



City of Verona

111 Lincoln Street
Verona, WI 53593-1520

www.ci.verona.wi.us

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Verona Common Council will hold its meeting as a virtual meeting. The Common Council will not meet at City Hall, 111 Lincoln Street. Members of the Common Council and Staff will join the meeting by using Zoom Webinar, as described immediately below.

Members of the public can join the meeting using Zoom Webinar via a computer, tablet, or smartphone, or by calling into the meeting using phones, as described immediately below. Those requiring toll-free options are asked to contact City Hall for details prior to the meeting at adam.sayre@ci.verona.wi.us or 608-848-9941.

Join the meeting via computer, tablet, or smart phone:

<https://zoom.us/j/92779037653>

Webinar ID: 927 7903 7653

Join the meeting via phone by dialing:

312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 927 7903 7653

Watch live on the City's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/VeronaWIMeetings>

The online meeting agenda and all support materials can be found at <https://www.ci.verona.wi.us/>. In addition to the public, all Council members and staff will also be participating remotely. Anyone with questions prior to the meeting may contact the City at (608) 848-9941 or adam.sayre@ci.verona.wi.us.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll call
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of the minutes of the November 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting
5. Presentation of the Proposed 2021 City Budget

6. Adjourn

Luke Diaz, Mayor

POSTED: Verona City Hall
Verona Public Library
Miller's Market
City Web Page at www.ci.verona.wi.us

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CITY OF VERONA
MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 2019

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Diaz at 6:30 p.m.
2. Roll call: Luke Diaz, Kate Cronin, Sarah Gaskell, Charlotte Jerney, Chad Kemp, Katie Kohl, Christine Posey, Heather Reekie and Evan Touchett. Also in attendance: City Administrator Adam Sayre, Finance Director Brian Lamers, and City Clerk Ellen Clark.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Approval of the minutes of the January 28, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting: Motion by Kohl, seconded by Kemp, to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion carried 8-0.

5. Presentation of the Proposed 2020 City Budget:

Sayre presented the proposed 2020 City of Verona budget. Staff has been working on the budget for several months. He thanked the department heads and Finance Committee for their time and effort to make the budget work. This was not an easy budget to put together. One of the goals of the Finance Committee and the Mayor was to reduce our debt burden, while supporting our employees as much as possible. There has been a 17% increase in population from 2010, to just under 12,500 people. Equalized property values increased, as well, with a steady climb in values since 2010. In addition, 2019 saw an 8.7% increase in property tax base. Net New Construction increased assessed values by 1.56%, which is considerably less than in recent memory.

The budget includes the following highlights:

- Meets the Municipal Levy Limit of \$13,949,140
- Maintains City service levels
- Adds full-time personnel to City departments
 - Reference Librarian/Communications Coordinator
 - Patrol Officer starting in July 2019 (fully funded in 2020)
- The Economic Development Manager and Deputy Fire Chief positions were unfunded for 2019
- Fully funds a third ambulance crew for FitchRona EMS
- Supports park improvements
- Supports roof replacement of the old library on North Franklin Street
- Funds additional pedestrian/bicycle improvements
- Funds design of a new Public Works facility
- Funds a majority of capital requests at the department level
- Funds additional elections for 2020
- Funds the remaining full revaluation assessment required by law
- Reduces debt borrowing by:
 - Levy funding and use of Fund Balance to support 100% of City's street maintenance program

- Continuing to fund Public Safety and Parks Department replacement equipment programs through levy
- Adding a new EMS equipment replacement fund
- Continuing to fund facility replacement programs through levy
- Provides a 2% cost of living increase to non-represented employees
- Items restricting the 2020 budget include:
 - Net New Construction increased assessed values by only \$215,676
 - Debt Service increased by \$44,210
 - FitchRona EMS third ambulance increased the City's portion of that budget by \$145,147 (a levy increase of \$50,233)
 - Library minimum funding level increased levy impact by \$130,112
 - Increase in hydrant rental fees of \$115,811
 - Reduction in building permit revenue of \$441,112

The increases restricted the growth of departments and their projects.

The levy increase for 2019 is \$228,053. The percent increase over 2018 is 1.66% before TIF. We will not be eligible for the expenditure restraint program this year, so there will be no funding coming in from that program for 2020.

Sayre broke down the increases and cuts made to balance the budget. Expenditures are close to those of last year.

The budget summary was explained. Some numbers are still estimates because of an appeal going on with the state over a manufacturing assessment. The estimated mill rate with TID is \$5.79/\$1000, which is a 2.23% decrease from 2018, or a decrease of \$35.99 on a \$272,000 home.

Capital funded with levy dollars include \$74,000 in Public Works for pavement rehabilitation, sidewalks, other street improvements, and a directional arrow board; \$20,500 in Parks for shelter restroom improvements, resurfacing Veterans Park tennis court, and replacing VanDeGrift Park play structures; and \$576,400 for equipment and facilities replacement throughout the city.

General borrowing for 2020 includes \$260,000 for design of the new public works facility; \$1,100,000 for the access road to the new high school; bike/ped improvements; and \$4,400,000 for the eastside sanitary sewer interceptor.

Debt is below what is allowed by state law, and the City continues to work to keep debt under control.

Sayre explained the budget timeline and budget amendment form.

Mayor Diaz thanked Lamers, Sayre, the Finance Committee and the department heads for their work on the budget.

6. Adjournment: Motion by Reekie, seconded by Cronin, to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:57 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

Ellen Clark
City Clerk