



PUBLIC SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2023 AT 5:00 PM

ROOM 2044, SECOND FLOOR, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 106 JONES STREET, WATERTOWN, WI

By Phone or GoToMeeting: Members of the media and the public may attend by calling:

United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073 - One-touch: tel:+18773092073,,280286069#

United States: +1 (646) 749-3129 - One-touch: tel:+16467493129,,280286069#

Access Code: 280-286-069 or <https://meet.goto.com/280286069>

All public participants' phones will be muted during the meeting except during the public comment period.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. RECIEVE COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Each individual who would like to address the Committee will be permitted up to three minutes for their comments

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Public Safety and Welfare January 4, 2023 meeting minutes

4. BUSINESS

A. Review and take possible action: Handicap parking space at 500 S. Fifth Street

B. Review and take possible action: Install additional one-way street signage on 200 block of S. Fourth Street

C. Review and take possible action: Amend Watertown Municipal Code of Ordinances Section 500-8, Heavy traffic routes

5. ADJOURN

Persons requiring other reasonable accommodations for any of the above meetings, may contact the office of the City Clerk at mdunneisen@CityofWatertown.org, phone 920-262-4006

A quorum of any City of Watertown Council, Committee, Board, Commission, or other body, may be present at this meeting for observing and gathering of information only

PUBLIC SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE

Section 3, Item A.

January 4, 2023

The Committee met at 5:00 p.m. in Room 2044 of the Municipal Building. Members present were Alderpersons Davis, Licht and Smith. Also in attendance were Assistant Police Chief Olsen, Assistant City Engineer Beyer, and Street Division Operations Manager Stacy Winkelman. The following citizens were present: Julianne Wedl, Michele Altman, and Harry Shah.

1. **Roll Call:** All Committee members were present except Ald. Schmid.
2. **Receive comments from the public:** No person wished to speak at this opportunity in the agenda, but preferred to wait until their item of interest was being considered.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the November 2nd meeting had already been presented to the City Council without correction so those minutes were simply noted at this point in the agenda.
- 4.A **Review and take possible action: An Ordinance to repeal a portion of Section 500-6 Parking Limitations. A. (2) No parking in loading zones.** The property owner at 217 N. Fifth Street requested that the loading zone located on Jones Street near N. Fifth Street, and adjacent to her property, be removed to allow for conventional street parking. The loading zone was created in 2014 at the request of the former property owner/business, The Kid's Palace, which no longer operates at 217 N. Fifth Street. There was no opposition to this change. Ald. Licht made a motion, seconded by Ald. Davis, to make the requested change to the parking designation. The motion passed unanimously. **ACTION: An ordinance will be presented.**

Agenda Item C, without objection, was moved up for the convenience of those attending the meeting.

- 4.C **Review and take possible action: Safety improvement at the intersection of E. Main Street & Seventh Street.** The business owner at 621 E. Main Street contacted the Engineering Division about safety concerns regarding the crosswalks at the intersection of S. Seventh Street and E. Main Street. The intersection is jogged, creating potential hazards, especially for pedestrians. Special signage was added at these crosswalks to enhance safety several years ago. The concern for safety continues and the inquiry sought to promote additional safety improvements. Improvements at these intersections will very likely be made in the 2028 Downtown Main Street Reconstruction Project by the WDOT. While only two property accidents have occurred at the 7th Street intersection during the past five years, there have been many close calls and it is well recognized that automobiles too often fail to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks. Assistant Police Chief Olsen will push officers to focus on drivers who fail to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks throughout the downtown area. It was the consensus of the committee that rectangular rapid-flashing beacon signage was prohibitively expensive (over \$10,000 each). The option of continental crosswalk installation was very well received but would be far more effective if it was to be installed throughout the downtown at each crosswalk. To further that goal, the Committee wishes to go on record with the recommendation that continental crosswalks be installed throughout the downtown during the 2028 reconstruction. Ald. Licht made a motion, seconded by Ald. Davis, to forward such a recommendation to the Wisconsin DOT and the Watertown Main Street Reconstruction Committee. This motion carried unanimously. **ACTION: Following endorsement of this recommendation by the full City Council, the Engineering Division will forward these minutes to the WDOT.**

- 4.B **Review and take possible action: An Ordinance to Amend Section 500-9 Parking prohibited in specified places.** A portion of S. Water Street between W. Main Street and Emmet Street was narrowed as part of the 2022 Town Square/S. Water Street Reconstruction Project. It is important that parking in the narrowed portions of S. Water Street be removed for the safe passage of the traveling public. Designated street parking on the reconstructed section of S. Water Street was incorporated into the design and will remain. Ald. Licht made a motion, seconded by Ald. Davis, to restrict parking in the narrowed areas of S. Water Street. This motion carried unanimously. **ACTION: An ordinance will be presented.**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Alderperson Davis, seconded by Alderperson Licht, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Smith, Chairman

Jaynellen J. Holloway, P.E.
920.262.4050

Andrew Beyer, P.E.
920.262.4052

Maureen McBroom, ENV SP
920-206-4264

Ritchie M. Piltz
920.262.4034

Secretary, Wanda Fredrick
920.262.4368

MEMO

TO: Chairperson Fred Smith and Committee Members
FROM: Andrew Beyer, P.E.
DATE: January 25, 2023
RE: Public Safety and Welfare Committee Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Review and take possible action: Handicap parking space at 500 S. Fifth Street

BACKGROUND:

The Seventh Day Adventist Church of Watertown, located at 500 S. Fifth Street, has requested temporary signs for handicap parking to be used during church services.

Enforceability of a temporarily designated handicap parking space may also be difficult as it is not a standard traffic sign conforming to the rules of the State Department of Transportation or described in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the signage guidance document used by Watertown and other local, state, and federal forms of government.

The City Attorney's Office was consulted regarding the enforceability of the requested temporary handicap parking signs. Per the City Attorney, a parking space cannot change between regular parking and handicap parking based on the hour of the day.

Available options include, but are not limited to:

- Designating a permanent on-street handicap parking stall adjacent to 500 S. Fifth Street
- Leaving on-street parking as-is

Enclosed: Site Map



Parcels



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Secretary, Wanda Fredrick
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MEMO

TO: Chairperson Fred Smith and Committee Members

FROM: Andrew Beyer, P.E.

DATE: January 26, 2023

RE: Public Safety and Welfare Committee Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Review and take possible action: Install additional one-way street signage on 200 block of S. Fourth Street

BACKGROUND:

The property owner of 200 S. Fourth Street has requested additional one-way street signage directly across from their eastern parking area to remind patrons of the one-way street status of S. Fourth Street and to refrain from right hand turns, see sign example below. A site map is attached showing the approximate location of the proposed sign.



Enclosed: Site map



Parcels



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MEMO

TO: Chairperson Fred Smith and Committee Members

FROM: Andrew Beyer, P.E.

DATE: January 25, 2023

RE: Public Safety and Welfare Committee Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Review and take possible action: Amend Watertown Municipal Code of Ordinances Section 500-8, Heavy traffic routes

BACKGROUND:

The Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge in downtown Watertown continues to deteriorate. The bridge is scheduled for replacement in 2025 with an advanceable replacement year of 2024 depending on design progression and available funding.

The bridge is inspected every six months due to its condition (bridges are typically inspected every two years). Inspections are completed by a licensed structural engineer and reports are filed with the City and the State. The City received concerns regarding new bridge deterioration in January. The bridge was visually inspected by City staff who consulted with the bridge inspector and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). Per a subsequent meeting with City staff, WisDOT, and the bridge inspection consultant, a 20-ton weight limit was posted due to the current bridge condition and its inability to withstand heavy traffic loadings over the next two years.

Given the posted 20 ton weight limit, the heavy truck route designation on Main Street between Church Street and First Street should be removed. A draft ordinance is attached for Committee review.

Enclosed: Draft Ordinance

**DRAFT ORDINANCE TO
 REPEAL A PORTION OF SECTION 500-8(A), HEAVY TRAFFIC ROUTES
 OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN GENERAL ORDINANCES**

**SPONSOR: CHAIRPERSON FRED SMITH
 FROM: PUBLIC SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge has a posted 20-ton weight limit as a result of continued structure deterioration; and,

WHEREAS, East Main Street between the Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge and Summit Avenue is currently designated as a heavy traffic route in the City of Watertown; and,

WHEREAS, West Main Street between the west City Limits and the Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge is currently designated as a heavy traffic route in the City of Watertown; and,

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2023, the Public Safety & Welfare Committee agreed that it is in the City’s best interest to remove the following street segments as designated heavy traffic routes due to the condition of the Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge:

- East Main Street between First Street and the Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge
- West Main Street between Church Street and the Main Street (Cole Memorial) Bridge

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 500-8(A), Heavy Traffic Routes is hereby amended to read as follows:

- A. Routes established. The following streets in the City of Watertown are hereby designated as heavy traffic routes under the provision of § 349.17, Wis. Stats.:

Name of Street	Location
Air Park Drive [Added by Ord. No. 01-17]	From State Trunk Highway 26 to South Twelfth Street
Bernard Street	From West Street to South Church Street
Boomer Street and its south extension	From South Church Street to the south City limits
Clark Street [Amended by Ord. No. 11-18]	From South Twelfth Street to South Concord Avenue
Commerce Drive	From Milford Street to American Way
Dakota Street	From River Drive to Hart Street
Dayton Street	From West Main Street to West Street

Dodge Street [Added 7-6-2021 by Ord. No. 21-29]	From South First Street to South Third Street
East Cady Street	From the Rock River to North Fourth Street
East Madison Street	From North Fourth Street to North Third Street
East Main Street (STH 19)	From downtown Rock River Bridge First Street to Summit Avenue
East Milwaukee Street	From the Rock River to South First Street
Gateway Drive [Added by Ord. No. 01-17]	From State Trunk Highway 26 to Air Park Drive
Hart Street	From Dakota Street to South Twelfth Street
Humboldt Street	From Clark Street to Richards Avenue
Lafayette Street	From South Church Street to South Montgomery Street
Market Street	From South First Street to South Fourth Street
Milford Street	From West Milwaukee Street southwest to the City limits
North Church Street (STH 26)	From the north City limits to West Main Street
North Fourth Street	From East Main Street to the north City limits
North Second Street	From East Main Street to Cole Street
North Third Street	From East Main Street to East Madison Street
North Water Street	From West Main Street to West Cady Street
Perry Way	From Commerce Drive to the west City limits
Richards Avenue	From Humboldt Street to South Concord Avenue
River Drive	From South Third Street to Stimpson Street
River Drive [Added by Ord. No. 03-28]	From Stimpson Street to Boomer Street. [Temporary heavy traffic route during the STH 26 (South Church Street) reconstruction project in 2003.]
South Church Street (STH 26)	From West Main Street to the south City limits
South Concord Avenue	From East Main Street to the east City limits
South First Street	From East Main Street to Western Avenue
South Fourth Street	From East Main Street to Western Avenue
South Montgomery Street	From Lafayette Street to West Milwaukee Street
South Tenth Street	From Western Avenue to Hart Street
South Third Street	From East Main Street to Hart Street
South Twelfth Street	From Western Avenue to the south City limits

Stimpson Street	From River Drive to South Church Street
Summit Avenue	From East Main Street to the east City limits
United States Highway 16 Bypass	From the east City limits to the north City limits
West Cady Street	From North Church Street to the Rock River
Western Avenue	From South First Street to South Fourth Street
Western Avenue	From South Tenth Street to Concord Avenue
Western Avenue [Added by Ord. No. 03-6]	From South Fourth Street to South Tenth Street. [Temporary heavy traffic route during the STH 26 (South Church Street) reconstruction project in 2003.]
West Milwaukee Street	From South Montgomery Street to the Rock River
West Main Street (STH 19)	From the west City limits to the Church Street downtown bridge over the Rock River
West Street	From Milford Street to the west City limits

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force the day after its passage and publication.

DATE:	February 7, 2023		February 7, 2023	
READING:	1ST		2ND	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
DAVIS				
LAMPE				
RUETTEN				
BARTZ				
LICHT				
SMITH				
SCHMID				
WETZEL				
ROMLEIN				
MAYOR MCFARLAND				
TOTAL				

ADOPTED February 7, 2023

CITY CLERK

APPROVED February 7, 2023

MAYOR