

**Town of West Jefferson - Board of Aldermen**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**October 4, 2021 | 6:00 pm**

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Tom Hartman, Alderman Rusty Barr, Alderman Calvin Green, Alderwoman Crystal Miller, Alderman John Reeves (absent), and Alderman Stephen Shoemaker

**Town Staff Present:** Town Manager Brantley Price, Town Attorney Jak Reeves, Town Clerk Rebecca Eldreth, Police Chief Brad Jordan, and Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller.

At 6:00 pm Mayor Hartman called to order the meeting of the Board of Aldermen. After the invocation was given, those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the October 4, 2021 Agenda** – With no discussion, Alderman Barr made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Alderman Shoemaker seconded with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

**Public Hearings**

**Consideration of Recommendation to Rezone Parcel 19223 001 732 from Medium Density Residential to Highway Commercial** – Mayor Hartman stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear any comments on the proposed rezoning of the parcel located at 1003 South Jefferson Avenue. The planning board has reviewed and recommends the rezoning of the property to Highway Commercial. Mayor Hartman opened the public comment at 6:02pm. Realtor Chris Barr spoke stating the reason for the rezoning was to allow the property to be used as business offices. With no further discussion, Mayor Hartman closed the public comment at 6:04pm.

**Consideration of Text Amendment to Chapter 93** – Mayor Hartman stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear any comments on the proposed revision of Chapter 93 Noise. The public hearing opened at 6:04pm. Several in attendance spoke in favor of the revision including Arts Council President Wesley Barker, Arts Council Executive Director Joni Ray, and Greg Stebban. With no further comments, Mayor Hartman closed the public comment at 6:18pm.

**Regular Session**

**Approval of Minutes** – With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on August 2, 2021. Alderwoman Miller seconded with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

**Consideration to Rezone Parcel 19223 001 732** – With no comments, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion rezone the parcel to Highway Commercial. Alderman Green seconded the motion with a vote of 4-0 in favor with Alderman Barr abstaining from the vote.

**Consideration of Text Amendment to Chapter 93 Noise** – Mayor Hartman read the revision as discussed. With no further comment, Alderman Barr made the motion to approve the revision as presented. Alderwoman Miller seconded with a vote of 3-1 in favor with Alderman Green opposing.

**Consideration of Statements of Consistency with West Jefferson Land Use Plan** – With no comment, Alderman Barr made the motion to approve the statements. Alderman Shoemaker seconded the motion with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Resolution to Dispose of Police Department Firearms by Private Sale** – Mayor

Hartman stated last month consensus was to sale police firearms at private sale. A resolution will need to be adopted prior to notice was given in the paper of the private sale. With nothing further, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the private sale of the firearms. Alderman Green seconded the motion with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Order of Intent to Close a Proposed Road** – Mayor Hartman stated at the July 2021 meeting John Brown came before the board requesting the closure of a portion of a proposed street located between Hamilton Drive and Dyke Street. Mr. Brown has completed the required surveys. To complete the process of permanently closing the street you will need to adopt the resolution of intent to close the street. With nothing further, Alderman Green made the motion to adopt the resolution as presented, Alderwoman Miller seconded the motion with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

**Discussion of Outdoor Dining and Alcohol Sales** – The Mayor stated at a previous meeting the end date for outdoor dining was set for November1, 2021. With the end date approaching a discussion was lead by the Mayor to determine what the Board will allow on the streets and sidewalks after the deadline. The consensus was to remove all tables and chairs from the sidewalks, streets, parking spaces, and bumpouts by November 1, 2021.

**Consideration of Planning Board Reappointments** – Mayor Hartman stated that the terms for planning board members James Ellis and Michael Vannoy were expiring, but they are both willing to serve another term. With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the reappointments to the planning board for another 3 year term. Alderman Barr seconded the motion with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

**Police Report** – Chief Jordan gave his report to the Board for the month of September. A total of 294 calls were dispatched through the communications center including 16 motor vehicle crashes, 7 larcenies, 27 drug cases, 1 DWI, 14 minor citations, 4 trespassing, and several other miscellaneous calls. The Board thanked Chief Jordan for his report.

**Town Maintenance Report** – Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller gave his report to the Board. Eric started his report with the clean up of the park after acts of vandalism had occurred. Monthly totals were reported of 57 locate tickets, 3 water leaks, and 1 sewer issue. Light posts and goals are in the process of being installed at the new basketball court. The painters will be here next week to add the markings. With nothing further, the Board thanks Eric for his report.

**Town Managers Report** – Brantley Price, Town Manager gave his report to the Board. The COVID case count for the county is 3200 total cases. There are 36 active cases and 62 directed to quarantine. A total of 51% of the total population have been fully or partially vaccinated. The Pfizer booster shot is now available, and the FDA is meeting to discuss the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson booster later this month. The Fire Association voted 10-2 against the all county fire commission. The downtown Wi-Fi is averaging 66 clients per day. Section E of the Highway 221 widening project is 20% complete. Taxes collected to date total 78.1% of the levy. Sales tax year to date is up 18% from the previous year with the month of June up 30% over last year. Brantley then gave an update on the TDA starting the TDA board has agreed for Our State to complete a promotional video in May or June of 2022. The Business Association along with the First Baptist Church will hold Halloween festivities on Saturday, October 30. Suicide prevention will be holding a Walkout of Darkness walk on October 21 from 9-10am at the Backstreet park with the walk through the residential area of Church Avenue and Long Street. Generation Ashe is planning their annual fuel assistance road side drive on October 8 with a rain date of October 22. Mo's Boots is planning a sidewalk sale October 15-16 and will only be using the spaces to

the alleyway next to Mo's Boots. The Holiday Inn Express has been shutting down 15-20 rooms per night due to staffing shortages. The Board thanked Brantley for his report.

**Public Comments** – Mayor Hartman opened the meeting to public comment. With no comments, the mayor moved to Alderman comments.

**Aldermen Comments** – Alderman Green stated that he would like to see additional lights added to the basketball court. Alderwoman Miller inquired about a crosswalk from the Farmers Market to the First Baptist Church. Alderman Barr thanked all those in attendance. Alderman Shoemaker welcomed Joni Ray and thanked her for joining the Arts Council staff before thanking all those in attendance.

**Adjournment** – With nothing further, Alderman Barr made the motion to adjourn the regular meeting, seconded by Alderman Shoemaker with a vote of 4-0 in favor.

---

Tom Hartman, Mayor

---

Rebecca Eldreth, Town Clerk