, Public Works Foreman, Council Members, Mayor, Attorney, and Clerk.*  
**Voice Vote:** All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**
  - b. Committee will return to open session and may take action on matters discussed in closed session  
**MOTION: Ketchem/Gildemeister**  
*Motion to return to Open Session at 7:32 PM.*  
**Voice Vote:** All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**
  
15. **Park and Cemetery Committee Report:** Alderperson Gildemeister stated they will be meeting with a park designer for future plans for Zippel Park. They will show ideas for plans to show the public. August 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at the Utility Garage over Zoom. Clerk will post Notice of Possible Quorum.
  
16. **Planning Committee Report:** Alderperson Ketchem stated there will be a meeting August 16, 2023. He also received a phone call from a builder asking about 330 Robinhood (old nursing home). He said it was going to auction soon. Builder is interested in the location and asked for the zoning.
  
17. **Clerk Treasurer's Report:** Clerk Treasurer stated her return to work from Maternity Leave has been seamless thanks to Deputy Clerk Lisa Anderson and Assistant Leone Christensen. All work items have been caught up and back to daily tasks. Joint Review Board will be planned soon.
  
18. **Attorneys Report:** Hinkfuss, Sickel, Petitjean, & Weiting Attorneys at Law- Mr. Sickel stated he is progressing on the raze order of 209 E Armstrong. An inspection will be scheduled in the next few weeks. We also received a notice of claim from Mrs. Simpson, it is passed the legal time frame to ask the City for any compensation, he will send her a letter. He also received the Release of Matter on the Officer Schultz Grievance.
  
19. **Mayor's Report:** Mayor McCarthy said his condolences to the Luther Family in this time of tragedy. He asked for all departments' budgets to be completed. Congratulations to Officer Buettner on her new baby girl.
  
20. **Adjourn** at 8:10 PM  
**MOTION: Ketchem/Gildemeister**  
*Motion to adjourn.*  
**Voice Vote:** All Voting Aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson