

**Common Council Minutes
October 4, 2022**

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday October 4, 2022. This meeting was open for attendance in the council chambers as well as virtually.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Alderpersons present: Ald. Davis, Lampe, Ruetten, Bartz, Licht, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Romlein. City staff present were Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief Robert Kaminski, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Fire Chief Travis Teesh, Streets Director Stacy Winkelman, Public Works Director Jaynellen Holloway, and City Clerk Megan Dunneisen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

Mayor McFarland inquired if there were additions or corrections to minutes of the Common Council meeting held Tuesday September 20, 2022. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

No comments were received.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing for 2002 Airport Road - applicant Jacob Rosbeck and property owner Thomas Funk are proposing to rezone the western portion of 2002 Airport Road from "Multi" Zoning District to General Business (GB) Zoning District pursuant to Section § 550-141B(2) to develop the western portion of 2002 Airport Road into a Personal Storage Facility land use at 7:03 p.m. There being no public comment Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing for 820 E. Main Street - applicant Eric S. Grunewald and property owners Jason C. Martinko & Sunisa Y. Melton are requesting a Planned Unit Development – General Development Plan (GDP) to for a Vehicle Repair & Maintenance use on the premises at 7:04 .pm. Jaci Loeffler of 109 N Ninth Street, Chet Szafranski of 201 S. church Street, and Kyle Schaefer of 911 Sand Street, spoke in favor of the purposed planned unit development. Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing to amend Chapter 550, Zoning Code through the removal and addition of language to Section § 550-56C – Accessory Land Use, Detached Residential Garage, Carport, Utility Shed, Play Structure, or Lawn Ornament to remove the requirement of a conditional use permit for residential accessory structures exceeding 1,000 square feet or for having greater than 2 accessory structures. Accessory structures would still have to comply with maximum accessory building coverage of the Zoning District at 7:08 p.m. Jacob Mass of 416 N. Washington Street (former zoning administrator) spoke on the background for storage space in Watertown and that the city would prefer residents store items interior vs exterior. Plan Commission has limited ability to deny any interior storage requests due to statute requirements. McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Mayor McFarland open the public hearing to amend Chapter 550, Zoning Code, through the addition of language to Section § 550-131.1A(8) – Electronic Message Center Setbacks to allow the establishment of Electronic Message Centers within the 75 residential setback IF it is replacing a compliant backlit or internally illuminated sign. The new Electronic Message Center cannot be greater than 110% of the square footage of the original backlit or internally illuminated sign at 7:11 p.m. Jacob Mass of 416 N. Washington Street (former zoning administrator) spoke on the requirements for backlit signs and that they are in the upward trend. Larry Gaugert of 1201

Richards Ave., spoke in favor of the proposed amendment. Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

REPORTS

(Complete minutes are open for public inspection in the Finance Department.)

The following reports were received and filed: Public Safety & Welfare Committee meeting minutes from September 7, 2022, Site Plan Review Minutes from September 12, 2022, Plan Commission Minutes from September 12, 2022, Site Plan Review Minutes from September 26, 2022, Public Works Commission minutes from September 27, 2022.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave an update on the Town Square, 2022 WEDC Watertown Downtown Parking Study, and Fire Prevention Week and Light the Night 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Election Inspectors and Special Voting Deputies. Ald. Romlein moved to approve the appointment of listed election inspectors and special voting deputies, seconded by Ald. Licht and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Councilmembers had discussion with majority in favor of bringing back invocations.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

(Complete listing of accounts payable is open for public inspection the Finance Department.)

Certified accounts were presented. Ald. Romlein moved to pay all certified accounts, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-1 (Ruetten).

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary – August 24, 2022 to September, 06, 2022 and Credit Card Purchases over \$10,000 - August 2022

ORDINANCES

Ord. #22-68 - Ordinance to amend Section 500-9 A. Parking Prohibited in Specified Places - Dayton Street from Clement Street to W. Main Street (*Sponsor: Chairperson Fred Smith From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, 2nd reading*) Ald. Smith moved for adoption of ordinance 22-68 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 22-69 - Ordinance to repeal a portion of Section 500-8(A), Heavy Traffic Routes - S. Water Street from W. Main Street to W. Milwaukee Street (*Sponsor: Chairperson Fred Smith From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee.*) Ald. Smith moved for adoption of ordinance 22-69 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by a roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions below are listed in order of the agenda but may not be the order by which they were taken up at the Council meeting.

Exh. 9428 - Resolution to approve budget amendment to cover SEH telecom review fees of \$10,000 for TDS Fiber Project (*Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee*). Ald. Romlein moved to approve resolution 9428, seconded by Ald. Licht and carried by a roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9429 - Resolution to authorize a Joint Powers Agreement County 911 Emergency System with Dodge County. (*Sponsor Mayor McFarland*). Ald. Romlein moved to approve resolution 9429, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9430 - Resolution to award HVAC service and support to Johnson Controls Inc. for \$48,550 (*Sponsor: Ald. Wetzel From: Public Works Commission*). Ald. Wetzel moved to approve resolution 9430, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by a roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

No comments were received.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Ald. Schmid moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Davis, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 7:28 p.m.

Megan Dunneisen, City Clerk

Complete minutes are open for public inspection in the office the Finance Department. Video recording available at Watertown TV's YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WatertownTV>