

Common Council Minutes Tuesday March 18, 2025

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 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, Board, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. Absent was Ald. Lampe. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief Tanya Reynen, Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer, Strategic Coordinator Mason Becker, 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 the Common Council meeting minutes held Tuesday, March 4, 2025. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

No comments were received.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing for 1220 Wilbur Street and 1220 W. Main Street Comprehensive Plan Amendment at 7:02 p.m. There being no comment, Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Housing Authority minutes from January 16, 2025, Finance Committee minutes from February 10, 2025, Licensing Board minutes from February 12, 2025, Tourism minutes from February 13, 2025, Finance Committee minutes from February 17, 2025, Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from February 17, 2025, Senior Center Advisory Board minutes from February 18, 2025, Site Plan Review Minutes of February 24, 2025, Plan Commission Minutes of February 24, 2025, Public Safety and Welfare committee minutes from March 5, 2025

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave employee recognition to Brandon Wojnowski with the Fire Department for ten years and Lukas Saeger with DPW-Streets Division for five years. The Watertown Fire Department Monthly Report for January 2025 was presented. Mayor McFarland announced that the April 1 Council meeting is moved to March 31 (Monday) due to the Spring Election. Public Works Director Andrew Beyer gave an update on the Main Street Bridge.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Board made a motion to appoint Julie Janowak – serving her first term expiring March 2028 (replacing Jacob Maas) to the Historic Preservation and Downtown Design Commission, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried unanimous voice vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - February 19, 2025 through March 4, 2025, Paid Invoices Report, and Cash and Investments - February 28, 2025 were presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the application for Temporary "Class B" Wine and Temporary Class "B" license from Watertown Riverfest Inc at Riverside Park, 812 Labaree St, for the Watertown Riverfest 2025 event from Thursday, August 7, 2025 through Sunday, August 10, 2025, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 25-05 - Ordinance to Amend Section 410-39 of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Public Safety and Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 25-05 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-06 - Amend Chapter 500-6(2) Vehicles and Traffic (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 25-06 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; 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. 9721 - Resolution to authorize an agreement with Vandewalle & Associates, Inc. for zoning code rewrite services (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Wetzel moved to adopt resolution 9721, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0

Exh. 9722 - Initial Resolution to discontinue a portion of public way at Cole Street (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Bartz moved to adopt resolution 9722, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0

Exh. 9723 - Resolution to award 2025 Western Avenue Water Main Relay #8-25 to Forest Landscaping & Construction for \$187,580.00 (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9723, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9724 - Resolution to authorize submittal of 2024 Annual Stormwater Report (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9724, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9725 - Resolution to approve ordering a replacement ladder truck (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9725, seconded by Ald. Bartz. Ald. Schmid made a motion to amend the resolution with replacing "WHEREAS, no delivery of the ladder truck will be prior to January 1, 2027" with "WHEREAS, no delivery of the ladder truck will be prior to January 1, 2028" and "no payments are to be made prior to January 1, 2027" replaced with "no payments are to be made prior to January 1, 2028" per recommendation from the Finance Director, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9726 - Resolution to approve the Development Agreement between City of Watertown, Wisconsin and Lumin Terrace, LLC (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9726, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9727 - Resolution to approve the amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Watertown and Labor Association of Wisconsin (Police Officers) (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9727, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9728 - Resolution to extend technical services agreement with Strand Associates, Inc. (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9728, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; 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. Schmid moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 7:27 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>