



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2024, AT 5:30 PM

MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 106 JONES STREET, WATERTOWN, WI 53094

Finance Committee members present: Mayor McFarland, Alderpersons Bartz, Davis, Lampe, and Moldenhauer

Others present: Finance Director Stevens, Attorney Chesebro, Police Chief Brower, Lisa Schwartz, Street Operations Manager Winkelman (video)

1. Call to order. Mayor McFarland called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. The **pay for elected officials** is determined prior to the upcoming election of each position and not implemented until a future start date. Mr. Stevens presented proposals for the positions of alder, municipal judge, and mayor.
 - a. **Alder:** Ald. Moldenhauer moved, seconded by Ald. Bartz, to recommend a 2% pay increase starting with pay following each April election in 2026, 2027, and 2028. Unanimously approved.
 - b. **Municipal Judge:** Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Bartz, to recommend a 9.7% increase as of May 1, 2025, followed by 3.5% increases each following May 1 of 2026, 2027, and 2028. After some discussion about these rates, an amendment to the motion was made by Ald. Moldenhauer, supported by Ald. Davis, to reduce the annual increases of 2026-2028 to 2% annually. The amendment passed unanimously. The modified recommendation passed unanimously.
 - c. **Mayor:** Ald. Lampe moved to recommend a 3.5% increase each January 1 of 2026 through 2028, but this motion died due to no support. After some discussion, Ald. Davis made the motion to alter the increase to 2% each January 1 of 2026 through 2028, seconded by Ald. Bartz, and unanimously approved.
3. The **2025 payroll resolution** was presented with an understanding that one Water Systems position was under review and would likely be presented for a grade modification before the presentation to the Common Council. Ald. Moldenhauer made the motion to approve the recommendation, including the potential modification of one position. This was seconded by Ald. Bartz and unanimously approved.
4. Ald. Moldenhauer moved, seconded by Ald. Lampe, to convene into closed session per §19.85(1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (**PR Watertown LLC loan agreement**). This was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.
5. The Finance Committee reconvened into open session.
6. Ald. Davis moved, supported by Ald. Bartz, to convene into closed session per §19.85(1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (**Watertown Professional Police Association side letter of agreement**). This was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.
7. The Finance Committee reconvened into open session.

8. **Finance Committee adjournment.** Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Davis, to adjourn the Finance Committee at 6:08 p.m., and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Stevens, Finance Director

Note: These minutes are uncorrected, and any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved.