Common Council Minutes
Tuesday October 6, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stocks called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:18 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6, 2026. 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, Nitecki, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, Haase, and Moldenhauer. City staff present were Fire Chief Tanya Reynen, Police Chief David Brower, City Attorney Ali Panagopoulos, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Park and Rec Director Ryan Schmidt, 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, September 15, 2026. There being none, Ald. Berg moved to approve, seconded by Ald. Nitecki and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Mike Wilkinson of 716 Mary Knoll Lane, Elaine Winkinson 716 Mark Knoll Lane, Emily Lessner of 724 Mary knoll Lane spoke about the purposed pickleball courts and the concern of noise due to the proximity of residential homes. Stacy Estudillo of 1002 E Main Street spoke opposing flock cameras and Eric Schmid of 605 Lafayette Street spoke opposing flock cameras and solar panels.

PUBLIC HEARING

The applicant for the rezone of 1200 Wakoka Street from General Industrial (GI) to General Business (GB) and Rezone of 1202 Wakoka Street from General Business (GB) to General Industrial (GI) withdrew application.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Joint Review Board minutes from July 15, 2026, Housing Authority minutes from July 16, 2026, Housing Authority minutes from special meeting on August 18, 2026, Finance Committee minutes from August 24, 2026, Tourism Commission minutes from September 10, 2026, Police and Fire Commission minutes from September 14, 2026, Plan Commission minutes from September 14, 2026, Site Plan Review minutes from September 14, 2026, Finance Committee minutes from September 14, 2026, RDA minutes from September 16, 2026, Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from September 21, 2026, Public Works Commission minutes from September 22, 2026.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to move New Business to after Resolutions, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor Stocks gave a reminder that the November 3 Council meeting will be moved to November 2 due to the Election. Fire Department: August 2026 Monthly Data Report was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Arnett made a motion to approve the appointment of Election Inspectors and Special Voting Deputies for the 2026-2027 election term, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Blanke made a motion to combine the closed session items for OneEnergy Solar Project CUP Approval, Claim of Milbrath, and Claim of Klempen, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by unanimous voice vote.
Ald. Blanke made a motion to convene into closed session per §19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved (OneEnergy Solar Project CUP Approval), (Claim of Milbrath) (Claim of Klempen), seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.
Ald. Davis made a motion to reconvene into open session, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.
Ald. Arnett made a motion to deny the Claim of Milbrath, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.
Ald. Arnett made a motion to deny the Claim of Klempen, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS
Payroll Summary - September 02, 2026 through September 15, 2026 was presented.

LICENSES:
Ald. Moldenhauer made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary Class "B" Beer license from Watertown Humane Society for the Music on Main Event at 1 West Main Street (Town Square) on October 17, 2026 during the hours of 5pm-9pm, seconded by Ald. Haase. Ald. Blanke made a motion to amend to include the conditions of Age-verifying wristbands; Signage identifying the areas where alcohol is permitted (alcohol boundary signs); and Alcohol sold in original, non-glass containers, seconded by Ald. Arnett and carried by unanimous voice vote. Motion to approved with conditions carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the application for a Temporary Class "B" Beer license from Watertown Humane Society for the Cruisin for Critters Event at 1907 Market Way on October 18, 2026 during the hours of 11am-4pm conditioned on Age-verifying wristbands; Signage identifying the areas where alcohol is permitted (alcohol boundary signs); Alcohol sold in original, non-glass containers, and open-container barriers around the licensed premises where alcohol is stored, sold, and consumed, seconded by Ald. Arnett and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES
Ord. 26-28 - Ordinance to create section 410-33(H) Camping Prohibited on City Property of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety and Welfare, Second Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 26-28 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Berg 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. 9893 - Resolution to Approve Elected/Appointed Officials Code of Conduct (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9893, seconded by Ald. Arnett. Ald Lampe made a motion to refer back to the Ethics Board, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9894 - Resolution to Enter into the 2027-2028 Agreement Between the City of Watertown and Local 877 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO-CLC (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance Committee). Ald. Arnett moved to adopt resolution 9894, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Smith); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9895 - Resolution to approve the development and accepting the future donation of a Pickleball Complex at Brand-Quirk Park (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Plan Commission). Ald. Berg moved to adopt resolution 9895, seconded by Ald. Davis. Ald. Lampe made a motion to add "including trees and appropriate wind screening, and existing soccer field utilization" at the end of the 6th Whereas paragraph, second by Ald. Arnett and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0. Ald. Berg made a motion to amend to add "as needed", seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-5 (Davis, Berg, Nitecki, Smith, Moldenhauer); No-4 (Lampe, Blanke, Arnett, Haase); Abstain-0. Motion to adopt carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Lampe); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9896 - Resolution to Enter into a Lease for an Airport Hangar Pad Located at 1828 River Dr. C15 (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Plan Commission). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9896, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by 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. Blanke moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Lampe, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 9:29 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