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**Common Council**  
**City of Tomahawk, City Council Chambers**  
**23 N 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Tomahawk, WI 54487**  
**June 6, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Taskay called the Common Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Council members present were Mickey Loka, Ed Nystrom, Patricia Haskin, Jeff Kahle, Will Garkse, Dale Ernst, Mike Loka, Tadd Wegener, and Steven “Ding” Bartz.

Staff members present were Clerk/Treasurer Amanda L. Bartz and Library Director Heidi O’Hare.

Public in attendance was Dan and Lynn Peerenboom, Laurence J. Schoone, David Long, Zach Garner, Roxanne Consolver, Lynn and Rick Grube, Tom Koth, Jalen Maki (virtual), and Angie and Mike Houston.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Mayor led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Hearing** – BARTZ MOVED to call the public hearing to order and MIKE LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. The public hearing was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Ordinance 2023-02, An Ordinance to Amend the City of Tomahawk Municipal Code by Amending Chapter 94 Traffic and Vehicles, Article VII All-Terrain and Utility Terrain Vehicles**

Laurence Schoone asked if the City was going to need help with the signs. He stated that he is with the Harrison Hills ATV Club, they would be willing help. KAHLE stated that the signing should be coordinated with Nick Rosenmeier, Street Leadsperson.

BARTZ MOVED to adjourn the public hearing and GARSKE seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. The public hearing was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

**Public Comments:** Jack Weigman stated that he is in attendance to advocate for walkway down to the fishing dock at Veterans Memorial Park. He stated that once he became handicap, he became aware of the need for access. He stated that he ran into a couple from Iowa that wanted to fish but couldn’t because there was no pathway to get to the dock. He stated that they had to go around to the other side of the river to fish. Weigman stated that this is a good community sometimes they look past what they need to be done. Weigman pointed out a space east of the boat landing at SARA Park and suggested a picnic table for people to use the space.

NYSTROM stated that he talked to him on the phone. He reiterated to Mr. Weigman that this is going to happen and we are working on it. Weigman stated that he knows how this operation is, you need to get working on it and get it done. He stated that he has eyes and watches. He stated that he sees the high school kids working for the City. He stated that there are areas of the City where he has to ride on the road because the poor shape of the sidewalks. Weigman stated that you have to take care of the people that brought this community up.

1 **Request for Appearance Before the Common Council**

2  
3 **Concerned Citizens on King Road – Proposed School Bus Traffic**

4  
5 Dan Peerenboom stated that he lives on King Road across from City owned lot that the School is  
6 proposing to use for bus traffic. He stated that the first he learned about the public information  
7 meeting was two days before hand. He stated that they learned that they were working on the plan  
8 since September and only one proposal was presented the first night. He stated that the proposal  
9 would put 15 busses on King Road 4 times a day.

10  
11 Peerenboom stated that a bus impacts a roadway with 300 times a load then 3,000,000 passenger  
12 vehicles. A bus impacts a roadway with 300 times a load then 3,000,000 passenger vehicles. City  
13 acknowledged shortfalls a set of comments and proposal

14  
15 Peerenboom stated that he asked the School District for any traffic studies however they did not  
16 conduct one. He agreed, without question, that there is a very serious traffic issue at the elementary  
17 school. He stated that the vast majority of the traffic is parents dropping off students. He stated that  
18 the School Districts primary goal is safety, how we resolve that issue is where the problem lies. He  
19 stated that there is not nearly as much congestion at the middle school.

20  
21 Peerenboom stated that the logic of sending 60 busses through the King Road neighborhood just does  
22 not make sense. He stated that they can accommodate a solution on their 55 acres without impacting  
23 the neighborhood.

24  
25 Peerenboom stated that there are roughly 150 extra vehicles exiting the middle school with about 30 of  
26 the 200 vehicles entering the high school are dropping off. He stated that he did a basic traffic study  
27 and believes the busses can drive past the high school turning around at the end and completing the  
28 drop offs. He questioned why you would impact the road when we could not afford to fix it.

29  
30 Peerenboom stated that the problem seems to be the parents dropping their kids off since the  
31 pandemic. He stated that the fact that there has not been a serious accident yet has been hard work by  
32 the School District. He stated that since most of the traffic at the middle school and high school is  
33 parked all day, there would not be much impact to those areas.

34  
35 Peerenboom stated that the School district approached the City last September and stated that the  
36 neighborhood would have liked to be informed sooner.

37  
38 HASKIN asked if has talked to the school about this. Peerenboom stated that they have but thought  
39 communication was poor, he stated that the District Administrator was open to listening.

40  
41 Tom Koth stated that there were two meetings to inform the public on the proposal and it was admitted  
42 by the District Administrator that their only concern was safety. He stated that Nick Rosenmeier  
43 admitted that the only road that was made to accommodate bus traffic was King Road.

44  
45 NYSTROM stated that the School does not have a plan locked down and we have not been approached  
46 by the School District to purchase any property.

1 ERNST stated that we are concerned about the maintenance on Kings Road, BARTZ agreed and stated  
2 that he would prefer the busses go back to School Board.

3  
4 Mike Houston agrees with Peerenboom and Koth, and stated that the School District had a committee  
5 of two that did not seek input from anyone else. He stated that at the first information meeting was  
6 short notice and there was a great deal of concern from residents on King Road. He stated that at the  
7 second meeting they (School District) came back with the statement that their only concern was safety.  
8 He stated that King Road is a nice road and it is a nice neighborhood to live in.

9  
10 ERNST stated that there should be concern with safety of the kids on the bus as well.

11  
12 HASKIN stated that the road cannot take the traffic and we would not encourage the sale of our lot for  
13 such a purpose. Clerk BARTZ stated that we need to wait until the school has a proposal.

14  
15 Angie Houston stated that she walked through the lot and does not believe it is big enough to drive both  
16 directions.

17  
18 David Long, Tomahawk School Board, apologize that the neighborhood felt like it was underhanded. He  
19 stated that pubic input is where we are in the project and planning. He stated that they want to hear  
20 feedback and concerns on the proposal. Long stated that they are talking about alternative plans. He  
21 addressed suggestion about bringing bus traffic past cross traffic on the High School end, we would not  
22 suggest doing that for safety reasons. Long stated that the committee worked on proposal(s) at publicly  
23 advertised public meetings, anyone could have attended.

24  
25 Carlyss Beier stated that her property is next to the property that was owned the Nelson and now by  
26 Lincoln County. She stated that all of the residents on King Road would impacted the most by the  
27 proposal. She voiced concerns with the property value being negatively impacted if the bus traffic was  
28 brought down King Road.

29  
30 Tom Koth questioned if a bus can drive anywhere even with weight limites and if the roadway was not  
31 designed for it.

32  
33 **Minutes:** GARSKE MOVED to approve the May 2, 2023 minutes and MIKE LOKA seconded. The VOTE  
34 was unanimous.

35  
36 HASKIN MOVED to approve the May 11, 2023 minutes and GARSKE seconded. The VOTE was  
37 unanimous.

38  
39 **Approval of Checks:** MICKEY LOKA MOVED to approve General Fund checks 114045 – 114207 and 14  
40 electronic payments in the amount of \$444,902.18, payroll check 52841 – 52870 and direct deposit  
41 checks V12269 – V12405 in the amount of \$169,867.61 and Solid Waste Fund checks 1910 – 1913 in the  
42 amount of \$30,730.18. GARSKE seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

43  
44 **Reports**

45 1. Committee Reports

- 46 a. Planning and Zoning Commission – The Planning and Zoning Commission has not met since the  
47 last Council meeting.

- 1 b. Board of Public Works – ROSENMEIER stated that the Board awarded the 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
2 Reconstruction to Musson Bros. He stated that heavy truck traffic continues to be on the  
3 agenda and the Board heard Leadsperson reports.  
4
- 5 c. Health and Safety Committee – GARSKE stated that the Health and Safety Committee met on  
6 May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, all the items discussed are on the Council’s agenda.  
7
- 8 d. Finance Committee – MICKEY LOKA stated that the Finance Committee met on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
9 and the items discussed are on the Council’s agenda.  
10
- 11 e. Park and Recreation Committee – KAHLE stated that the Park and Recreation Committee will be  
12 meeting next Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.  
13
- 14 f. Commission on Aging – MIKE LOKA stated that the Commission on Aging will meet at the end of  
15 June.  
16
- 17 g. Library Board – O’HARE shared the pamphlet for the Library Summer Programs. O’HARE stated  
18 that the Community Room has been set up where people can the space to “co-work”.  
19

20 O’HARE stated that the Library received some of our trust money to be used towards purchases  
21 of books. She also stated that the Board is finishing up with their 2024 proposed budget and will  
22 presented at the next Finance Committee meeting and Council meeting.  
23

- 24 2. Mayor’s Report – Mayor TASKAY stated continuing to get phone calls on different issues, attend  
25 Board of Review and was a judge for car show.  
26
- 27 3. Written Report from Tomahawk Main Street, Inc. – Council reviewed the written report form  
28 Tomahawk Main Street Director, Jennifer Turkowitz.  
29

### 30 Licenses

- 31 1. Operator Licenses: GARSKE MOVED to approve the operators and HASKIN seconded. The VOTE was  
32 unanimous.  
33
- 34 2. 2023-2024 Liquor Licenses: GARSKE MOVED to approve the 2023-2024 Liquor Licenses and MIKE  
35 LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.  
36
- 37 3. 2023-2024 Tobacco Licenses: MIKE LOKA MOVED to approve the 2023-2024 Tobacco Licenses and  
38 GARSKE seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.  
39
- 40 4. Tomahawk Youth Softball Rodd Timm Tournament – July 14-16, 2023: KAHLE MOVED to approve,  
41 and WAGENER seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.  
42
- 43 5. Tomahawk Lions Club – July 4<sup>th</sup> Pow Wow Days: GARSKE MOVED to approve the permit and to  
44 waive open intoxicant city wide from 8:00 a.m. to midnight, HASKIN seconded. The VOTE was  
45 unanimous.  
46

1 MICKEY LOKA requested letting the residents know about the temporary parking ban prior to the  
2 event.

- 3  
4 6. American Legion Post 93 & Tomahawk Tattoo & Tan Music for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July – July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023:  
5 HASKIN MOVED approve the permit and to waive open in the event area from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00  
6 p.m. and GARSKE seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

7  
8 **Ordinances**

- 9 1. 2023-02, an Ordinance to Amend the City of Tomahawk Municipal Code by Amending Chapter 94  
10 Traffic and Vehicles, Article VII All-Terrain and Utility Terrain Vehicles

11  
12 MIKE MOVED to adopt the proposed ordinance and MICKEY LOKA seconded.

13  
14 NYSTROM MOVED to amend the ordinance section 94-229(e)(1) to replace South Tomahawk  
15 Avenue with East Somo Avenue. MICKEY LOKA seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

16  
17 The VOTE to adopt as amended was unanimous.

- 18  
19 2. An ordinance to amend the City of Tomahawk Municipal Code by Creating Section 2-256 Confidential  
20 Information, relating to the confidentiality of information on property assessment matters in the  
21 City of Tomahawk

22  
23 HASKIN MOVED to waive the second reading and adopt the proposed ordinance, MIKE LOKA  
24 seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

25  
26 **Next meeting:** The next regular meeting of the Common Council is scheduled for July 11, 2023 at City  
27 Hall, Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

28  
29 **Adjourn:** GARSKE MOVED to adjourn the meeting of Common Council and ERNST seconded. The VOTE  
30 was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

31  
32 Approved: July 11, 2023

Signature on File

33 Steven E. Taskay, Mayor

34  
35 Attest: Signature on File

36 Amanda L. Bartz, CMC, Clerk/Treasurer