



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 19, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

NOTICE: Arrangements for Addressing the City Council by Telephone, During Public Hearings or Input from the Public can be made by Contacting the City Manager's Office at 920-793-5532 or City Clerk's Office at 920-793-5526 by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Stechmesser called the meeting to order at 6:01PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL BY DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Councilmembers: Mark Bittner, Doug Brandt, Shannon Derby, Bill LeClair, Tim Petri, Bonnie Shimulunas, Scott Stechmesser

ABSENT: Darla LeClair, Adam Wachowski

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director, Kassie Paider; Library Director, Jeff Dawson; Parks and Recreation Director, Mike Mathis; Public Works Director, Matt Heckenlaible; Tourism Director, Joe Metzen; Fire Chief, Dave Murack; Electric Utility Director, Brian Delleman; Water Utility Director, Andrew Sukowaty; Police Chief, Ben Meinnert; IT Manager, Rick Powell; City Manager, Greg Buckley; City Attorney, Sean Griffin (via telephone)

4. CONSIDERATION OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING FROM A REMOTE LOCATION

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

6. INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

None

7. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Letters and other communications from citizens

Councilmember Shimulunas reported that a resident raised concerns about late-night noise during festivals, particularly after 11 PM, and disruptive behavior potentially related to alcohol consumption.

Another complaint cited by Ms. Shimulunas involved a large number of vehicles parked at a single residence, prompting questions about whether a limit should be considered. Chief Meinnert stepped forward and reported that the police investigated and found all vehicles were legally registered, with one ticket issued for a 48-hour parking violation. Past council discussions on vehicle limits were noted, with no action taken due to the needs of larger families. Chief Meinnert noted that the residence in question has been previously cited for various issues, including

word cloud exercise from the event revealed "home" as the most common word associated with Two Rivers, providing valuable insights for future marketing and branding efforts.

3. Farmer's & Crafter's Market is Back

Mr. Buckley reported the Farmer's and Crafter's Market is back again on Thursdays and Saturdays in Central Park East.

4. Concerts in the Park are Back

Parks and Recreation Director, Mike Mathis reported summer concerts have returned to various venues throughout the community, offering free entertainment for residents and visitors. To support these events, including the community-sponsored fireworks, approximately \$36,000 has been raised so far this year through sponsorships, with some funds carried over from the previous year. Additional funding will be sought through individual donations, including QR code-enabled jars at concert events. Marketing efforts will also be ramped up to encourage support. The concert series features over 30 performances, including popular regional bands, typically held on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday evenings.

5. Open Book is Thursday, June 5, 2025, 4:00PM-6:00PM,

Contact Accurate Appraisal to schedule an appointment

Mr. Buckley reminded residents that, although this is not a full revaluation year, they still have the option to review and discuss their property assessments, especially if they received updated assessments due to permitted home improvement projects. Even those who did not attend last year's revaluation sessions are encouraged to meet with the Accurate Appraisal to address any questions or concerns. The dates for Board of Review will be announced soon, and residents are encouraged to start with Open Book before pursuing a formal review.

6. State Highway 42/Memorial Drive Project - Matt Heckenlaible

Mr. Buckley reported that the Memorial Drive project is progressing well, with Northeast Asphalt laying the initial leveling course on one northbound lane. The project aims to have the roadway partially paved and the detour signage removed by Friday, May 23, ahead of the Memorial Day weekend. Final paving, including the top two-inch asphalt layer, will resume after the holiday and be completed under traffic with lane closures and flagging. While the DOT has been cautious about publicizing the detour's end date, the progress made before the holiday weekend is significant, and the city appreciates the public's continued patience during this important infrastructure work.

7. Lead Service Laterals Replacement - Andrew Sukowaty

Mr. Buckley reported that manual work continues in the north-central part of town on the lead water service lateral replacement project. Since the last council meeting, 23 additional public-side lead service lines (LSLs) have been replaced, along with 18 sanitary laterals and 11 private-side water services. The number of private-side sanitary laterals has increased from 18 to 21. Restoration efforts in the area are now picking up pace, aided by favorable weather conditions.

8. Parks and Recreation Updates

Parks and Recreation Director, Mike Mathis stepped to the podium to give some brief updates from the Parks and Recreation Department.

a. Rec and Event Survey

Mr. Mathis stated a new survey is being distributed by the Parks and Recreation Department to gather community feedback on programs and events. The survey focuses on understanding what offerings residents value most, preferred times for activities, and suggestions for new

internal staff. The path connects the playground to the concession stand, with a branch extending to Garfield. Two 20x20 picnic shelters are also part of the project, with delivery expected in mid-June. Pads for the shelters will be installed by the Public Works crew as well.

h. SwimSmart Beach Alert System Start-up

Mr. Mathis announced the new SwimSmart beach signs, funded by Room Tax last year, are now powered on and functional. While the National Weather Service has not yet begun providing beach-specific data for the season, SwimSmart is exploring backup options, including private data sources, in case the public data stream becomes unavailable. There is concern that federal support for free forecasting may not continue, potentially impacting the sign functionality this summer. If water quality issues arise, the sign will display a red warning light, advising against swimming. These signs are part of broader efforts to improve beach safety following past incidents, though the public is still expected to exercise personal responsibility.

i. Donation Information for Fireworks and Concerts

Mr. Mathis stated that a variety of events are planned, including concerts and Fourth of July celebrations. While major sponsors—such as Sprangs Tree Farm, Community First Credit Union, Explore Two Rivers, and Fox Communities Credit Union—have already committed support, the Parks and Recreation Department is also encouraging individual and business donations to help cover remaining expenses. QR codes and donation links are being widely shared to make contributing easy. Thanks to rollover funds from last year, the department remains financially stable, but additional community contributions will help ensure the continued success and growth of these events into next year.

9. Upcoming Events

- a. Senior Center Rummage Sale, Thursday & Friday, May 22 & 23, 2025
- b. Washington House Grand Reopening, Saturday, May 24, 2025, 12:00PM-6:00PM
- c. Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony, Monday, May 26, 2025, starting at 8:30AM
- d. City Manager Candidate Finalists Meet and Greet, Thursday, May 29, 2025, 6:00PM-8:00PM, in the Community House gym
- e. Adaptive Paddling Workshop, Thursday-Sunday, May 29-June 1, 2025
- f. Wisconsin Carp Championship, Saturday & Sunday, May 31 & June 1, 2025, West Twin & East Twin Rivers
- g. Maritime Marathon, Sunday, June 1, 2025, 6:45AM
- h. E-Waste Recycling Event, Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 7:30AM-5:00PM, at 1415 Lake Street
- i. Visit exploretworivers.com for future events

10. Other

C. Legislative/Intergovernmental Update--none

10. CONSENT AGENDA

A. 25-092 Presentation of Minutes

1. City Council Reorganizational Meeting, April 15, 2025
2. City Council Regular Meeting, April 21, 2025
3. City Council Work Session, April 28, 2025

Recommended Action:

Motion to waive reading and adopt the minutes

Recommended Action:
Motion to receive and file

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the various actions recommended

Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion made by Derby, seconded by Bittner
Voting Yea: Derby, B. LeClair, Brandt, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Bittner

11. CITY COUNCIL - FORMAL ITEMS

- A. 25-083** Award of Bid for 2025 Lateral Replacement Program, Scattered Locations on the City's East Side (Tabled from May 5, 2025 Council Meeting)

Recommended Action:

Motion to award the bid to low qualified bidder, Essential Sewer and Water Services, LLC of Sheboygan, WI, in its bid amount of \$1,867,580.00

City Engineer/Public Works Director Matt Heckenlaible reported on additional reference checks that he had conducted with municipalities and private developers who have used Essential for recent utility projects. He reaffirmed his recommendation that this contract be awarded to Essential, in the amount of its low qualifying bid.

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Motion made by B. LeClair, seconded by Bittner
Voting Yea: B. LeClair, Brandt, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Bittner, Derby

- B. 25-099** Proclamation Naming the Week of May 18-24, 2025 as National Public Works Week

Recommended Action:

Motion to read and adopt the proclamation

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Motion made by Shimulunas, seconded by Derby
Voting Yea: Brandt, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Bittner, Derby, B. LeClair

Mr. Heckenlaible read the proclamation.

- C. 25-100** Proclamation Naming the Week of May 18-24, 2025 as Emergency Medical Services Week

Recommended Action:

Motion to read and adopt the proclamation

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Motion made by Brandt, seconded by B. LeClair
Voting Yea: Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Bittner, Derby, B. LeClair, Brandt

Chief Murack read the proclamation.

15. ADJOURNMENT

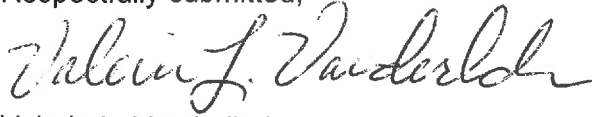
Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of this meeting and adjourn at 8:25PM.

Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion made by Bittner, seconded by Petri

Voting Yea: Bittner, Derby, B. LeClair, Brandt, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Valerie L. Vanderlinden".

Valerie L. Vanderlinden
Deputy City Clerk