

**CITY OF CEDARBURG
COMMON COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 21, 2023**

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Cedarburg, Wisconsin, was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at City Hall, W63 N645 Washington Avenue, second floor, Council Chambers, and online utilizing the Zoom app.

Mayor Michael O’Keefe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A moment of silence was observed, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Present - Mayor Michael O’Keefe, Council Members Jim Fitzpatrick, Kristin Burkart (phone), Patricia Thome, Robert Simpson, Kevin Curley (Zoom), Melissa Bitter

Excused - Council Member Mark Mueller

Also Present - City Administrator Mikko Hilvo, Attorney Michael Herbrand, Fire Chief Jeff Vahsholtz, City Clerk Tracie Sette, interested citizens and news media.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE

At Mayor O’Keefe’s request, City Clerk Sette verified that notice of this meeting was provided to the public by forwarding the agenda to the City’s official newspaper, the *News Graphic*, to all news media and citizens who requested copies, and by posting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. Citizens present were welcomed and encouraged to provide their input during the citizen comment portion of the meeting.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS - None

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MUELLER COMMUNICATIONS PROCESS OF PREPARING FOR A POSSIBLE REFERENDUM AND ASSOCIATED DRAFT OPTIONS ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT COMMUNITY SURVEY

Administrator Hilvo shared the survey, created by Mueller Communications, explaining that each household within the City and Town of Cedarburg will receive one in the coming weeks. The survey results will aid in the decision of how to fund the future needs of the Cedarburg Fire Department.

Some Council members expressed dissatisfaction with the types of questions on the survey. A discussion ensued regarding the wording of the questions and suggestions were made for changes to make ahead of mailing the surveys. The first change would be to the wording of the wheel tax statement. The second request was to change the wording to include “possible decreases” in police

services. The third request was a change to the wording defining the proposed funding alternatives as *examples* that *could possibly* be instituted.

A motion was made by Council Member Thome, seconded by Council Member Simpson, to approve the survey and documents as presented with the three changes discussed during the meeting. Motion carried with Council Member Fitzpatrick and Council Member Burkart opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Fitzpatrick, seconded by Council Member Bitter, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Tracie Sette
City Clerk