

Common Council Minutes
July 15, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stocks called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2025. 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, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, Wetzel, and Moldenhauer (joined virtually at 7:37 p.m.). City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief Tanya Reynen (virtual), Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Park and Rec Director Kristine Butteris, 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, July 1, 2025. There being none, Ald. Berg moved to approve, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Blanke made a motion to amend the agenda to move item 8. A to the next item, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMENDATIONS

Mark Stevens, Finance Director, gave employee recognition to Sheri Rohr, with the Finance Department, for five years. Kristine Butteris gave recognition to Andrea Draeger, with the Park, Recreation, & Forestry Department for five years.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Rev. Dr. Christopher Ross of 432 W. Clover Cottage Grove spoke on warming shelters.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Stocks opened the public hearing for the Rezone of Parcel Number 291-0815-0832-005 from Planned Office and Institutional (PO) Zoning District to Planned Industrial. (PI) Zoning District at 7:16 p.m. There being no further comment Mayor Stocks closed the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Mayor Stocks opened the public hearing for the Rezone 213 S. First Street from Multi-Family Residential (MR-8) Zoning District to Central Business (CB) Zoning District at 7:16 p.m. Atty Christopher Koppes representing the applicant was present. There being no further comment, Mayor Stocks closed the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Licensing Board minutes from June 11, 2025, Tourism minutes from June 12, 2025, Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from June 16, 2025, Senior Center Advisory Board minutes from June 17, 2025, RDA minutes from June 18, 2025, Public Works minutes from June 24, 2025, Licensing Board minutes from July 1, 2025, Public Safety and Welfare minutes from July 2, 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Watertown Fire Department May report was presented and Andrea Jansen from Baker Tilly gave the 2024 Audit Report.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Payroll Summary from June 11 through June 24, 2025, Paid Invoices Report from June 2025, and Cash and Investments from June 30, 2025, were presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Bartz made a motion to approve the application for a "Class B" Malt and Liquor License from The Score Sports Bar LLC dba The Riff Dive Bar (Jaime Ellis, Agent) located at 215 S Third St for licensing year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Moldenhauer made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary "Class B" Beer and Wine License for the Marine Corps League Annual Picnic event on August 23, 2025, sponsored by Bartelme-Schwefel Detachment #349 during the hours of 12 p.m. and 6 p.m. for location 907 Boomer Street, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Bartz made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary "Class B" Beer and Wine License for the Watertown Catholic Parish Picnic event on August 17, 2025, sponsored by St Henry's Congregation during the hours of 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. for location 412 N Fourth Street, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to approve the applications for Temporary "Class B" Licenses for the 9th Annual Wine Walk event hosted by Watertown Chamber of Commerce on September 25, 2025, during the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Locations include Ava's Posh Boutique, 209 E. Main Street., Bradow Jewelers, 217 E. Main Street., Brown's Shoe Fit Co., 212 E. Main Street., Central Block, 300 E. Main Street., Draeger's Floral, 616 E. Main Street., Oswald-Konz Financial, 118 W. Main Street., Sassy Sweets, 116 W. Main Street., and White Oak Builders, 14 E. Main Street, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to deny the application for an operator's license from Dawn A Patzer based on Category V of the Watertown Licensing Guidelines, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 25-13 - Amend Chapter 545: Subdivision of Land, through the amendments of language to Sections §545-14A(5), §545-42C(5), § 545-42C(7), §545-50, AND §545-15 (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Plan Commission, Second Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 25-13 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-14 - Amend Chapter 550: Zoning Code through the amendment of language to Section §550-150 (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Plan Commission, Second Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 25-14 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-15 - Amend Section 500-6 Parking Limitations A(5) Municipal Parking Lot Limitations (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 25-15 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-16 - Create a portion of Section 500-3(B) Stop Intersections (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 25-16 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-17 - Amend Section 500-8(F) Heavy traffic prohibited by posted signs (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Moldenhauer moved for adoption of ordinance 25-17 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-18 - Ordinance to Amend Section 38-4, Bond Deposit Schedule of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance Committee, First Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 25-18 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Davis 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: 9765 - Resolution to adopt Jefferson County Hazard Mitigation Plan (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety and Welfare). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9765, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9766 - Resolution to recommend 2025 Solid Waste fee schedule and 2026 other fees schedule (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance Committee). Ald. Berg moved to adopt resolution 9766, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh: 9767 - Resolution to enter into agreement with Strand Associates, Inc. for Allerman lift station and force main modifications, Task Order 25-02 (Sponsor: Ald. Arnett From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Arnett moved to adopt resolution 9767, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Berg); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9768 - Approve Change Order No. 1 to 2025 Watermain Relay Contract #8-25 with Forest Landscaping and Construction for \$89,070.00 (Sponsor: Ald. Arnett From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Arnett moved to adopt resolution 9768, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Rev. Dr. Christopher Ross of 432 W. Clover Cottage Grove spoke on Pride in the Park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Ald. Wetzel moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Lampe, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 8:03 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>