

Common Council Minutes
Tuesday June 6, 2023

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2023. 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, Bartz (virtual), Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief Travis Teesch, Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief Robert Kaminski, Assistant Police Chief Ben Olson, Streets Superintendent Stacy Winkelman, Assistant Engineer Andrew Beyer (virtual), Zoning Administer Brian Zirbes (virtual), Parks Director Kristine Butteris, Town Square Programmer Stephanie Juhl, 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, May 16, 2023. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Ken Burg of 1201 Richards Ave, James Romlein of 1942 Richards Ave, Marty Voigt of 319 Rivera Ln, Tom Levi of 132 Harding St, Tom Murphy of 103 Herman St, Jene Schmidt of 303 E Haven St, John Schloemer of 500 Hall St, and Joe Kallas of 1217 Douglas St all spoke on the District 3 Alderperson appointment.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Finance Committee minutes of May 8, 2023, Watertown Public Library meeting minutes from May 11, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from May 16, 2023, RDA meeting minutes from May 17, 2023 – Ald. Lampe commented how the City Council has the ability to "veto" the Bentzin Family Town Square History Wall, Mayor McFarland stated that there has not been a request to veto by any Council members, Public Works meeting minutes from May 23, 2023, Downtown Main Street Task Force meeting minutes from May 24, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

Appointment of District 3 Alderperson -

Discussion on how to proceed on the voting of District 3 Alderperson, Ald. Schmid called for the order of the day, Ald. Davis made a motion to add in council to comment on the candidates for District 3 Alderperson into the written recommendation given by the City Attorney with a second from Ald. Lampe. Further motion to amend by Ald. Moldenhauer to allow for the candidates nominated with a 1st and 2nd to be placed in a pool and then voted upon, second by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-5 (Lampe, Blanke, Smith, Wetzel, Moldenhauer); No-3 (Davis, Bartz, Schmid); Abstain-0. Ald. Lampe makes a motion to further amend to state if no one receives five votes the highest vote receiver is not the winner, the highest two candidates will have a runoff and if resulting in a tie, the Mayor will break the tie, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call: Yes-8; No; 0; Abstain-0. Original motion carried by roll call: Yes-7; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain 0.

Clerk Dunneisen then drew names for the order in which the applicants would come up and speak as to why they are wanting to serve as Alderperson for the Third District. Names were called in the following order and candidates were given five minutes to present: Steve Board, Nick McGriff, Terry Bear, and Tom Kohls. After presentations, Ald. Davis and Ald. Lampe asked a question for the candidates to each answer, everyone was given 1 minute to give their response. After, Mayor McFarland opened the floor to comments from the Alders. Each Alder made a

comment and who they were in favor of. The floor was open for nominations. Ald. Moldenhauer made a motion for Nick McGriff with a second from Ald. Blanke, Ald. Lampe made a motion for Steven Board with a second from Ald. Davis, Ald. Schmid made a motion for Tom Kohls with a lack of a second. Clerk Dunneisen then took the roll and each Alder voted for their top candidate. Davis – Board, Lampe – Board, Bartz – Board, Blanke – McGriff, Smith – McGriff, Schmid – Board, Wetzel – Board, Moldenhauer – McGriff. Steven Board was successfully voted in with five votes to take the seat as District 3 Alderperson. Clerk Dunneisen then administered the Oath of Office and Ald. Board took his seat with the Council.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

City Consultant Ashley Nelson, project manager for the Welsh Road Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Project, gave an update and public information. The project includes guard rails in front of four bridge columns and signs along the road to improve safety. Construction is projected to start in 2024, the road will remain open to traffic with shoulder with potential of lane closures. Currently going through environmental process with a design completion of August 2023.

Mayor Emily gave a presentation of Distinguished Service Award for past Alders. Former Ald. Romlein was present to receive.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Blanke moved to approve the committee appointments to the Town Square Committee, second by Ald. Wetzel and carried by voice vote with Ald. Lampe abstaining.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Certified accounts were presented. Ald. Moldenhauer moved to pay all certified accounts, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary for May 3, 2023 - May 16, 2023 was presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Schmid moved to table the license for a temporary secondary location for Kellermeister Beverages LLC d/b/a BrewFinity Brewing at the Bentzin Family Town Square Sound of Summer Concert Series event on June 24, 2023 and August 26, 2023 until 410-52 of the Watertown Code can be reviewed further by the Public Safety and Welfare Committee, second by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Blanke); Abstain-0.

ORDINANCES

Ord 23-17 - adopt the Planned Unit Development (PUD) - General Development Plan (GDP) under Section 550-152 for Areas A-D, C(b), G, H, and I of Bielinski Hunter Oaks Development Plan (PINs: 28-291-0815-0643-001, 291-0815-0642-003, 291-0815-0642-004, 291-0815-0642-005, 291-0815-0642-006, 291-0815-0642-007) (Sponsor: Mayor Emily McFarland From: Plan Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 23-17 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by 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 9518 - Resolution for Approving EMS Contract with the Town of Milford (Sponsor: Mayor Emily McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9518, seconded by Ald. Lampe. Fire Chief Teesch noted that there was an error on the number listed on the resolution and that it should state \$2,660.00. Ald. Schmid made a motion to amend the resolution to include the correct amount, second by Ald. Wetzel and carried unanimous voice vote. Motion 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. Lampe moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Schmid, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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>