

**CITY OF CORNELL
MINUTES OF COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2024**

7:10 p.m. Mayor Mark Larson called the regular council meeting to order at the City Council Chambers. The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence honoring all individuals that have or are protecting our freedom. Minutes taken by Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer DeJongh.

Council members present: Steve Turany, Terry Smith, Bill Kvapil, Sandra Schecklman, Debra Semanko and Floyd Hickethier.

Guests present: Chris Wolff, Bri Lahodik, & Joy Dain.

Motion Hickethier, Seconded Smith to accept the agenda as printed. Carried 6 ayes.

Motion Smith, seconded Hickethier to approve the regular council meeting minutes of March 7, 2024. Carried 6 ayes.

Semanko reported that the librarian was not leaving her position, the library board did some restructuring of her job position.

Turany reported on the Finance Committee Meetings of March 13th and March 21, 2024.

Turany reported on the Buildings, Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting of March 14, 2024. Committee received report on the functioning of the Cornell Youth Sports Committee from Nicole and Josh Schwingle. Discussed park benches and other amenities to the Riverfront Trail, Visitor Center staffing and sale of old Firehall.

Chris Wolff inquired about closing Main Street and allowing consumption of alcohol on the street for two celebrations this summer. He would like to see Main Street closed on July 3rd and August 17, 2024.

Motion Turany, Seconded Kvapil to close Main Street from no sooner than 5 pm to 1am on July 3rd-4th and allow the consumption of alcohol on the Street. Similar on August 17th close Main Street no sooner than 5pm to midnight and allow the consumption of alcohol on the street. Carried 6 ayes.

Motion Turany, Seconded Kvapil to approve amendment to Cornell Full-time Employee handbook removing the second paragraph under **Health Insurance**. The City's Health Insurance Teamcare requires premium contributions for everyone working 30 hours a week or more. Carried 6 ayes.

Motion Turany, Seconded Smith to approve a Class A Beer and Class A Liquor license application received from CAPL LLC for premises at 713 Bridge Street. Carried 6 ayes.

Turany reported that because of the delays in finding a Police Chief, the Finance Committee is recommending and he motioned a \$1500 bonus and \$2.00 hour raise retroactive to January 1st, 2024

moving forward be given to Luke Abbate for stepping up to officer in charge. Seconded Hickethier, Carried 6 ayes.

Motion Smith, Seconded Turany to approve bills totaling \$27,763.94. Roll Call Vote Carried 6 ayes.

Schecklman reported that the committee she is organizing to assist with improving Cornell's economic development efforts will be meeting April 3rd to brainstorm with WEDC.

Forthcoming Events.

- Spring Election – April 2, 2024
- Open Book – April 16th 2:30 – 4:30pm
- Board of Review – May 1st 4-6pm.

Turany wanted to thank everyone that was part of bringing the gun show to Cornell last weekend and the thousands of people it attracted.

Motion Hickethier, Seconded Smith to adjourn. Carried 6 ayes.

Adjourned at 7:37 pm

Date Approved

Mark Larson, Mayor

David DeJongh, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer