

**Common Council Minutes
November 15, 2022**

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. 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, Ruetten, Bartz, Licht, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Romlein. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief Travis Teesh, Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief Robert Kaminski, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Streets Director Stacy Winkelman, Public Works Director Jaynellen Holloway, Water Department Donna Christian, Parks Department Jeff Doyle, Park and Rec Director Kristine Butteris, Fire Department Greg Wellach, 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, November 1, 2022. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

None

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m. to hear citizens and taxpayers on the proposed City budgets for 2023 at 7:03 p.m., Firefighter Greg Wellach spoke in support of adding three more staff to the Fire Department. Jeff Doyle spoke in support of added staff for the Parks Department. Being no further comment Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Watertown Main Street Program Board of Directors meeting minutes from September 20, 2022, Licensing Board minutes from October 12, 2022, Tourism Commission meeting from October 13, 2022, Finance Committee Minutes of October 10-17, 2022 (Budget Meetings), Finance Committee Minutes of October 24, 2022, Public Works minutes from October 25, 2022.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave an update on the Town Square. The Fire Department monthly report was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion from councilmembers on the city budgets for 2023. Mayor McFarland and Finance Director, Mark Stevens, gave brief factual overview on budget numbers, mill rate, and the tax levy.

Ald. Smith made a motion to eliminate one full-time staff member for the Parks Department Town Square Programmer and reinstate originally cut part-time position, seconded by Ald. Wetzel. Discussion from Council and the need for the position to fully utilize the new Town Square to its full potential. This position would also help support other tasks for the Park and Rec Department. Concern of inflation and funding for the position; agreement with RDA to help fund/support the position - 25% RDA and 75% City.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to call the question, seconded by Ald. Romlein and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Motion to eliminate full-time position and reinstate part-time position for the Town Square Programmer failed on roll call vote of: Yes-2 (Smith, Wetzel; No-6 (Davis, Lampe, Ruetten, Bartz, Licht, Romlein); Abstain-1 (Schmid).

Ald. Wetzel motioned to remove the full-time Town Square Programmer and revisit the topic in six months. Seconded by Ald. Smith and failed on roll call vote of: Yes-2 (Smith, Wetzel; No-6 (Davis, Lampe, Ruetten, Bartz, Licht, Romlein); Abstain-1 (Schmid).

Further discussion on the increase amount for the Humane Society contract for budget year 2023. Numbers were recently submitted increasing the contract from \$61,000 to \$62,830.00 this will add \$1,830 to the net decrease of the General Fund fund balance. Ald. Romlein motioned to approve the increase as stated, seconded by Ald. Wetzel, and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Discussion on reducing the 2023 budget for EMS Charges from \$870,000.00 to \$810,000.00, adding \$60,000.00 to the net decrease of General Fund fund balance. Ald. Bartz motioned to approve the decrease as stated, seconded by Ald. Ruetten, and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Special Council meeting to be held on November 29, 2022, to approve the final budget.

Ald. Davis made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Extension of Utilities Infrastructure along W. Main Street, Watertown, WI between the City of Watertown and Greywolf Acquisitions, LLC, seconded by Ald. Licht and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ald. Ruetten made a motion to approve William Kehl – serving a partial term, replacing Tom Pasch ending August 2023, Michelle Malmstrom – serving second term ending August 2024, Judy Bear – serving second term ending August 2025, Robert Stocks – serving second term ending August 2026, and Jim Braughler – serving third term ending August 2027 to the Watertown Housing Authority, seconded by Ald. Bartz, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Certified accounts were presented. Ald. Romlein moved to pay all certified accounts, seconded by Ald. Wetzel, and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-1 (Ruetten).

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - October 19, 2022, to November 1, 2022

Cash and Investments - October 31, 2022

LICENSES:

Ald. Lampe made a motion to approve the application for "Class B" Malt and Liquor License for Little Italy, LLC. located at 1002 W. Main Street, Watertown WI 53098 (Agent, Karla Cortes) with the condition of only licensing the indoor premises, seconded by Ald. Ruetten, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Smith made a motion to deny the application for Operator's License for Lindsey Ladwig, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 22-73 - Amend Section 500-6 Parking Limitations A. (5) Municipal Parking Lot Limitations (Sponsor: Alderperson Smith, From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, 1st reading) Ald. Smith moved for adoption of ordinance 22-73 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Licht and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 22-74 - Create a portion of Section 500-9 A. Parking Prohibited in Specific Places of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Alderperson Smith, From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, 1st reading) Ald. Smith moved for adoption of ordinance 22-74 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Schmid and 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. 9448 - Resolution to Extend Contract with Waste Management of WI for solid waste disposal (Sponsor: Ald. Wetzel, From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Wetzel moved to adopt resolution 9448, seconded by Ald. Romlein and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9449 - Resolution to approve Change Order No. 1 - 2022 Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Project with Forest Landscaping and Construction, Inc. for \$58,085.00 (Sponsor: Ald. Wetzel, From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Wetzel moved to adopt resolution 9449, seconded by Ald. Romlein and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9450 - Resolution to enter into an employee vision benefit contract with DeltaVision effective January 1, 2023 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland, From: Finance Committee). Ald. Ruetten moved to adopt resolution 9450, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Ald. Wetzel moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Romlein, and carried by voice vote at 8:47 p.m.

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 office the Finance Department. Video recording available at Watertown TV's YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WatertownTV>