

CITY OF GILLETT COMMON COUNCIL

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Mayor Blaskowski called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Jon Blaskowski, Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson, Alderpersons Nanette Mohr, Irene Drake, Jerry Luther, Ashley VanStraten, Sandra Hubbard, David Bunker, Utility Operator Ron Anderson, Public Works Foreman Nate Anderson, Police Chief Shane Breitenbach, Fire Chief Kurt Hicks, Librarian Shannon Stoner, City Attorney Robert Gagan, Times Herald Warren Bluhm, Ayres and Associates Alisa Stadler, Tracy Ondik, and Steve Fifeild.

2. **Clerk informs the Council that the Open Meeting Law has been complied with**
3. **Public Input:** Steve Fifeild with the 4th of July Celebration and county fair wanted to speak about safety in the park. Specifically, where the eliminator backs up, he wanted to put Texas block near there so no person can get behind it while in reverse. City is worried about kids climbing on it during the rest of the year. Will discuss at a Parks Meeting.

Tracy Ondik wanted to tell the council he appreciates the fact that we hired on another full time Police Officer. He stated the more we can do to support our police department the better off we will be. Publicly safety EMS is fully behind us and fully supports the School Recourse Officer.

4. Discussion & possible action on minutes from June 6, 2024

MOTION: Drake/Mohr

Motion to approve minutes from June 6, 2024

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

5. **CDA Report:** Alderperson Mohr and Bunker- will plan a meeting for August 1, 2024 at 4:00 pm.

6. **Library Report:** Library Director Report- July 2024 Library Director Report
Our Spring Market was a huge success. Our weekly Summer Market still taking applications. Newsletter came out for May-August 2024. Visit our website www.gilpubliclibrary.org and click on the newsletter tab to subscribe or to see the latest newsletter. Back issues are also available. ☺
AED was installed by Public Works. We want to offer our gratitude for the former GBA and the current Gillett Area Chamber for coordinating efforts to get this installed in our library.
Starting to work on 2025 budget.

I'm going to the Play Make Learn Conference next week. It's a conference dedicated to education and library staff to learn how to encourage gaming and playful learning. Such topics this year include Creating engaging worlds through games, participatory art projects for learning, tactile learning in tinkering spaces, the anatomy of playful learning and more.

Programming

- a. I registered for us to participate in the Wisconsin Science Festival which will take place from October 14-20th throughout the state. We are mailed themed science kits with multiple activities to do with the theme in mind. This year's theme is Agriculture! (So don't forget to "moo-ooove" to the library in October to get your bag!) ☺
- b. We will be partnering with Lena Public Library and TD3innovative gaming to bring two Virtual Reality programs in July.

Tuesday, July 23rd Minecraft: Crazy Cannons Challenge Discover an explosive way to travel through the Minecraft universe. Players design and build a simple cannon and compete in a friendly competition to see who can travel the farthest and highest!

Only 15 people can register for each program, so I have offered July 30th as overflow in case we needed.

National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 6 from 5:30-7:30 pm** in the Ebenreiter Square at the Gillett Library. Homegrown will perform, The Tattooed Mannequin will be doing face painting. OJ's will be selling pies and the taco truck will return this year. The VFW will be doing ice cream sundaes and we will have a casserole contest with \$5 entry. We'll have our dunk tank and Eagle III with trips to Zippel Park via tractor, and EMS vehicles. All funds this year will benefit the Gillett Fire Department.

7. **Tourism & Marketing Commission/Gillett Area Chamber of Commerce:** Alderperson Luther stated the Garden Walk and Home Detours will be tomorrow night July 11, 2024.

8. **Financial Report:** Clerk Treasurer – Updated Monthly Check Register Provided

MOTION: Luther/VanStraten

Motion to approve June 2024 Check Register.

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

9. **Police Department Report:** Police Chief Breitenbach

From the Chief's Desk; Gillett Police Department \ 118 incidents \ June 2024

The background investigations for the selected officer applicants were completed and the in person interviews were held on June 19. Officer Ashley Hull was promoted to fill the full-time officer vacancy and will officially assume the assignment on July 15th. Officer Hull has been a part-time officer with the Gillett Police Department for approximately 13 years. Officer Hull is also a certified fire fighter and EMT. Over the years Officer Hull has proven herself as a valuable asset to our community.

I would also like to welcome our two new part-time officers; Allison Braun and Katelyn Kurtz. Allison is currently a transport/court security deputy for the Shawano County Sheriff's Office and has also served as a patrol officer for the Village of Bonduel. Allison will be beginning her field training this month. Katelyn recently completed the Law Enforcement Academy at Mid-State Technical College and holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Steven's Point. Katelyn will begin her field training in August. Both of these ladies possess a strong appreciation for small town America and a desire to creatively serve the public.

We have received our new portable radios and have implemented them into our duty rotations. The radios feature wireless mics which doesn't allow for as much interference from external factors versus corded mics. The mics also give the flexibility of mic placement anywhere on our uniforms. The radios have been in use for a couple of weeks and have been working flawlessly. For those of you who are not aware, these units were acquired through ARPA funds and did not affect the city budget!

The WI State Patrol assisted with providing additional manpower during the Roy Hubbard Truck Show weekend due to our shortage of department staff. The Gillett Police Department wishes to thank the WI State Patrol for the assistance given in our times of need! No major issues were reported in Zippel Park over the truck show weekend. As always, the Night Light Truck Show Parade was a huge hit!

I have not received any recent updates in regards to the creation of the proposed Gillett School District full-time school resource officer program for the Gillett School District. On July 1st, the Gillett School District welcomed their new Superintendent, Nathan Hanson. Superintendent Hanson, along with the rest of the school district administration, continue to work on the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) and specific job descriptions/expectations of the SRO.

Gillett Library Director Stoner and I continue working on the National Night Out event. If anyone is interested in donating to or assisting with the event please contact me or Gillett City Library Director Shannon Stoner!

10. Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Hicks

- a. Discussion on Training, Public Relations, and Incident Summary Report-
4 Fire Calls- Storm damage in Underhill, false alarm at Primal Eats, alarm at Robinhood Lane, Motorcycle bike accident Underhill auto aid.
Training: Driver Ops– got all drivers to pass the course, training was held in Zippel Park. 5th Annual Golf Outing is August 10, 2024 at Golden Sands, please come support the fundraiser for GAFA (Gillett Area Firefighter Association). A Thank You to the Seneca Foundation, who donated \$400 to the Department.

11. Health, Protection and License Committee Report: Alderperson VanStraten –

- a. Discussion & possible action hiring Ashley Hull for the Full Time Officer Position

MOTION: Luther/Drake

Motion to approve Ashley Hull for the Full Time Police Officer position.

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

- b. Discussion and Possible Action On Alcohol License

Class B Fermented Malt Beverage & Class B Liquor

El Borracho Mexican Grill, LLC Agent- Angel Hernandez Bautista 100 N Lake Ave, Gillett WI 54124

MOTION: Luther/Mohr

Motion to approve the alcohol license for El Borracho Mexican Grill.

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

- c. Discussion and Possible Action On Operator Licenses

MOTION: Luther/Mohr

Motion to approve Christine Lopez Sanchez's Operator License.

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

12. Board of Public Works Committee Report: Alderperson Drake- Public Works Foreman Nate

Anderson stated they have been cutting many lawns this year on Weed Commissioner Duties. Helping Utility with fixing some sewer pipes. Sweeping streets, filing pot holes, and performing daily duties is keeping us busy. 4th of July Celebration went well. Grab bars were installed in the Zippel Park bathrooms.

13. Utility Committee Report: Alderperson Mohr- Utility Operator Ron stated SCADA System is 99 percent updated, its up and running. Have yet to see how it works during a power outage. The Septage System is working without phase protection at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Hoping for no surge issues because we are without protection because we are still waiting for a replacement part from 2023. We installed a Generator at the water tower. The Water and Sewer is fully backed up. Jetters are in the city jetting all the sewer lines. They jetted the sewer lines in the park, and the jetter went

through the pipe. The pipe was crushed and we found the hole. Had to install 38 new feet of pipe because it was deteriorated. Looking for interim financing for best option for Highway 22 Project. We have until November 23 to submit our plans for Water and Sewer. We have a DNR Audit July 22, 2024, they are asking for many new items compared to years past.

14. Finance and Personnel Committee Report: Alderperson Hubbard

- a. Discussion and possible action on 501c3- Leave Lay
- b. Discussion and possible action on Accounting Firm- Leave Lay

15. Park and Cemetery Committee Report: Alderperson Luther stated the Seneca park equipment has been moved to the new location, it has not been set up yet.

- a. Discussion and possible action on MSA Contract- Leave Lay

16. Planning Committee Report: Alderperson Bunker

- a. Discussion and Possible Action on approving the New Home Building Permit for 533 East Washington Street

MOTION: Drake/Luther

Motion to approve the Building Permit for 533 E Washington Street.

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

17. Clerk Treasurer's Report: Clerk Treasurer stated the Ice cream social and Tractor show is Saturday July 13, 2024. Some miscommunication with 4th of July barricades delivery and road closures, we need to have a meeting with the 4th of July Committee for next year.

18. Attorneys Report: Conway, Olejniczak, and Jerry S.C. Attorneys at Law- City Attorney Robert Gagan stated he recorded the deed for our land transaction and answered day to questions, overall a quiet month.

19. Public Input: None

20. Mayor's Report: Mayor Blaskowski stated nothing new. Department Heads keep up the good work.

21. Adjourn at 7:00 PM

MOTION: Luther/Mohr

Motion to adjourn.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson