

Common Council Minutes December 19, 2023

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 19, 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. Davis, Lampe, Board, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro, Fire Chief Travis Teesch, Deputy Fire Chief Rauterberg, Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, 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, December 5, 2023. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Lance Dopke of 803 Cheyenne Circle spoke about his concern of drone usage in the city. Ian Pilak of 208 S. 8th Street (virtual) spoke about remote access to meetings.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Police and Fire Commission minutes from October 9, 2023, Plan Commission minutes from October 23, 2023, Licensing Board minutes from November 8, 2023, Tourism minutes from November 9, 2023, Plan Commission minutes from November 13, 2023, Finance Committee minutes from November 13, 2023, Police and Fire Commission minutes from November 13, 2023, Library Board of Trustees minutes from November 14, 2023, Plan Commission minutes from November 27, 2023, Finance Committee minutes from November 27, 2023, RDA minutes from November 29, 2023, Public Safety minutes from December 6, 2023, Public Works minutes from December 12, 2023, Tourism minutes from December 14, 2023

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave recognition to Mindy Fry with the Police Department for five years.

The Watertown Fire Department Monthly Report for November and the City-Wide Flood Control Master Plan was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Ald. Lampe moved to approve Kerry Kneser to the Library Board serving first partial term ending July 2026 – replacing Mariela Rodriguez, 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-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - November 15, 2023 through November 28, 2023 and Cash and Investments - November 30, 2023 were presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Smith moved to approve the application for a "Class A" Malt and Liquor License from Liberty Square Gas Station Inc DBA Refuel Pantry - Watertown (Lakhbir, Singh, Agent) located at 1429 E. Main Street with conditions of applicant providing documentation of rights to the property, all necessary inspections approved, and surrender of the current liquor license issued to this address, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ald. Smith moved to approve the application for Temporary Class "B" License from Watertown Riverfest Inc. for Watertown Riverfest located at 812 Labaree St. (Riverside Park) on August 8 through August 11, 2024, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by voice vote with Ald. Lampe Abstaining.

Ald. Smith moved to approve the application for an operator's license from Karisa Fendt, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 23-26 - Repeal and recreate Chapter 545, Subdivision of Land, of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, 2nd Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 23-26 on its 2nd reading, seconded by Ald. Board 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. 9565 - Resolution to recognize the retirement of Director of Public Works, Jaynellen Holloway (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9565, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9566 - Resolution to Enter into the 2024-2025 Agreement between the City of Watertown and Local 877 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO-CLC (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9566, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9567 - Resolution to approve State Municipal Financial Agreement Revision #2 for Reconstruction of Cole Memorial Bridge (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9567, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9568 - Resolution to Enter into a Lease for an Airport Hangar Located at 1748 River Drive, PIN: 291-0815-0931-001 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Wetzel moved to adopt resolution 9568, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9569- Resolution to Enter into a Lease for an Airport Hangar Located at 1753-A River Drive, PIN: 291-0815-0931-001 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Bartz moved to adopt resolution 9569, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9570 - Payroll Resolution for 2024 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance). Ald. Smith moved to adopt resolution 9570, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9571- Resolution to Amend 2023 Fund 01 Budget (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9571, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9572 - Resolution to add Employee Driver Policy to the City Employee Handbook (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9572, seconded by Ald. Lampe. Ald. Board made a motion to amend to include the wording *Any potential citations issued to the operator are the responsibility of the operator* into section 3. B. of the policy, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and 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. Schmid moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer, and carried by voice vote at 7:43 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>