



MINUTES

Common Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 5:30PM

City Hall, 410 E Leffler Street, Dodgeville, WI

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mayor Barry Hottmann. Members present: Roxanne Reynolds-Lair, Tom DeVoss, Jeff “Potsie” Weber, Mike Olson, Jerry Johnson, Julie Johnson-Solberg, and Michelle Peterson. Members absent: Shaun Sersch.

Others present: Brian Cushman (EMS Director), Pat Sieling (Dodgeville resident), Steve DeMuth (Dodgeville resident), Brian Whitehouse (Fire Chief), Ben Gruber (candidate running for assembly), Dylan Wadzinski (Director of Public Works), Wendy Nipple (Dodgeville resident), Brandon Wilhelm (Police Chief)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from June 16, 2026
2. Approval of Claims from July 7, 2026
3. Approval of a Special Event license for the following events: Farmers 5 in conjunction with Farmer’s Appreciation Days hosted by Dodge Point Running Club July 12, 2026 ; Military Ridge Veterinary Service Client Appreciation Cookout hosted by Military Ridge Veterinary Service on August 4, 2026 at the Ley Pavilion.

Motion by DeVoss, second by Johnson to approve the consent agenda. Voice vote 7-0. Motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT *Citizen or delegation presentations, requests or comments and discussion of same, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.83 (2) and Sec. 19.84 (2). Ten minute limit except by consent of council. No action will be taken on any item that is not specifically listed on the agenda.*

During Public Comment, Dodgeville resident Steve DeMuth addressed Common Council with a variety of concerns including how someone gets something added to a council agenda, what the plan for the vacant space at the new City Hall is once the library has been moved out, what additional costs are left for the new City Hall building, when a financial report of costs associated with the recent property the city purchased near Wilson Park will be available, and lastly, why the City Clerk/Treasurer position has not yet been posted as a vacancy. In response to these concerns/inquiry that were presented by DeMuth, common council members informed DeMuth that items for common council agendas are typically brought forth through the concerned citizen’s alderperson, however, agenda items can also be put on the council agenda as recommendation from a specific committee. In regards to the plan for City Hall vacant space after the library moves to their remodeled space, council members informed DeMuth that at this time, there was

no plan for this space, however, it would be brought up at future committee meetings. In response to City Hall costs, council members informed DeMuth that future plans for a parking lot and additional handicapped stalls may eventually be added, but that the plan for these have not yet been presented at a committee level. In response to the financial report for costs recently paid for the empty lot near Wilson Park and eventual plans for what the city is going to do with this lot are not yet available, and no plan for this empty space has been established. Council members informed DeMuth that plans for this vacant lot will likely be presented/discussed at a future Parks and Recreation committee meeting. Lastly in regards to the vacant position of Clerk/Treasurer, Mayor Hottmann addressed DeMuth stating that for the interim, Wolfe will be covering this position as she continues to do a good job handling these tasks.

V. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

4. Police Report

During the police report, Chief Brandon Wilhelm informed that in June 2026, there were 290 calls for service, which is a 110% increase from June 2025. During this report, Chief Wilhelm also noted that there have been some recent trainings that officers from his department have been attending, including a Canine Therapy Handler training that Officer Pepper and Charlie attended on June 25th. Chief also stated that Officer Pepper recently attended a safety training that was held at In The Beginning Childcare center. Lastly, Chief Wilhelm noted that interviews for current openings in the Police Department will likely be occurring during the July 2026 Police and Fire Commission meeting. And finally, Chief Wilhelm noted that his team continues to pre-plan for several events occurring in the next few weeks, including Farmers Appreciation, Town Square, etc.

5. Interim Clerk/Treasurer Report

During the Interim Clerk/Treasurer report, Interim Clerk/Treasurer Wolfe noted that she has been busy continuing to work on licensing for events, operators, etc. Wolfe also reminded council and those in attendance that absentee ballots for the August 11th election have been mailed, and noted that early voting for the August 11th election begins on Tuesday, July 28th and will run until Friday, August 7th. Early voting will be at City Hall (410 E Leffler St), and hours of availability for this were published in the July 9th edition of the Dodgeville Chronicle as well as posted at City Hall and on the city's website. Lastly, Wolfe informed council that the current version of the city's website will be sunseting at the end of 2026, and noted that she has actively been attending webinars to learn about what this new website integration will look like, and will provide more information as she learns more.

6. Mayor Report

During the Mayor report, Mayor Hottmann reminded common council of the special Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 8th beginning at 4pm, regarding the City Administrator hiring process.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the 2026 League of WI Municipalities Insurance Renewal Proposal

Motion by DeVoss, second by Olson to approve the 2026 League of WI Municipalities Insurance renewal proposal. Roll call vote 7-0. Motion carried.

8. Discussion and possible action of request for fireworks permit to be issued to Kurtis Bennett on 7/11/2026

This was a discussion only topic. No action was taken.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

9. Discussion and possible action to authorize sale of the 2012 Ford E450 Ambulance

Motion by Weber, second by DeVoss to authorize sale of the 2012 Ford E450 Ambulance, as requested by Chief Brian Cushman. Roll call vote 7-0. Motion carried.

10. Discussion and possible action to approve a sponsorship for a Community Assembly on Housing to be held in Dodgeville in September or October 2026

Motion by Olson, second by Reynolds-Lair to approve a sponsorship for a Community Assembly on Housing to be held in Dodgeville, and completed sometime in 2026. Roll call vote 7-0. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action to replace inoperable emergency siren on Oxnem and Lindsey Street

Motion by DeVoss, second by Peterson to approve replacing inoperable emergency siren on Oxnem and Lindsey Street at a cost of up to \$30,000, as requested by Chief Brian Whitehouse. Roll call vote 7-0. Motion carried.

VIII. ADJOURN

12. Motion to adjourn

Motion by Weber, second by Johnson-Solberg to adjourn. Voice vote 7-0. Motion carried.

Time: 6:28pm