

**Common Council Minutes
Tuesday May 5, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stocks called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:03 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. 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, Berg, Nitecki, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, Haase, and Moldenhauer. City staff present were Fire Chief Tanya Reynen, Police Chief David Brower, City Attorney Ali Panagopoulos, Finance Director Mark Stevens, and City Clerk Megan Dunneisen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

Mayor Stocks inquired if there were additions or corrections to minutes of the Common Council meeting held Tuesday, April 21, 2026 - Addition of Ald. Smith's Plan Commission member vote was noted. Ald. Smith moved to approve with addition, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

No comments were received.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Plan Commission Minutes from April 13, 2026, Site Plan Review Minutes from April 13, 2026, Finance Committee minutes from April 13, 2026, RDA minutes from April 15, 2026, Public Works minutes from April 28, 2026.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ald. Arnett made a motion to approval the Settlement Agreement (C. Hamlin), seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Fire Department Monthly Report for March and Police Dept 2025 Annual Report were presented. Stefanie Broere gave the quarterly update on the Main Street Program. Mayor Stocks gave a presentation on the role of Common Council.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - April 1 through April 14, 2026, was presented.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 26-13 - Ordinance to Repeal and Create Sections 65-8 and 65-9 of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Ethics Board, Second Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 26-13 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Smith. Ald. Smith made a motion to remove "Finance Committee" in section A (1), B (3), and C (2), seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0. Motion for adoption carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Davis); Abstain-0.

Ord. 26-14 - Ordinance to Amend Sections 114-3 and 114-7(l)(3) of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks, Second Reading). Ald. Smith moved for adoption of ordinance 26-14 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Lampe. Ald. Davis made a motion to strike proposed letter G, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-5; No-4

(Lampe, Berg, Nitecki, Smith); Abstain-0. Ald. Davis made a motion to rewrite section L(3), to *No person other than a member shall address the Common Council except under order of business, Rule 4, Subsection D(5) and (14). a. Public comments are limited to three minutes. b. Members wishing to speak during the public comment section may only speak once per meeting. c. Members wishing to speak must complete a citizen comment form giving their names and addresses and an explanation of the topic about which they intend to comment. d. To conduct orderly and efficient meetings, the presiding officer may make content-neutral time, place and manner modifications to the rules in this subsection*, seconded by Ald. Lampe and failed by roll call vote: Yes-4 (Davis, Lampe, Nitecki, Blanke); No-5 (Berg, Smith, Arnett, Haase, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0. Ald. Smith made a motion to remove *Members wishing to speak during the public comment section may only speak once per meeting*, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Lampe); Abstain-0. Ald. Blanke made a motion to remove the word *total*, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Lampe); Abstain-0. Motion for adoption carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Arnett); 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. 9858 - Resolution to Approve the Transfer of Ownership of Dodge County Water Rescue Boat from Dodge County Fire Chiefs Association to the City of Watertown (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance Committee). Ald. Smith moved to adopt resolution 9858, seconded by Ald. Nitecki and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9859 - Resolution to Approve Intergovernmental Agreements for Non-EMS Fire Report sharing with the Towns of Shields, Emmet, Watertown and Milford (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9859, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9860 - Resolution to Approve the Updated Ethics Board Rules of Procedures (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Ethics Board). Ald. Arnett moved to adopt resolution 9860, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9861 - Resolution Declaring a State of Emergency in Response to Severe Storms and Flooding April 14-17, 2026 (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks). Ald. Blanke moved to adopt resolution 9861, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by 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. Blanke moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Arnett, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Dunneisen, City Clerk

DISCLAIMER: These minutes are uncorrected; any corrections will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved. Complete minutes are open for public inspection in the Clerk's Office. Video recording available at Watertown TV's YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WatertownTV>