

## **Common Council Minutes January 16, 2024**

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday January 16, 2024. This meeting was open for attendance in the council chambers as well as virtually.

### **ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the following Alderpersons present: Ald. Davis, Lampe, Board, Bartz, Blanke (virtual), Smith, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. Absent was Ald. Schmid. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Streets Superintendent Stacy Winkelman (virtual), Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes (virtual), Parks Director Kristine Butteris (virtual), Health Officer Carol Quest (virtual), Library Director Peg Checkai (virtual) and City Clerk Megan Dunneisen.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

### **MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

Mayor McFarland inquired if there were additions or corrections to minutes of the Common Council meeting held Tuesday January 2, 2024. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

### **COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT**

No comments were received.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing to amend the City of Watertown's Comprehensive plan at 7:02pm. Comments received from Mike Hoppenrath and Tom Schultz opposing the rezone of the 1310 Alwart property to multifamily. There being no further comment Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:05pm.

### **REPORTS**

*(Complete minutes are open for public inspection in the Finance Department.)*

The following reports were received and filed: Board of Health minutes from November 14, 2023, Park, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from November 20, 2023, Finance Committee minutes from December 11, 2023, Police and Fire Commission minutes from December 11, 2023, Finance Committee minutes from December 19, 2023, Redevelopment Authority minutes from December 20, 2023, Public Works minutes from January 9, 2024, Public Safety minutes from January 10, 2024.

### **COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mark Zvitkovits with SEH gave an update on the fire station design. Maas Brothers provided input on the current timeline and Finance Director, Mark Stevens, gave information on costs.

The City's 2023 construction information was provided. The Watertown Fire Department Monthly Report for December 2023 was presented with Asst. Fire Chief Rauterberg providing highlights. Mayor McFarland gave recognition to Lieutenant Matt Pieper with the Fire Department for twenty years.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Attorney Chesebro gave a status update on where the Town of Emmet Boundary Agreement amendments are currently at in the timeline along with Zoning Administrator, Brian Zirbes, providing information on the city growth area and the amendment to remove a portion of the area due to the cost of providing infrastructure to the area.

## **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

*(Complete listing of accounts payable is open for public inspection the Finance Department.)*

The Finance Director, Mark Stevens, presented that a list of payables will be provided to the City Council at the 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly meeting, a process that will be included in the upcoming accounts payable ordinance amendment.

## **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Payroll Summary - December 13, 2023, through December 26, 2023, and Cash Investments December 31, 2023, were presented.

## **ORDINANCES**

Ord. 24-01 - Amend Chapter 76, Article II, Section 76-13 of the City of Watertown General Ordinances - Increase room tax (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee, 2<sup>nd</sup> reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-01 on its 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-02 - Amend Section 500-9 A. Parking Prohibited in Specified Places of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety and Welfare, 1<sup>st</sup> reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 24-02 on its reading 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-03 - Repeal and Recreate Section 428-7 Special Events of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 24-03 on its reading 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-1(Lampe); Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-04 - Amend the 2019 City of Watertown Comprehensive Plan to change the future land use category for 1110 S. Tenth Street and 1111 S. Tenth Street and to change the text in Figure 7.7 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission with Positive Recommendation, 1<sup>st</sup> reading). Ald. Moldenhauer moved for adoption of ordinance 24-04 on its reading 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-1(Smith).

Ord. 24-05 - Amend Chapter 550: Zoning Code, through the addition of language to sections § 550-53D(1)(b) (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission with Positive Recommendation, 1<sup>st</sup> reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-05 on its 1<sup>st</sup> reading, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-1(Smith).

## **RESOLUTIONS**

*Resolutions below are listed in order of the agenda but may not be the order by which they were taken up at the Council meeting.*

Exh. 9576 - Resolution to Approve County Library Services (Sponsor: Ald. Wetzel From: Library Board). Ald. Wetzel moved to adopt resolution 9576, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

## **COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT**

No comments were received.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Bartz, and carried by voice vote at 8:07p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Dunneisen, City Clerk

*DISCLAIMER: These minutes are uncorrected; any corrections will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved. Complete minutes are open for public inspection in the Clerk's Office. Video recording available at Watertown TV's YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WatertownTV>*