THE CITY OF WATERTOWN

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 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 (video), and Smith (video)

Others present: Finance Director Stevens, Fire Chief Reynen, Mason Becker, Ald. Bartz, Parks/Rec Director Butteris, Jeff Doyle, Andrea Peters, Police Chief Brower, Public Works Director Beyer, Main St. Program staff

1. Mayor Stocks called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. After a video conference interruption, Mayor Stocks restarted the meeting at 6:07 p.m.
2. Ald. Berg made a motion, seconded by Ald. Davis, to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of July 21. Approved unanimously.
3. **Watertown Main Street Program** president Ron Counsell provided comments on the funding **request of an increase in support to $50,000** for the next five years. One of the primary focuses is to ramp up help to businesses in advance of the 2028-29 reconstruction project. Discussion ensued with comments to pursue liquidated damages from the delayed bridge construction project, a request for additional information in the agreement, an alternate to the increase if a 4% annual adjustment had been made. Ald. Davis motioned to postpone a decision on this proposal until November, but this motion was not supported. Ald. Smith made a motion, seconded by Ald. Lampe, to encourage a meaningful increase for the Main St. community in the Mayor's budget. Unanimously approved.
4. A request from the **Fire Department to write off uncollectible EMS billing** was moved by Ald. Davis, seconded by Ald. Smith, and unanimously approved.
5. Ms. Winkelman presented a request to purchase a New Way 31 cubic yard **side load refuse truck** from Envirotech Equipment for $378,877, the lower of the two bids received. Ald. Berg made the motion, seconded by Ald. Davis, to approve the purchase. Unanimously approved.
6. Parks/Rec Director Butteris requested a **reallocation of capital improvement funds from the purchase of a dump truck to a 2.5-ton lift gate truck**. Motion made by Ald. Davis, supported by Ald. Lampe, and approved by all.
7. A **development agreement with Gremar, LLC** (Loos Homes) was presented for the Edge Field residential development project. A motion was made by Mayor Stocks, seconded by Ald. Lampe to recommend approval to the Council. After some discussion, Ald. Smith offered a motion to amend the development agreement to remove the allowance for special assessment for the installation of sidewalks (pgs 2 & 11). Amendment passed unanimously. Motion to approve recommendation of development agreement passed unanimously.
8. Mr. Becker updated the committee on the **RDA citywide sign grant program**. The RDA board approved moving forward with the program at its July 16 meeting. Ald. Davis motioned, supported by Ald. Berg, to recommend an allocation of $25,000 for this program to be funded when TID #4 funds are available for distribution. Unanimously approved.

9. A motion was made by Ald. Lampe, supported by Ald. Berg, 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 Advanced Piping**). Unanimously approved on roll call vote.
10. After returning to open session, Ald. Davis, supported by Ald. Berg, moved to **recommend denial of the Advance Piping claim**. Unanimously approved.
11. A motion was made by Ald. Davis, supported by Ald. Berg, 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 (**Indoor Pool**). Unanimously approved on roll call vote.
12. The committee returned to open session. Note: Ald. Berg left meeting at 7:42 pm.
13. A motion was made by Ald. Davis, supported by Ald. Lampe, 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 (**Walmart tax appeal**). Unanimously approved on roll call vote.
14. The committee returned to open session.
15. Finance Committee adjournment. Ald. Davis moved, seconded by Ald. Lampe, to adjourn the Finance Committee at 7:47 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.