



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 13, 2026 at 4:30 PM

**Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Stechmesser called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL BY DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Councilmembers Present: Mark Bittner, Doug Brandt, Katherine Dahlke (via phone), Shannon Derby, Bill LeClair (via phone), Darla LeClair, Tim Petri, Scott Stechmesser

Absent: Adam Wachowski

Also Present: Tech Manager Dave Dassey, Police Chief Ben Meinnert, City Manager Kyle Kordell, City Attorney Sean Griffin (via phone)

4. CONSIDERATION OF ANY COUNCIL MEMBER REQUESTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING FROM A REMOTE LOCATION

Motion made by Bittner, seconded by Derby to allow Councilmembers B. LeClair and Dahlke to participate from a remote location.

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Voting Yea: Derby, Brandt, Petri, Stechmesser, D. LeClair, Bittner

5. INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Limited to 3 minutes per person - Resident addresses are requested but are not required to be given

Via telephone, resident Christine expressed concerns about a proposal to increase allowable noise levels and extend business operating hours until 2:00 a.m. She stated that noise from the business is disruptive to nearby homes, affecting their ability to enjoy their property and sleep, and requiring them to keep windows closed, use fans, and wear earplugs. She noted that several neighbors share these concerns due to the close proximity of the business to residential properties and asked the Council to consider the impacts on nearby residents when making its decision.

Via telephone, resident Eileen opposed the request to increase allowable noise levels and extend operating hours until 2:00 a.m., stating there is no demonstrated need or benefit to the change. She expressed concern that the proposal would result in prolonged noise disturbances for nearby neighborhoods, negatively affecting residents' quality of life. She urged the Council to balance the interests of businesses with those of nearby residents and stated that some neighbors are reluctant to speak publicly about their concerns.

Heroes Venture Arcade owner Michael, described the proposed event on July 25, as an indoor

arcade-based art show featuring electronic music rather than live bands. He stated that the event location within the building provides additional sound buffering, making noise easier to control, and requested extended operating hours for the evening. Michael noted a history of complying with permitted noise limits and answered questions regarding the event layout and sound management.

Whisky D's owner Deana, requested approval for live music on July 18 and August 29, stating the events would run from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. (with a permit requested until 11:00 p.m. for flexibility). She stated the events were intended to support local business and attract visitors while minimizing impacts on nearby residents. She also noted plans to close the business and relocate, citing ongoing complaints and challenges operating in Two Rivers.

The Council acknowledged receipt of two written public comments regarding the requested noise ordinance waivers. Resident Bonnie expressed support for Whiskey D's request but opposed extending operating hours until 2:00 a.m. for other businesses, citing concerns about setting a precedent for future requests. Another resident, Susan expressed concerns about noise from events at Whiskey D's and its impact on nearby residents' ability to enjoy their home.

Resident Christine spoke again and stated that she had supported and allowed a one-time special event at the arcade the previous year after being assured the business would work with neighboring residents on noise concerns. The resident said those expectations were not met, described the event noise as highly disruptive, opposed increasing allowable noise levels, and asked the Council to consider the impacts on nearby residents when reviewing future requests.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. 26-128 Waiver of Noise Ordinance Request for Heroes Venture Arcade

Summary: Heroes Venture Arcade (2022 Washington Street) – Live music event on Friday, July 25, 2026. The applicant requests a maximum noise level of 75 decibels from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., followed by a maximum of 68 decibels from 11:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. The property is located in a Business-to-Residential transition area.

Recommended Action:

Motion to approve waiver of noise ordinance request

The Council reviewed the request for a noise ordinance waiver for Heroes Venture Arcade and discussed the proposed noise levels, extended hours, and vibration waiver. Police Chief Meinnert gave an overview of the current ordinance and past enforcement practices. Council discussed concerns about balancing support for local businesses with impacts on nearby residents. Following discussion, the motion was amended to approve a maximum noise level of 75 decibels and a vibration waiver until midnight, after which standard ordinance limits would apply. Council also discussed the importance of maintaining consistent standards for future waiver requests.

Motion to approve the waiver of noise up to 75 decibels and vibrations until midnight, made by Derby, seconded by D. LeClair

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Voting Yea: Brandt, Stechmesser, D. LeClair, Bittner, Derby

Voting Nay: B. LeClair, Petri, Dahlke

B. 26-129 Waiver of Noise Ordinance Request for Whisky D's

Summary: Whisky D's (1215 26th Street) – Live music events on July 18 and August 29, 2026. The applicant requests a maximum noise level of 75 decibels until 11:00 p.m. for each event. This property is also located in a Business-to-Residential transition area.

Recommended Action:

Motion to approve waiver of noise ordinance request

The Council reviewed the noise ordinance waiver request for Whiskey D's for live music events on July 18 and August 29, 2026. Councilmembers agreed to consider the request as submitted, with a maximum noise level of 75 decibels until 11:00 p.m. for each event.

Motion made by Petri, seconded by Derby

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Voting Yea: Brandt, Petri, Dahlke, Stechmesser, D. LeClair, Bittner, Derby, B. LeClair

C. 26-130 Waiver of Noise Ordinance Request for Berserkers

Summary: Berserkers (1811 19th Street) – Live music event on August 5, 2026. The applicant requests a maximum noise level of 75 decibels from 8:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. This property is located in a Business-to-Residential transition area.

Recommended Action:

Motion to approve waiver of noise ordinance request

Berserkers business owner Tim Petri pulled his request for a waiver. No action was taken.

Information Only:

City Manager Kordell provided an informational update on the beach pilot parking program. Early results indicated strong parking demand during peak beach days, with no significant changes to overall parking patterns, neighborhood impacts, or parking spillover. The two-day pilot generated \$3,120 in revenue from 312 vehicles, with parking lots reaching capacity by late morning/early afternoon. Staff noted positive initial results, including revenue exceeding staffing costs, and provided preliminary projections for potential future expansion. No Council action was requested.

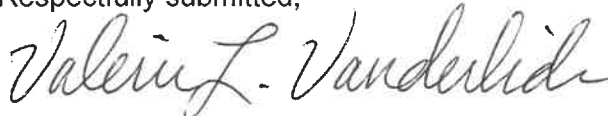
7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of this meeting and adjourn at 5:26 PM.

Motion made by B. LeClair, seconded by Derby.

Motion carried with a voice vote. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Valerie L. Vanderlinden
Deputy City Clerk