

Common Council Minutes Tuesday October 1, 2024

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 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, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel, and Moldenhauer (arrived at 7:07). City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Police Chief David Brower, Fire Chief Tonya Reynen, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer, Health Officer Carol Quest, 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, September 17, 2024. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Ken Berg of 1201 Richards Ave spoke on the delay of the Main Street Bridge.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McFarland called the public hearing to Amend Chapter 550: Zoning Code, through the amendments of language to Sections §550-109B, §550-109D, §550-132, §550-56C; §550-32B(2), §550-33B(2), and §550-34B(2), and §550-120C open at 7:14 p.m. There being no comment Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Transit Commission minutes from July 22, 2024, Board of Health minutes from August 20, 2024, Plan Commission Minutes from September 9, 2024, Finance Committee minutes from September 9, 2024, Finance Committee minutes from September 17, 2024, Public Safety minutes from September 17, 2024, Town Square Planning Commission Minutes from September 18, 2024, RDA Minutes from September 18, 2024, Public Works minutes from September 24, 2024 were presented.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave reminder that the November 5, 2024, Council Meeting will be moved to November 4, 2024, due to the General Election. Public Works Director, Andrew Beyer, gave an update/information of the Main Street Bridge including an outline of events, timelines, bridge expenses, project structure, progress, project delay, causes, and what the next steps are. Council discussion included ideas about drafting a resolution to bring forward, keeping the bridge in media highlights, and relief for the businesses impacted due to delay.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - September 4, 2024, to September 17, 2024 was presented.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 24-24 - Ordinance to Amend Section 136-11 Responsibilities of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee, Second Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 24-24 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Ord 24-13 - Ordinance to Amend Section 410-56(A) Smoking in Prohibited Places (Sponsor Ald. Lampe From: Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, Second Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-13 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2 (Schmid, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-25 - Repeal a portion of Section 500-5, One-way Streets and Alleys of Chapter 500 Traffic Code of the City of Watertown (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 24-25 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Schmid); 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. 9659 - Resolution for Verizon Wireless Cellular Site MDG: 5000097398 License Agreement on the O'Connell Water Tower (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9659, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9660 - Resolution to Enter into Contract for Web Based Reporting of Fire Alarms (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland). Ald. Davis moved to refer resolution to the Finance Committee, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2 (Lampe, Board); 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. Schmid moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 8:23 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>