



## FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026, AT 5:30 PM

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 106 JONES STREET, WATERTOWN, WI 53094**

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Finance Committee members present: Mayor Stocks, Alderpersons Berg (video), Lampe, Smith (arrived 5:37 during closed session)

Others present: Finance Director Stevens, Water Systems Manager Hartz, Fire Chief Reynen, Public Works Director Beyer, Maureen McBroom, Jeff Baum (WI Aviation)

1. Mayor Stocks called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
2. The Finance Committee minutes from March 9 were presented. Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Berg, to approve. Unanimously approved.
3. Ald. Lampe moves, seconded by Ald. Berg, to enter **closed session** per 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility" (**A.C.**) Unanimously approved through roll call vote.
4. After reconvening into open session, Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Smith, to approve the **hiring of Alyssa Cahoon for Fire Department Deputy Chief** at G/S 175C. Approved unanimously.
5. Chief Reynen presented a request to approve the **ordering of a fire department engine** with anticipated delivery in 2029. A bid of \$1,353,513 for an E-One Cyclone Pumper was secured through Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative pricing from Fire Service, Inc. Payment will not be required until delivery. An additional budget request will be incorporated into the regular 2029 budget cycle to outfit the truck with necessary equipment. A motion to approve was offered by Ald. Smith, seconded by Ald. Lampe, and unanimously approved.
6. Chief Reynen provided a memo explaining the price quotes for the final **tornado siren replacement**. The lowest bid submitted was for a different manufacturer from the rest of our sirens that's not compatible with the city's existing system. In light of a strong desire to maintain a standardized warning system from one service provider, and because this other company is not a certified service provider in our area (would have to purchase replacement parts from our current service provider at a markup), Chief Reynen is requesting the purchase and installation of siren head, poll, and radio connections be approved for the total of \$27,950 from Emergency Communication Systems (ECS). This amount was the budgeted amount. A motion to authorize this purchase was made by Ald. Lampe, seconded by Ald. Smith, and unanimously approved.
7. Chief Reynen presented a request to approve the ordering of a **cardiac monitor/defibrillator** from Zoll Medical Corp for \$54,358, the lower of the two bids received. This will allow the removal of a 2013 model (expected life of 8-10 years). This amount is less than the \$55,000 budget. A motion to place the order for Zoll X Series cardiac monitor/defibrillator was made by Ald. Lampe, supported by Ald. Berg, and unanimously approved.
8. The city established a goal in 2020 to replace all **lead service lines (LSL)** by 2030. The Water Systems Department began concerted implementation in 2021, building on work from 2018-2020. At the end of 2023, the Wisconsin DNR exhausted the prior private LSL replacement funding, and the city pursued new opportunities through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law-funded LSL replacement program. Ald. Arnett joined the meeting via video to share the Public Works

Commission sentiment to treat all homeowners in a same fashion as the first 708 LSL replacements to afford 100% of the costs so that no partial sharing at 25%, 50%, or 75% was necessary with homeowners. The approved Public Works Commission resolution authorizes the **transfer of \$1,255,000 of excess Water Utility funds** into a special fund within the City's General Fund entitled the Private Lease Service Financial Assistance Project Fund. The resolution presented to Finance Committee would formerly accept the transfer, establish the special project fund [in Fund 24: Nonrecurring Grant Fund], and amend the 2026 budget to appropriate the funds for program use. Ald. Lampe moved to approve, seconded by Ald. Berg, and unanimously approved.

9. A resolution was presented for the council to approve the **acceptance of a \$100,000 grant for the completion of the Wilbur Street extension** between Elba St and N. Votech Drive from Dodge County. A motion was made by Ald. Smith, seconded by Ald. Berg, and unanimously approved.
10. Stormwater Utility staff presented a **request for approval to apply for funding** under the WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Urban Nonpoint Source (UNPS) and Storm Water Grant Funding to partially fund (25%) a **new street sweeper**. A new sweeper is estimated to cost \$400,000 and will be included in the capital improvement plan for either 2027 or 2028, depending on the lead time of the equipment and grant period, if approved. Ald. Lampe moved, seconded by Ald. Smith, to approve the submission of the grant.
11. Current pavement conditions on **Airport runway 5/23** necessitate reconstruction work in the new few years. To facilitate and coordinate the completion of required studies and design for both the necessary reconstruction work and planned runway extension project, city staff are seeking approval to **apply for funding** under the federal Community Project Funding program through Congressman Fitzgerald's office for \$760,000. An award would need to be obligated (under contract) within twelve months of the award date. A motion to approve this request was made by Ald. Berg, supported by Ald. Smith, and unanimously approved.
12. A resident adjacent to Kolata Park (1514 Oconomowoc Ave) has requested **permission to utilize a portion of the site (approximately an acre) for a vegetable garden**. The Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission and Plan Commission have both recently reviewed and approved a proposed lease agreement in exchange for mowing the parcel. Ald. Smith moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Ald. Lampe, and unanimously approved.
13. An addendum to the **Memo of Understanding** between the City of Watertown and the **Watertown Main Street Program (WMSP)** to expand the scope of services to organize and manage up to **five concerts at the Bentzin Family Town Square** during the 2026 calendar year was presented. WMSP will be paid \$2000 per concert from the Town Square Future Fund [26]. A motion to approve was made by Ald. Smith, seconded by Ald. Berg, and unanimously approved.
14. Ald. Lampe, seconded by Ald. Smith, moved to adjourn the Finance Committee at 6:22 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.