

**MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**

Council President Helena Waala called the regular meeting of the City of Wautoma Common Council to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011.

Present: Alderpersons Jeff Deuel, Aaron Grimm, Robert Helbing, Patrick King and Mayor Helena Waala.

Excused: Alderperson Lee Wise

Others Present: Laura Algrem, Jennifer Hogensen, Beth Hovet and Ryan McCue

Prayer and Pledge took place.

Alderperson Deuel moved approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Wautoma Common Council held February 14, 2011. The motion was seconded by Alderperson King and the motion carried 5-0

Alderperson King moved approval of the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee held March 8, 2011. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Helbing and carried 5-0.

Mr. McCue presented the Year-To-Date Budget Comparison and February 2011 Receipts Report.

Alderperson Helbing moved to approve the March 14, 2011 Common Council agenda. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Deuel and carried 5-0.

Jennifer Hogensen spoke in regards to fluoride in the city's drinking water.

Laura Algrem spoke in regards to fluoride in the city's drinking water.

The city's financial advisor Dawn Gunderson from Ehlers and Associates presented resolution 11-005 a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$965,000 general obligation refunding bonds. Banker's Bank submitted the lowest bid. The city, water utility and sewer utility will save a combined total of \$87,091 in principal and interest due to this bond refunding. Alderperson King moved approval of resolution 11-005. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Grimm and the motion carried on a roll call vote 5-0.

Mr. McCue presented his monthly report to the common council

Mayor Waala informed the common council that the city will be meeting with the Workhorse Software, who is the provider of the city's accounting and human resources computer program, in order to make sure the city is running efficiently. The Mayor also spoke about the need to update the city's employee handbook.

Alderperson Helbing moved approval of the 86 vouchers totaling \$176,649.70. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Grimm and carried 5-0.

Alderperson King moved approval of Ordinance 11-002 which increases the grave opening fees from \$325 to \$450 in the summer and from \$425 to \$550 in the winter. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Grimm and carried 5-0.

With no objections Mayor Waala laid over Ordinance 11-001 until the next regular common council meeting in April.

Alderperson Deuel moved approval of donating \$100 to the Waushara County Crime Stoppers Jailbreak Marathon. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Helbing and carried 5-0.

The city's auditor Karen Kerber from Kerber, Rose and Associates presented a water rate increase application for the Public Service Commission (PSC). She recommended that the City of Wautoma request a 39 percent increase for water only. In addition, she stated that the PSC wants municipal water utilities to operate at a 6.5 percent rate of return and that in 2009 Wautoma's water utility was operating at -0.36 percent or a lose. She further stated that if a rate increase is not passed the utility will lose over \$11,000 in 2011. Furthermore, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has made overtures over the past few years that the water utility is going to have to scrape and repaint the water tower, which could cost \$150,000 to \$200,000. After much discussion, Alderperson Deuel moved approval of submitting the water rate increase application to the PSC. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Helbing and carried on a roll call vote 4-1, Alderperson King voted no.

The Council discussed fluoride in the municipal drinking water and no motion was made.

Alderperson King moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Alderperson Grimm and carried 5-0.

Ryan P. McCue
City Administrator/ Clerk/ Treasurer