



**City of Burlington  
Official Minutes  
Common Council  
Robert Miller, Mayor  
Beverly R. Gill, City Clerk  
April 17, 2012**

**1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

Mayor Bob Miller called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. starting with roll call. Aldermen present: Bob Prailes, Peter Hintz, Jim Prailes, Tom Vos, Steve Rauch, Jeff Fischer, Katie Simenson Excused: Ed Johnson

Student Representative present: Dale Morrow, Paul Dhillon

Also present: City Attorney John Bjelajac, Judge Marvin V. Daniel, City Administrator Kevin Lahner, Police Chief Peter Nimmer, Treasurer Steve DeQuaker, Assistant to the Administrator Megan Johnson, Public Works Director Connie Wilson, Public Works Supervisor Dan Jensen, Library Director Gayle Falk, Fire Chief Dick Lodle, Tom Foht of Kapur Engineering

**2. APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR APRIL 4, 2012**

A motion was made by Rauch with a second by Jim Prailes to approve the council minutes from April 4, 2012. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**3. ELECTION REPORT FROM APRIL 3, 2012 SPRING ELECTION**

A motion was made by Simenson with a second by Vos to approve the April 3, 2012 Spring Election Report. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**4. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS BY HONORABLE MARVIN V. DANIEL, JUDGE**

The following were given the oath of office by Judge Marvin V. Daniel:

- Alderman Second District Ruth Dawidziak
- Alderman Third District Tom Vos
- Alderman Fourth District Tom Preusker
- Mayor Bob Miller

**5. ROLL CALL OF NEW COUNCIL**

Aldermen present: Bob Prailes, Peter Hintz, Ruth Dawidziak, Tom Vos, Steve Rauch, Tom Preusker, Katie Simenson Excused: Edward Johnson

**6. APPOINTMENTS**

A motion was made by Rauch with a second by Vos to appoint Ms. Jeanne Hoppe and Ms. Maureen De Rosier as election inspectors for 2012-2013. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**7. APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS**

The mayor appointed Megan Johnson and Kevin Lahner as tellers.

**8. ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Rauch nominated Vos for council president with a second from Prailes. A motion was made by Hintz to close the nominations with a second by Rauch. Being no other nominations, Vos was elected council president.

**9. ELECTION OF ALDERMANIC REPRESENTATIVES TO CITY PLAN COMMISSION**

A motion was made by Prailes with a second by Hintz to nominate Vos to the Plan Commission. A motion was made by Rauch with a second by Vos to nominate Prailes to the Plan Commission. A motion was made by Hintz with a second by Simenson to close the nominations. Being no other nominations, Vos and Prailes were elected to the Plan Commission.

**10. ELECTION OF ALDERMANIC REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

A motion was made by Rauch with a second by Vos to nominate Simenson to the Board of Public Works. A motion was made by Hintz with a second by Vos to close the nominations. Being no other nominations, Simenson was elected to the Board of Public Works.

**11. PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS**

A motion was made by Hintz with a second by Simenson to approve the prepaids, vouchers and reimbursements in the amount of \$277,248.31. Roll Call Aye: Prailes, Hintz, Dawidziak, Vos, Rauch, Preusker, Simenson Nay: None Motion carried 7-0

**12. LICENSES AND PERMITS**

A motion was made by Rauch with a second by Vos to approve the licenses as presented. With all in favor the licenses were approved.

**13. STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

The mayor presented the following "State of the City" address to the council members, department heads and visitors:

Good evening and welcome. I'd like to extend a special welcome to newly-elected City Aldermen Ruth Dawidziak in District 2 and Tom Preusker in District 4. Congratulations should also go to those City Aldermen who were re-elected to office, Ed Johnson and Tom Vos.

I said this before but it bears repeating. Over the next year many important issues will come before this Council for review and action. We must work closely together to serve the people of Burlington and their interests. This past year has been a difficult time for many families, businesses and organizations. We cannot lose sight of this reality. Yet, while there are challenges to face, our community has the durability, vitality, vision and resources to meet them along with the optimism and goodwill needed to build better lives and a better City.

Every day I am reminded that one of the City's greatest resources is our workforce. This administration has worked hard to make municipal operations more effective and efficient. We implemented new programs while maintaining a level work force over the last four years. This would not be possible without the commitment of department heads and all the employees of the City. I appreciate these efforts. As a community we can never take the hard work and dedication of City employees for granted.

Over the last year, we've made progress on several projects and issues that will provide lasting benefits for Burlington. We made important investments in the infrastructure of the City, while promoting a climate for economic development and growth.

These efforts are bound together by our common commitment to a vision of Burlington that supports individuals, families, businesses, organizations and local government in their efforts to work together and thrive. As a community we have the power to do this but success doesn't happen by accident.

Just recently the Council approved a plan, to improve a large portion of, and repair a large portion of the City's aging streets. These improvements will go a long way in upgrading the quality of city streets that have been classified as poor.

With the overall economy in the shape that it is, we are going to have to think outside the box again, like we had to do for the Hampton Inn, if we are going to attract new commercial and industrial entities to our city. We cannot afford to wait for new business to find us. We must become very active in searching out companies and help them find ways and reasons to locate in Burlington.

There are signs that the economy is improving. New retail stores have opened, Dunham Sports and Leisure Pool just to name a couple, and O'Reilly Auto parts will open this Fall. Retail sales through the city have increased, albeit slightly, also point to a slow improvement in the local economy.

On the commercial and industrial front, we saw the construction of a new headquarters for Canella Response Television, the expansion of Quad Graphics in the BMOP, and the recently announced expansion of Lynch Display Vans.

The City has opened talks with our partners, Racine Economic Development Corporation (RCEDC), with four new industries that have expressed a desire to locate here. Racine County no longer has any Class A industrial space available for new companies wishing to locate here. In order to address this problem we are working with RCEDC and development companies to build a Class A industrial space in our Burlington Manufacturing and Office Park (BMOP).

We are always looking for ways to consolidate services. We are now talking to our neighboring communities about the possibility of combining public works projects. The goal would be to combine street projects into one large package which would produce lower costs for the repairs. In addition, as new technology and machines are developed, we will be examining potential uses and the cost savings these new products may produce for the City.

We have recently combined services with Racine County. Some of the services that were provided at the Western Racine County Service Center are now handled by City Hall. In exchange the County is providing Human Resource services to City. The goal is to save money and to continue to provide services to the public.

Racine County has expressed a desire to close the Western Racine County Service Center. This building has out lived its usefulness and is in need of extensive and expensive repairs. City Hall is also showing its age and is in need of extensive and costly updates. The amount of money needed to remodel both of the buildings far exceeds the cost of building a new shared Government Center. We have opened discussions with the County about the construction of a government building in downtown Burlington. The new center would combine city government and county services into a "One Stop Shop". The goal is to have all government services available in one place.

The City is in sound financial shape. Our Budget for 2012 was set in December and provides for the funding of all City services. However, with the uncertainty of State government and what changes may occur, the 2013 Budget may present some very challenging problems for the new Council. To this end I have called for a Strategic Planning Session to be held this year. The outcome of the session will be to establish short and long term goals for the City.

In closing, I would like to thank the out going Council as well as City staff for the past accomplishments and the hard work that has kept this city moving forward. To the new Council, I challenge you to keep the city a great place to live, work and play, and to keep our great city moving forward.

**13. APPOINTED ALDERMANIC REPRESENTATIVES**

	<b>Current Appointment</b>	<b>New Appointment</b>
Airport Committee	Jim Prailes	Tom Preusker
ChocolateFest Committee	Ed Johnson	Katie Simenson
Community Development Authority	Jeff Fischer	Peter Hintz
Historic Preservation Committee	Peter Hintz	Ed Johnson
Library Board	Steve Rauch	Steve Rauch
Park Board	Robert Prailes	Robert Prailes
Western Racine County Health Dept.	Katie Simenson	Ruth Dawidziak

14. OTHER APPOINTMENTS

<b>Current Appointment</b>	<b>New Appointment</b>	<b>Board/Commission/Authority</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Larry Dornacher	Larry Dornacher	Board of Review	5/1/2017
Kelly Iselin	Kelly Iselin	Burlington Housing Authority	5/1/2017
Kay Pockat	Mary T. Boyle	Library Board	5/1/2015
Peter Turke	Ruth Delay	Park Board	5/1/2015
Chris Reesman	Chris Reesman	Plan Commission	5/1/2015
Ron Patla	Jeff Erickson	Police & Fire Commission	5/1/2017
Cheryl Mazmanian	Cheryl Mazmanian	Health Officer	5/1/2013

15. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vos with a second by Rauch to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Beverly R. Gill  
City Clerk  
City of Burlington  
Racine and Walworth Counties