

Common Council Minutes Tuesday December 5, 2023

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. This meeting was open for attendance in the council chambers as well as virtually.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Alderpersons present: Ald. Lampe, Board, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. Absent was Ald. Davis. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief Travis Teesch, Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief Robert Kaminski, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Streets Superintendent Stacy Winkelman, Public Works Director Jaynellen Holloway, Assistant Engineer Andrew Beyer, 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 21, 2023. 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 for a Request by Rolf C. & Sandra J. Thornquist for Attachment of Real Estate by Boundary Adjustment for 1523 Prospect Street from the Town of Emmet to the City of Watertown at 7:03pm, there being no comment Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:03pm.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Senior Center Advisory Board minutes from August 15, 2023, Transit Commission minutes from September 25, 2023, Park, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from October 16, 2023, Bentzin Family Town Square Commission minutes from November 1, 2023, Site Plan Review minutes from November 13, 2023, Public Safety minutes from November 16, 2023, Public Works minutes from November 28, 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave Recognition to Public Works Director Jaynellen Holloway on her retirement. Melissa Lampe gave a presentation on Main Street Program updates. Vandewalle & Associates gave a presentation on the Landscape Architect Design Work for 2028 Main Street Reconstruction.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Blanke made a motion to appoint the list of Election Inspectors for the 2024-2025 Election Term, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Smith made a motion to approve Tom Finnel for a second six-year term ending June 2029 and Jerry Hepp to a first six-year term ending November 2029 to the Airport Commission, seconded by Ald. Board, 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. Moldenhauer moved to pay all certified accounts, seconded by Ald. Wetzel, and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Credit Card Purchases Over \$10,000 and Payroll Summary - November 1, 2023 - November 14, 2023 were presented.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 23-25 - Attachment of Real Estate by Boundary Adjustment from the Town of Emmet to the City of Watertown (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, 1st and 2nd reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 23-25 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0. Ald. Smith made a motion to suspend the rules to combine the 1st and 2nd readings of ordinance 23-25, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0. Ald. Lampe made a motion to adopt ordinance 23-25 on the 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0

Ord. 23-26 - Repeal and recreate Chapter 545, Subdivision of Land, of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 23-26 on its 1st reading. This ordinance clears up code from recent legislative changes. Motion seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; 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. 9561 - Resolution to apply for Capital Grant from Department of Transportation for Fleet Purchases for Shared-Ride Taxi Service (Sponsor: Ald. Schmid From: Transit Commission). Ald. Schmid moved to adopt resolution 9561, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9562 - Resolution to apply for Operating Grant from the Department of Transportation for Shared-Ride Taxi Service (Sponsor: Ald. Schmid From: Transit Commission). Ald. Schmid moved to adopt resolution 9562, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9563 - Resolution to enter into lease with Passenger Transit Inc. for Shared-Ride Taxi Service Vehicles (Sponsor: Ald. Schmid From: Transit Commission). Ald. Schmid moved to adopt resolution 9563, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9564 - Resolution to approve Fire and EMS Contract with the Watertown Rural Fire Department representing the Town of Emmet, Town of Milford, Town of Shields, and Town of Watertown. (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Bartz moved to adopt resolution 9564, seconded by Ald. Schmid 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. Lampe moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Board, 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>