

**City of Fox Lake
Committee of the Whole Synopsis
January 20, 2021**

The January 20, 2021 committee of the whole meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Bednarek, at 6:45 p.m., following a special council meeting. Those in attendance were Alderpersons John Mund, Dan Ault, Dennis Linke, Peter Hartzheim, Robert Jenswold and Don Zilewicz. Also attending were City Administrator Dean Perlick, City Attorney Mike Devitt, Police Chief James Rohr, Librarian Erin Anders, City DPW Superintendent Gene Huettner, City Treasurer Krystal McCauley and City Clerk Jenny Quirk.

In the audience were Jason Laue, Marcy Benz and Kathy Jenswold.

Discuss 2021 YMCA contract for staffing at Fox Lake Aquatic Center:

Perlick provided a copy of the 2021 YMCA budget for the Alderperson to review. It shows the budgeting is assuming the pool is fully open with full schedule and swimming lessons. We will try to follow what we have published in the visitor guide for the 2021 season, with days of operation being: June 5- Aug 22, 2021, Mon-Fri 1-7 pm Sat-Sun 12-7 pm and the dog swim scheduled for Aug 22, 2021. Also offering swimming lessons in the morning and evenings. It was agreed that we should follow the state guidelines for capacity and cleaning procedures that are in place at the time that we open.

Building & Parks:

The new park signs that are being put up in spring will show no pets or animals unless leashed. Benz asked if the no dogs in the park signs at the Clausen Park were going to be taken down? Huettner said they will be taken down at the park, but will remain up at the cemetery.

Discuss not allowing the carry-over of compensatory time to the next calendar year:

Perlick shared the current policy which allows 240 hours of comp time to be carried over from 1 year into another. We are proposing to change this policy to reflect that the hours can still be accrued, but that are used or paid out within the same year they are earned. This policy change will be presented at an upcoming council meeting for voting.

Discuss using Fox Lake Chamber of Commerce gift certificates vs cash for employee special event gifts and Christmas bonus:

There was discussion on whether or not to use Fox Lake Chamber of Commerce gift certificates vs cash for employee special event gifts and Christmas bonuses. It was concluded that this topic would be brought up again at a later time to further discuss and no decisions would be made at this time.

Budget and financial reports:

McCauley presented the 12/31/2020 final (before audit adjustments) Budget to Actual Statement along with 12/31/2020 update on Unrestricted Cash. The Committee had no specific questions. McCauley discussed how often to present the financial reports to the Council. It was decided to present quarterly. McCauley also noted that the LGIP accounts were earning very little interest in 2020. It was decided to continue monitoring the funds throughout 2021 and report back if there were any changes that would need to be discussed in the future.

Discussion on City Hall remaining open:

Perlick noted that it had previously been decided to allow City Hall to be open to accept animal licenses and tax payments. Now we are coming to the end of the 1st installment of tax collecting. Quirk is requesting that the City Hall is allowed to remain open after tax collections due to the upcoming February spring primary election. It was decided to remain open through the February 16th election and address this topic again at the February committee meeting.

Discuss fence setbacks:

With ongoing discussion regarding fence setbacks the committee feels a 3 foot fence setback would best allow the fence owner to have appropriate space to mow and maintain the fence side facing the neighboring property owner. This will be presented at the next City Council Meeting.

Discuss the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade:

It was decided that the City would allow the St. Patrick's Day Parade, as long as there was not an order enforced from the government saying otherwise.

With no other business to come before the committee of the whole, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.