

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH, WISCONSIN**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**  
**CITY HALL, 128 SMITH STREET**

**MINUTES**

1. **Call to order and roll call:** Mayor Pohlman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. On the call of the roll the following were present: Greg Hildebrand, Jeff Tauscheck, Dave Herrmann, Angie Matzdorf, Diane Gilson, Mike Penkwitz, John Nelson and Bob Schilsky. Also present were: City Administrator/Utilities Manager Tim Blakeslee, Director of Public Works Cathy Austin, and Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Anna Voigt.
2. **Approve the minutes from October 31, 2023:** Motion was made by Gilson/Schilsky to approve the minutes from October 31, 2023. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.
3. **Discussion on Mill Pond Dam Process:** City Administrator/Utilities Manager Blakeslee explained that at the last Committee of the Whole meeting Ayres presented different options for the Mullet River Dam. Blakeslee went over three different pathways forward for a decision. Option 1 would be a public hearing and then a council decision; option 2 would be an open house, public hearing then council decision; and option 3 would be an open house, referendum and then council decision. If the council decides to go with option 3 they would have to move quickly to meet the deadline for the referendum language. Nelson stated he would like to act more quickly to vote to replace the dam. If the circumstances were different, he would be in favor of removing the dam and turning that area into a park. He doesn't think there is a need for the referendum. Matzdorf agreed with Nelson. She hasn't heard from anyone in favor of removing the dam. She also doesn't think there is a need for a referendum. She would like more information about the different gate options. Herrmann stated he hasn't made a decision yet and thinks a referendum would be helpful in making a decision. He is in favor of having a referendum. Hildebrand stated he was in favor of having a referendum. He believes the people should have a say in the decision. This is something that will impact the City for many years. Tauscheck is in favor of replacing the dam he would like to see a public hearing, but doesn't see a need for a referendum. Gilson is in favor of a referendum to let the tax payers have a say. Gilson would like to see option 2 done if there isn't enough support for the referendum. Schilsky is in favor of replacing the dam, but doesn't see a need for a referendum. He would like to hear from the people who live on the river, since the decision would affect them the most. Mayor Pohlman stated he expected this project to be much more than it turned out to be. The project is about 2.5 million and there is 1 million from the state. The Mayor stated there are road projects that cost more and don't go to referendum. The Mayor said the Mill Pond is used by a lot of people and if it was removed it would set the City back 50 years. Matzdorf asked for staff to keep in mind the Wisconsin winters for the open house and public hearing dates. She recommended having a make up date in case there was bad weather. Motion was made by Herrmann to go to referendum for the Mill Pond Dam. Mayor Pohlman explained that action on the item is not on the agenda, it was only up for discussion. With there being no second the motion died.
4. **Adjourn:** Motion was made by Tauscheck/Matzdorf to adjourn the meeting. A unanimous aye vote was cast. Motion carried.