

Common Council Minutes Monday March 31, 2025

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday March 31, 2025. 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 Tanya Reynen (virtual), Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Streets Superintendent Stacy Winkelman, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer, Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes (virtual), Strategic Coordinator Mason Becker, 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, March 18, 2025. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Paul Mueller owner of 5 E Main Street, spoke on concern of cracking in block basement since bridge construction.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Finance Committee minutes of March 10, 2025, Public Works minutes from March 11, 2025, RDA Minutes from March 12, 2025, Site Plan Review minutes of March 24, 2025, and Public Works minutes from March 25, 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Chief Brower presented the Alfred Krahn Citizenship Award to Brian Kolbow. Stephanie Curtis gave an update on Watertown Family Connections, Mason Becker gave an update on RDA Housing Rehab Grant Program, and Andrew Beyer gave an update on the Main Street Bridge.

LICENSES:

Ald. Smith made a motion to approve the application from JDTH LLC DBA D&J's Sports Bar (Jerry Heller, agent) to transfer a "Class B" Malt and Liquor License from 215 S Third St to 301 E Main St for licensing year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 conditional on City inspections being complete and Seller's permit submitted to the clerk, seconded by Ald. Blanke. The current liquor license issued to 301 E Main St. cannot be located by prior tenant, council approved to accept the email notification as sufficient to meet this requirement of the license surrendering. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 25-05 - Ordinance to Amend Section 410-39 of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Public Safety and Welfare Committee, Second Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 25-05 on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-06 - Amend Chapter 500-6(2) Vehicles and Traffic (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Board moved for adoption of ordinance 25-06 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Bartz. Ald. Davis made a motion to amend the ordinance to

remove the striking of Jones St and add the striking of Jefferson St, second by Ald. Schmid and carried by unanimous voice vote. Motion carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 25-07 - Adopt Amendments to the 2019 City of Watertown Comprehensive Plan for 1220 Wilbur Street and 1220 W. Main Street to reflect that the future land use category shown from "Institutional" to "Two-Family Residential" on the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to section 66.1001(4)(c) of Wisconsin Statutes (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, First Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 25-07 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Lampe 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. 9729 - Resolution to close TID 4 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9729, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9730 - Resolution to Approve the Side Letter Agreement to the Collective Bargaining 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. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9730, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0

Exh. 9731 - Resolution to enter into confidentiality agreement with Jefferson County (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9731, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9732 - Award 2027/2029 Annual Street & Utility Program Design Project to Kapur Inc for \$172,581.00 (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9731, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9733 - Award 2028 STP-Urban Labaree Street Design Project to McMahon Associates Inc for \$199,417.00 (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Smith moved to adopt resolution 9733, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9734 - Resolution to approve out of state travel policy for employees (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9734, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-2 (Blanke, Schmid); Abstain-0.

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. Board., and carried by unanimous voice vote at 7:31 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>