

Common Council Minutes

June 17, 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, June 17, 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. Lampe, Berg, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, and Moldenhauer. Absent was Ald. Davis and Wetzel City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro (virtual), Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Strategic Coordinator Mason Becker (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 Stocks inquired if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of the Common Council meeting held Tuesday, June 3, 2025. There being none, Ald. Berg moved to approve, seconded by Ald. Arnett and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Amanda Pilsner of 106 Emerald St. spoke on denial recommendation of her operator license. Rev. Dr. Christopher Ross of 432 West Clover Ln Cottage Grove and Barb Weiss of 1118 Riverview Ln. spoke on warming shelters.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Licensing Board minutes from May 14, 2025, Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from May 19, 2025, Plan Commission Minutes from May 19, 2025, RDA Minutes from May 21, 2025, Park, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from June 2, 2025, Public Safety and Welfare minutes from June 4, 2025, RDA minutes from June 9, 2025

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Deb Reinbold gave Thrive presentation to the council.

Carol Quest, Health Director, gave employee recognition to Vilma Staude in the Health Department for 5 years. Mayor Stocks gave employee recognition to John Duvernell Fire Department for 25 years.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Arnett made a motion to approve the appointments of Todd Huhn – serving his first partial term expiring January 2029 replacing Karissa Hurtgen to Redevelopment Authority and Todd Huhn – serving his first partial term expiring January 2027 replacing Andrea Turke to the Watertown Board of Health, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Payroll Summary - May 14-27, 2025, Cash and Investments - May 31, 2025, and Paid Invoices Report - May 2025 were presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Arnett made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary Premises Amendment from Local Waters 109 S. 3rd Street, Manager Meredith Degner, on September 20, 2025 during the hours of 11am - 11pm for Special Event – Blocktoberfest Conditional on an updated Certificate of

Insurance and letters from neighboring businesses stating their approval being submitted, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Berg made a motion to approve the application for a "Class B" Malt and Liquor License from Fiesta Las Margaritas (Crescenciana Sanchez, Agent) located at 1512 S Church Street for licensing year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (Change from prior year business legal name Crescenciana Sanchez) Conditional on an approved Conditional Use Permit for the addition of the outdoor patio to the premises description (per zoning) or an amendment to their application removing the outdoor patio from the premises description, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the renewal application for a "Class B" Malt and Liquor License for Tequila Nights LLC dba Tequila Nights, Agent Michael Martin, located at 617 S First Street for licensing year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 Conditional on the completion of the 30-day suspension imposed by the Council on May 6, 2025, done in increments of no less than 7 consecutive days, by August 4, 2025, seconded by Ald. Arnett and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the renewal of "Class A" Combination Malt and Liquor Licenses, Class "B" Malt Licenses, and "Class B" Combination Malt and Liquor Licenses (Exhibit B) that have missing/outstanding licensing requirements for licensing year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 Conditional on any outstanding licensing requirements listed in Exhibit B being complete, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary Class "B" License for the Bentzin Family Town Square Summer Concert Series event on July 18, 2025 sponsored by Whitetails Unlimited during the hours of 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. for location 1 W. Main Street seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-6; No-0; Abstain-1(Bartz).

Ald. Lampe made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary Class "B" License for the Bentzin Family Town Square Summer Concert Series event on July 20, 2025 sponsored by Whitetails Unlimited during the hours of 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. for location 1 W. Main Street seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-6; No-0; Abstain-1(Bartz).

Ald. Bartz made a motion to approve the application for a change of agent from Lyon's Irish Pub LLC dba Lyon's Irish Pub, 201/203 E Main Street from James Baade to Carol Bohlman for the licensing year expiring June 30, 2025, the application for a "Class A" Malt and Liquor License from Speedway LLC DBA Speedway 4178 (Kevin Conley, Agent) located at 104 N Church Street for licensing year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (Change from prior year Class "A" Malt), the renewals of "Class A" Liquor Licenses, Class "A" Malt Licenses, "Class A" Combination Malt and Liquor Licenses, Class "B" Malt Licenses, "Class B" Combination Malt and Liquor Licenses, "Class C" Wine Licenses (Exhibit A) for licensing year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026, and the renewal of Secondhand Article/Jewelry Licenses (Exhibit C) for licensing year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Arnett made a motion to deny the application for operator's license from Maria D Mares Denial based on Cat I. of the Licensing Guidelines, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Smith made a motion to deny the application for operator's license from Amanda Pilsner Denial based on Cat I. of the Licensing Guidelines, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Rev. Dr. Christopher Ross of 432 West Clover Ln Cottage Grove and Jeremy Schmidt of 1011 Meadow St. spoke on warming shelters.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Dunneisen, City Clerk

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>