

Common Council Minutes February 6, 2024

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 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 and Moldenhauer. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief David Brower, Assistant Police Chief Ben Olsen, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Streets Superintendent Stacy Winkelman (virtual), Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes (virtual), Park and Rec Director Kristine Butteris (virtual), 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, January 16, 2023. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Erin Schroeder spoke on city employees selling fermented malt beverages in city owned parks. Mike Hoppenrath of 1302 New Castle Ct. spoke on opposing the rezone of the 1310 Alwart property to multifamily.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, Meeting Minutes from December 18, 2023, Senior Center Advisory Board Minutes from October 17, 2023, Plan Commission minutes from December 11, 2023, Plan Commission minutes from January 8, 2024, Tourism minutes from January 11, 2024, RDA Minutes from January 17, 2024, Site Plan Review minutes from January 22, 2024, Public Works minutes from January 23, 2024, Downtown Main St. Task Force Minutes from January 24, 2024.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Jefferson County Drug Task Force gave a presentation about the force and their operations.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Board made a motion to approve the appointments of Karissa Hurtgen - serving first five-year term ending January 2029 and Dave Zimmerman - serving second five-year term ending January 2029 to the Redevelopment Authority, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Schmid made a motion 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 (P. Byers v. City, J. Shaffer v. City and D. Veierstahler v. City), seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer 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. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Payroll Summary - December 27, 2023 through January 9, 2023 and January 10, 2023 through January 23, 2024 were presented.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 24-02 - Amend Section 500-9 A. Parking Prohibited in Specified Places of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety and Welfare, 2nd reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-02 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-03 - Repeal and Recreate Section 428-7 Special Events and Create Section 428-9 City Sponsored Parades of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, 2nd reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 24-03 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1(Lampe); Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-04 - Amend the 2019 City of Watertown Comprehensive Plan to change the future land use category for 1110 S. Tenth Street and 1111 S. Tenth Street and to change the text in Figure 7.7 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission with Positive Recommendation, 2nd reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-04 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-1(Smith).

Ord. 24-05 - Amend Chapter 550: Zoning Code, through the addition of language to sections § 550-53D(1)(b) (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission with Positive Recommendation, 2nd reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-05 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-2(Smith, Schmid).

Ord. 24-06 - Amend Section 76-6 Accounts Payable, Section 114-7 D Rules of Procedure, Rule 4 (10), and Section 114-7 I Rule 9 Accounts Payable of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee, 1st reading). Ald. Moldenhauer moved for adoption of ordinance 24-06 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-07 - Ordinance to Create Section 428-10 Sale of fermented malt beverages in public parks of the City of Watertown General Ordinance (Sponsor Ald. Lampe From: Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-07 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz. After discussion Ald. Schmid motioned to table ordinance 24-07 indefinitely, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2(Lampe, Board); Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-08 - Amend Section 398-20 Concession in the parks (Sponsor Ald. Lampe From: Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, 1st Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-08 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-09 - Adopt Amendments to the 2019 City of Watertown Comprehensive Plan for 1310 Allwardt Street (Sponsor Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission with a positive recommendation, 1st Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 24-09 on its 1st reading, seconded by Ald. Wetzel. Ald. Board made a motion to postpone the ordinance to a time certain of thirty days from now, seconded by Ald. Bartz and failed to carry by roll call vote: Yes-3; No-6 (Davis, Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0. Motion failed by roll call vote: Yes-1; No-8 (Davis, Board, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel, 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. 9577 - Resolution to Approve Updated Purchasing Policy (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9577, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9578 - Authorize release of escrowed funds for Grandview Heights Addition No. 7 Subdivision (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9578, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9579 - Authorize release of escrowed funds for Hepp Heights Phase III Subdivision (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Bartz moved to adopt resolution 9579, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9580 - Resolution to Enter into the Agreement for 2024-2026 Tourism Promotion Services between the Watertown Tourism Commission, the City of Watertown and the Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9580, seconded by Ald. Board. Ald. Lampe made a motion to amend the agreement to reflect 8% Room Tax starting April 1, 2024, seconded by Ald. Board carried by unanimous voice vote. Motion 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. Blanke moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Wetzel, and carried by voice vote at 9:04p.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>