

**Common Council Minutes  
Tuesday April 21, 2026**

**INTRODUCE NEW & RE-ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Mayor Stocks introduced and congratulated Jonathan Lampe – reelected to District 2 for a third term, Gina Nitecki elected to District 4 for a first term, Fred Smith – reelected to District 6 for a third term, and Rita Haase – elected to District 8 for a first term.

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR ALDERPERSONS**

Clerk Dunneisen administered the Oath of Office to Jonathan Lampe District 2, Gina Nitecki – District 4, Fred Smith District 6, and Rita Haase District 8.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Stocks called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:09 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2026. 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, Berg, Nitecki, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, Haase, and Moldenhauer. City staff present were Assistant Police Chief Ben Olsen, City Attorney Ali Panagopoulos, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer, Stormwater Manager Maureen McBroom, and City Clerk Megan Dunneisen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Ald. Berg nominated Ald. Smith for Council President, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer. Ald. Arnett moved for nominations to be closed in unanimous favor of the sole nominee. Motion to elect Ald. Smith as Council President carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain

**ELECTION OF PLAN COMMISSION MEMBER**

Ald. Smith nominated Ald. Berg for Plan Commission Member, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer. Ald. Davis nominated Ald. Lampe, seconded by Ald. Nitecki. There being no further nominations, Mayor Stocks closed nominations and an open voice ballot was taken. Arnett- Berg, Haase – Berg, Moldenhauer – Berg, Davis – Lampe, Lampe – Abstain, Berg – Berg, Nitecki – Lampe, Blanke – Berg. Ald. Berg was elected Plan Commission Member by a vote of 6 for Berg, 2 for Lampe, and 1 abstain.

**MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

Mayor Stocks inquired if there were additions or corrections to minutes of the Common Council meeting held Monday, April 6, 2026. There being none, Ald. Smith moved to approve, seconded by Ald. Arnett and carried by unanimous voice vote.

**COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT**

No comments were received.

**REPORTS**

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

The following reports were received and filed: Plan Commission minutes of February 23, 2026, Site Plan Review minutes of March 9, 2026, Plan Commission minutes of March 9, 2026, Licensing Board minutes from March 11, 2026 Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from March 16, 2026, Plan Commission minutes from March 23, 2026, Finance Committee minutes from March 23, 2026, Tourism minutes from April 9, 2026, Ethics Board minutes from April 10, 2026, Public Works minutes from April 14, 2026.

## **COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mayor Stocks gave employee recognition to Vince Riedl - DPW-Street/Solid Waste Division for twenty-five years and Keith Rein - DPW-Street/Solid Waste Division for ten years.

Presentation from Watertown Family Connections given by Stephanie Curtis. Public Works Director Andrew Beyer gave an update on the April 2026 rain event and flood response efforts.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ald. Smith moved to approve the mayoral appointments of elected officials to the following: **Finance Committee** - Ald. Tony Arnett, Ald. Fred Smith, Ald. Brad Blanke, Ald. Myron Moldenhauer, **Public Works Commission** - Ald. Tony Arnett (Chair), Ald. Myron Moldenhauer, Ald. Gina Nitecki, Ald. Ken Berg, **Public Safety Committee** - Ald. Dana Davis (Chair), Ald. Jonathan Lampe, Ald. Rita Haase, Ald. Brad Blanke, **Airport Commission** - Ald. Fred Smith, **Park, Recreation & Forestry Commission** - Ald. Dana Davis, **Main Street Program** - Ald. Jonathan Lampe, **Family Center Board** - Ald. Ken Berg, **Health Board** - Ald. Dana Davis Ald. Gina Nitecki, **Library Board** - Ald. Rita Haase, **Transit Commission** - Ald. Fred Smith, **Licensing Board** - Ald. Brad Blanke and Ald. Myron Moldenhauer, **Tourism Committee** - Ald Ken Berg, **Board of Review** - Ald. Brad Blanke and Ald. Rita Haase, **Redevelopment Authority** - Ald. Rita Haase and Ald. Tony Arnett, **Bike & Pedestrian Path Task Force** - Ald. Gina Nitecki and Ald. Jonathan Lampe, **Main Street Task Force** - Ald. Tony Arnett and Ald. Myron Moldenhauer, seconded by Ald. Arnett carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Davis); Abstain-0.

Ald. Berg made a motion to approve the appointments of Nick Krueger– serving his second three-year term expiring May 1, 2029 to Board of Review, Ryan Lessner – as an alternate – serving his first three-year term expiring May 1, 2029 to Ethics Board, Vick Patel– serving his first one-year term expiring May 1, 2027 to Tourism Board, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

## **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Payroll Summary - March 18 through March 31, 2026, Paid Invoices Report - March 2026, and Cash and Investments - March 31, 2026, were presented.

## **LICENSES:**

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the applications for Temporary Class "B" licenses from Watertown Cardinals Baseball Organization Inc for Home Game vs Helenville Rebels on May 3, 2026 10am-5pm, Home Game vs Milton Crescents on May 9, 2026 10am-5pm, Home Game vs Neosho Rockets on May 17, 2026 10am - 5pm, Home Game vs Rubicon Red Sox May 31, 2026 10am-5pm, and Home Game vs Clyman Cannors June 12, 2026 4pm - 11pm located at Washington Park 635 S. 12th Street, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the application for a "Class B" Malt and Liquor License from Apphop Watertown Inc DBA Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar + IHOP (Walter Salaverria, Agent) located at 1512 S. Church Street for licensing year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 conditioned on passed city inspections, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **ORDINANCES**

Ord. 26-12 - Ordinance to Repeal 24-25, 24-26, 24-27 of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Lampe From: Park, Recreation & Forestry Commission, Second Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 26-12 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Nitecki and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 26-13 - Ordinance to Repeal and Create Sections 65-8 and 65-9 of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Ethics Board, First Reading). Ald. Arnett moved for adoption of ordinance 25-13 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-6; No-3(Davis, Blanke, Smith); Abstain-0.

Ord. 26-14 - Ordinance to Amend Sections 114-3 and 114-7(l)(3) of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks, First Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 26-14 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Blanke. Ald. Berg made a motion to strike - Members wishing to speak during the public comment section may only speak once per meeting in section I (3), seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and failed by roll call vote: Yes-3; No-6(Davis, Lampe, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, Haase); Abstain-0. Ald Davis made a motion to strike - shall not bind the City to an expenditure of funds and replace with - do not require matching City funds in letter G, seconded by Ald. Nitecki and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Lampe); Abstain-0. Motion to approve carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

## **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. 9851 - Resolution for Water System Wastewater agricultural land lease extension (Sponsor: Ald. Arnett From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Blanke moved to adopt resolution 9851, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9852 - Resolution for IT Network and Security Upgrade Project (Sponsor: Ald. Arnett From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9852, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9853 - Permit Fee Agreement between TDS Metrocom LLC & City of Watertown (Sponsor: Ald. Arnett From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Blanke moved to adopt resolution 9853, seconded by Ald. Arnett and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9854 - Award Westside Creek System Assessment to McMahon Associates, Inc. for \$122,142 (Sponsor: Ald. Arnett From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Arnett moved to adopt resolution 9854, seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9855 - Resolution to update 2026 Payroll Resolution to Add Facilities Maintenance Technician to Municipal Building Grade 130 (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance Committee). Ald. Berg moved to adopt resolution 9854, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9856 - Resolution to Authorize Execution of a Contract for City Hall Boiler Plant Replacement (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Finance Committee). Ald. Smith moved to adopt resolution 9856, seconded by Ald. Nitecki and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9857 - Resolution to Approve Virtual Meeting Policy (Council, Boards and Committees) (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9857, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer. Ald. Lampe made a motion to add Work Emergencies under Attendance & Participation as an exception, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote. Motion to approve carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **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. Blanke, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 9:05 p.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.  
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>*