

**Common Council Minutes
Tuesday February 3, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Stocks called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2026. 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, Berg, Bartz, Blanke, Smith, Arnett, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. City staff present were Police Chief David Brower, City Attorney Ali Panagopoulos, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer (virtual), Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes, Health Director Carol Quest, and Deputy Treasurer/Clerk Lucy Peterson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

Mayor Stocks inquired if there were additions or corrections to minutes of the Common Council meeting held Tuesday, January 20, 2026. There being none, Ald. Smith moved to approve, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Eric Schmid of 605 Lafayette St. spoke on the 1st Amendment and Katie Van Der Linden of N8071 High Rd spoke on warming shelters.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Stocks opened the public hearing for the Rezoning Request of Lot 0, Gateway Drive (PIN 291-0815-1631-003) from MR-8 to SR-4 at 7:11 pm. There being no comments Mayor Stocks closed the public hearing at 7:11 pm.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Board of Health minutes from December 16, 2025 , Plan Commission minutes from January 12, 2026, Finance Committee minutes from January 12, 2026, Public Works minutes from January 13, 2026, Parks, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from January 19, 2026, RDA minutes from January 21, 2026

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor Stocks gave a reminder that the February 17 Council meeting will be moved to February 16 due to the primary election. Main Street Program presented their quarterly update. The 2025 Community Health Assessment and the 2025 Building Safety & Zoning Department annual report were presented.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - December 24, 2025 through January 6, 2026 and January 7, 2026 through January 20, 2026 was presented.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to convene into closed session per §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 (Dodge County Comprehensive Plan/Town of Emmet Boundary Agreement), seconded by Ald. Berg and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ald. Lampe made a motion to reconvene into open session, seconded by Ald. Bartz and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; Abstain-0.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 26-01 - Amend Chapter 550: Zoning Code, through the amendments of language to Sections §550-32C(1), §550-33C(1), §550-36C(1), & §550-37C(1), & §550-56 (Sponsor: Mayor Stocks From: Plan Commission, First Reading). Ald. Lampe moved for adoption of ordinance 26-01 on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-9; No-0; 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. Bartz moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 8:10 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>