

Common Council Minutes Tuesday August 6, 2024

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday August 6, 2024. 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, Board, Bartz, Blanke (virtual), Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer, Strategic Coordinator Mason Becker, Health Officer Carol Quest (virtual) 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 July 16, 2024. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Greg Zipfel of 1416 Stoneridge Dr., Will Runke of 1406 Fairfield Ct., Mike Hoppenrath of 1302 New Castle Ct., Robert Feldman of 1300 New Castle Ct., Nancy Poellman of 1400 Beacon Dr., Mike Wietor of 1400 Beacon Dr., Tim McPhillips of 1410 Timber Ridge Tr., Dave Frohling of 515 Oak Park Ave., all spoke opposing the comprehensive plan and zoning amendment for 1310 Allwardt St. Jennifer Johnson, representing Marquardt and email comment from Dodge County Administrator and resident, Cameron Clapper, spoke in favor of the amendments.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing for Gremer, LLC and RJAB, LLC annexation request for N9009 County Road A at 7:15pm.

Terry Lischka of 916 Casey Dr., Eric Kluge of 915 Casey Dr., Bill Hugin of 907 Casey Dr., Robyn Kugath of 906 Casey Dr., Laura Jedrzekewski of 917 Ridge Ct., Kathie Hugin of 907 Casey Dr., all spoke opposing the annexation stating concerns of rainwater mitigation, infrastructure, additional traffic, quality of the new builds, lack of high paying jobs, Watertown becoming a commuter city, and higher taxes due to increase in city services.

There being no further comment, Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:36pm.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Finance Committee minutes from July 8, 2024, Park, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from July 15, 2024, RDA minutes from July 17, 2024, Board of Health Minutes from June 4, 2024, Plan Commission Minutes from July 8, 2024, Plan Commission Minutes from July 22, 2024, Downtown Main Street Task Force Minutes from July 24, 2024, Public Works Commission minutes from July 23, 2024, Licensing Board minutes from July 10, 2024.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave recognition to Scott Kind with the Police Department for fifteen years, Alex Jeffers with the Police Department for five years, and Lisa Schwartz with Human Resources for five years.

Watertown Fire Department June Monthly Report was provided, and Public Works Director Andrew Beyer gave an update on the status of the Main Street Bridge Construction; construction is running on schedule and set to be open for traffic in November.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Board made a motion to approve the Election Inspector, Special Voting Deputies, and Municipal Board of Canvasser appointments for the 2024-2025 election term, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Smith made a motion to approve Tom Hahn to the Airport Commission – serving partial six-year term ending November 2029 – replacing Jerry Hepp, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by unanimous voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Payroll Summary - July 10, 2024 to July 23, 2024 was presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Smith made a motion to approve the application for a “Class B” Malt and Liquor License from Gasthaus Watertown LLC DBA Gasthaus (Jessica Vick, Agent) located at 1500 Bridge St for licensing year July 1 2024 - June 30, 2025 (former Gasthaus LLC with a start date of September 1, 2024) conditioned on Current issued license to Gasthaus, LLC being surrendered. An approved Health Inspection. Receipt of an updated lease document indicating Gasthaus Watertown LLC has control of the premise on that date, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Temporary Premises Amendment application by Karah Pugh for Local Waters, 109 S Third St. for Blocktoberfest on Saturday, September 21, 2024 during the hours of 3:00 pm - 10:00 pm conditioned on outside sales area exemption of being larger than inside sales area, outside exits are monitored, and the special event being approved by the Public Safety and Welfare Committee, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 24-17 - Adopt Amendments to the 2019 City of Watertown Comprehensive Plan for 1310 Allwardt Street (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-17 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Board. Ald. Schmid made a motion to end debate, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-6; No-3 (Davis, Smith, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yes-5; No-4 (Davis, Blanke, Smith, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-18 - Amend Chapter 550 Official Zoning Map of the City of Watertown to rezone 1310 Allwardt Street from SR-4, Single-Family Residential to MR-10, Multi-Family Residential (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-18 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-5; No-4(Davis, Blanke, Smith, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-19 Adopt the Planned Unit Development (PUD) - General Development Plan (GDP) under Section 550-152 for Areas C(b), H, I, and K of Bielinski Hunter Oaks Development (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-19 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord 24-20 Greemar, LLC and RJAB, LLC Town of Watertown Annexation (Sponsor: Mayor Emily McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Davis moved to table ordinance 24-20 for public comments to go back to Plan Commission, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-6; No-3 (Lampe, Board, Bartz); 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. 9635 - Resolution to Amend the Employee Handbook of Policies and Procedures for General Updates (Sponsor: Mayor Emily From: Finance Committee). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt

resolution 9635, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by voice vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9636 - Resolution for T-Mobile site ML82089A license agreement on the O'Connell Water Tower (Sponsor: Alderperson Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Bartz moved to adopt resolution 9636, seconded by Ald. Board 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. Moldenhauer moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Schmid, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 9:35 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>