



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025, AT 5:30 PM

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

Finance Committee members present: Mayor Stocks, Alderpersons Berg, Davis, Lampe, and Smith

Others present: Finance Director Stevens, Ald. Bartz, Attorney Panagopoulos, Fire Chief Reynen, Public Works Director Beyer, Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes, Tim Hayden, Street Operations Manager Winkelman (video), Parks/Rec Director Butteris (video)

1. Mayor Stocks called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.
2. Ald. Smith, seconded by Ald. Berg, moved to approve the **minutes from September 8**; unanimously approved.
3. Zoning Administrator Zirbes recommended that **Mike Jacek, building inspector, be awarded a step** based on his obtaining a commercial building inspection license through the State. Ald. Smith moved, seconded by Ald. Lampe, to move the employee from G/S M5 [\$38.16/h] to G/S M6 [\$39.14/hr], retroactive to September 3. Approved unanimously.
4. The Parks Dept requests **permission to apply for a \$25,000 cost-share grant from WI DNR** for purpose of funding urban and community forestry projects. Ald. Lampe moved to approve the application, seconded by Ald. Davis. Mr. Stevens recommended that the grant account and associated expense be moved to Fund 24 [Non-recurring Grants] to remove from the ERP constraints of Fund 01. Ald. Lampe offered a friendly amendment to adjust the account numbers. The amendment was approved followed by unanimous approval of the request.
5. Fire Chief Reynen provided an explanation of her **prioritization of administrative needs in the fire department**. She relayed that a fire marshal addition creates the most direct impact on the city by addressing overdue inspections, code enforcement, and prevention programs.
6. Ald. Davis moved to table the amendment request for the **tax-exempt properties service charge** to allow Attorney Panagopoulos time to review the existing city ordinance. Motion was seconded by Ald. Smith. Approved unanimously.
7. Mr. Stevens provided a **Fund 01 income statement through August**. He has updated the projection for the current year's net loss from the budgeted <\$993,845> to approximately <\$260,000>.
8. Ald. Davis, supported by Ald. Lampe, moved 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 (Claim from **Kobe Wuestenberg**). Approved via roll call vote.
9. After returning to open session, Ald. Smith moved, seconded by Ald. Berg, to recommend a claim for damages from Kobe Wuestenberg be denied. Unanimously approved.
10. Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Berg, to convene into **closed session** per §19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility (**LTE PT**

Engineer, Initiatives and Development Coordinator, Aquatics Manager, Town Square).

Approved via roll call vote.

11. Finance Committee adjournment. Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Davis, to adjourn the Finance Committee at 7:01 p.m., and was 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.