

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Monday, October 21, 2024, at 5:15 p.m., Council Chambers

Members Present: Lisa Rasmussen (C), Lou Larson (VC), Becky McElhaney, Sarah Watson, Carol Lukens

Others Present: Tammy Stratz, Anne Jacobson, Tegan Troutner, Matt Barnes, Michael Horejs, Nathan Porath, Jerney Kopp, Jared Thompson

Noting the presence of a quorum Chairperson Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Approve minutes of previous meeting (09/16/2024).

Motion by Watson, seconded by Lukens, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Third Amendment American Rescue Plan Act/Catholic Charities Subrecipient Agreement.

Rasmussen stated this amendment was a reasonable approach to the vision of funding the day center with measurable outcomes and deliverables on the participants of the services. It was stated it is important to ensure all parties are on the same pages in terms of results in exchange for the funding. Rasmussen stated there needed to be a consistent offering of services with routine office hours.

Larson questioned if there would be measurable results after the wintertime and questioned why the day center is not being utilized. It was stated there would be measurable results, but the daily census may be nebulous based on length of stay and that the day center would likely be more utilized in the winter as a respite from the cold weather.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Watson, to extend funding per the contract through the end of April and return funding for ARPA allocation via the Finance Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider approval or denial of various license applications.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Lukens, to approve the licenses. Motion carried 5-0.

HEARING: Appeal of Declaration of Chronic Nuisance Premises - 1013 N. Third Avenue.

Chad Thompson, the owner/landlord of the property at 1013 N. Third Avenue, did not appear to complete the appeal of the declaration.

Rasmussen questioned if the committee should hear testimony and see evidence on the appeal if the owner did not appear. It was stated that it would make sense to not move forward with the hearing.

Larson stated there was no point of moving forward as the owner did not appear. Larson questioned the consequences of a chronic nuisance for the declaration being made. It was stated this allows the landlord the ability to evict residences causing the nuisance in an expedited manner.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Watson, to affirm the designation. Motion carried 5-0.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law placed on file.

Discussion and possible action amending Section 5 of Ordinance No. 61-5950 striking the sunset provision of December 31, 2024 on WMC 9.20.020(t) making consumption of alcohol in parks under certain conditions a municipal offense.

Rasmussen stated when this idea went through other municipalities, it had successful implementation of the ordinance. It was stated the enforcement part of the ordinance would give a wake-up call to those consuming alcohol to seek help in addiction.

Larson questioned if the ordinance would give the ability for police officers to confiscate alcohol. It was stated there is a process for confiscated alcohol to be given back to the individual to consume in a legal manner. Larson questioned if the confiscation could be impactful to stop the consumption behavior. It was stated that while that is rarely used, the confiscation is more helpful than the implementation of the fine and the removal of unattended alcohol is also a successful deterrent.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Lukens, to remove the sunset date in ordinance. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on approval of Emergency Management Services Agreement between the City of Wausau and Marathon County.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Lukens, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on approval of Level B Hazardous Materials Response Agreement between the City of Wausau and Marathon County.

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Larson, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

Community Care and Save Station update from the Wausau Fire Department.

Discussion was held. No action taken.

Wausau Police Department Quarter 3 2024 Operations Report.

Discussion was held. No action taken.

Report placed on file.

Wausau Fire Department Quarter 3 2024 Operations Report.

Discussion was held. No action taken.

Report placed on file.

Tavern Activities Report - September 1 - September 30, 2024.

Report placed on file.

Community Outreach Update.

Report placed on file.

Adjourn

Motion by Watson, seconded by Larson, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

For full meeting video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iP5utGu4wJ8>