

**Common Council Minutes
Tuesday September 17, 2024**

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 17, 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, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel (arrived at 7:03) and Moldenhauer. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer (virtually), Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes (virtually), Parks Director Kristine Butteris, 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, September 3, 2024. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Kathy Riedl of 900 S. 8th Street and Gregg Wellach from the Fire Department spoke about the proposed health insurance changes.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Historic Preservation & Downtown Design Commission minutes from March 27, 2024, Historic Preservation & Downtown Design Commission minutes from April 6, 2024, Tourism minutes from July 11, 2024, Watertown Housing Authority minutes from July 25, 2024, Licensing Board minutes from July 31, 2024, Plan Commission from August 12, 2024, Public Works Commission minutes from August 13, 2024, Review and approve: park, recreation, and forestry meeting minutes from August 19, 2024, Senior Center Advisory Board minutes from August 20, 2024, Finance Committee minutes from August 26, 2024, Public Works Commission & Downtown Main Street Task Force minutes from August 27, 2024, Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes from August 27, 2024, Public Works minutes from August 27, 2024, Historic Preservation & Downtown Design Commission minutes from August 28, 2024, Public Safety minutes from September 4, 2024, and Public Works minutes from September 10, 2024 were presented.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mark Taylor from FEH gave a presentation on the Space Needs Analysis results and the Watertown Fire Department Monthly Report for August were presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Smith moved to appoint Michele Malmstrom – serving her third five-year term expiring August 2029 to the Housing Authority, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Bartz motioned to convene into closed session per Wis. Stat. Sec. 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 of J.B.), seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ald. Schmid made a motion to reconvene into open session, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Accounts Payable were presented.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - August 21, 2024 - September 3, 2024, and Cash and Investments - August 31, 2024 were presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Blanke made a motion to approve the application for a "Class B" Malt and Liquor License from Kathy B's LLC DBA The Buffalo Bar (Ashley Berry, Agent) located at 814 N Church St for licensing year July 1 2024 - June 30, 2025 (former Kathy B's LLC DBA Kathy's Buffalo Bar) conditioned on filing of Successor Conditional Use Permit to Zoning Department, an approved Fire Inspection, and Surrender of the current liquor license, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Smith made a motion to deny the application for a "Class A" Malt and Liquor License from Watertown Liquor Depot DBA Liquor Depot (Hydn Heisel, Agent) located at 1907 Market Way Ste C due to Cat V and Cat VI offenses of the City of Watertown Licensing Guidelines for applicant Ashraf Mutstafa, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 24-22 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 550 Official Zoning Map of the City of Watertown (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland, From: Plan Commission, Second Reading). Ald. Wetzel moved for adoption of ordinance 24-22 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-23 - Ordinance for Attachment of Real Estate by Boundary Adjustment from the Town of Watertown to the City of Watertown - N9009 County Road A (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland, From: Plan Commission, Second Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-23 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-24 - Ordinance to Amend Section 136-11 Responsibilities of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee, First Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-24 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Ord 24-13 - Ordinance to Amend Section 410-56(A) Smoking in Prohibited Places (Sponsor Ald. Jonathan Lampe From: Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, First Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-13 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz. Ald. Blanke made a motion to amend 50 ft to 25 ft in section 2(b), seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0. During discussion Ald. Lampe called the question, Ald. Board seconded and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2 (Smith, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0. Ald. Board made a motion to amend the date in section 3 to April 15, 2025, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0. During further discussion Ald. Board called the question, seconded by Ald. Bartz and failed on roll call vote: Yes-4; No-5 (Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0. Amended motion carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2 (Schmid, Moldenhauer); 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. 9646 - Resolution to Discontinue Public Way on Jones Street, Near and About its Intersection with North First Street (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9646, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9654 - Resolution to withdraw from Wisconsin Public Employers' Group Health Insurance Program (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9654, seconded by Ald. Wetzel. Ald. Schmid made a motion to lay on the table indefinitely, failed due to lack of second. Finance Director Mark Stevens gave plan information. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2 (Lampe, Schmid); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9655 - Resolution to modify Fund 15 [Public Health Emergency Preparedness] budget (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9655, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9656 - Resolution to update 2024 payroll resolution to change Media Productions Manager pay grade to Grade H on the city's pay table (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9656, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9657 - Resolution to approve State/Municipal Financial Agreement for City-wide Bike & Pedestrian Network Plan (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Schmid moved to adopt resolution 9657, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9658 - Resolution to approve State/Municipal Financial Agreement for South Church Street Shared-use Path (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Schmid moved to adopt resolution 9658, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and 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. Schmid moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Davis, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 9:18 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. 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>