

**Common Council Minutes
Tuesday December 17, 2024**

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17, 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, Blanke, Smith, Schmid, Wetzel and Moldenhauer. Absent was Ald. Bartz. City staff present were City Attorney Steven T. Chesebro (virtual), Police Chief David Brower, Finance Director Mark Stevens, Public Works Director Andrew Beyer, Zoning Administrator Brian Zirbes (virtual), HR Lisa Schwartz (virtual), Utilities Superintendent Pete Hartz, Water Department Tim Hayden, 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 3, 2024. There being none, minutes were accepted as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Erik Kluge of 915 Casey Dr and Bill Hugin of 907 Casey Dr spoke opposing the proposed Edge Field plat.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor McFarland opened the public hearing for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Plan as required by s. NR 110.09(4), Wis. Adm. Code at 7:07pm, there being no comment Mayor McFarland closed the public hearing at 7:07pm.

REPORTS

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

The following reports were received and filed: Licensing Board minutes from November 13, 2024, Tourism minutes from November 14, 2024, Park, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from November 18, 2024, Park, Recreation, and Forestry minutes from November 22, 2024, Site Plan Review minutes from November 25, 2024, Plan Commission minutes from November 25, 2024, Finance Committee minutes from November 25, 2024, Public Safety minutes from December 4, 2024, Site Plan Review Minutes from December 9, 2024.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland gave employee recognition to Marty Larson with the Public Works Solid Waste Division for 5 years and Victoria Parker with the Health Department for 5 years. Watertown Fire Department October Monthly Report was presented, and Mayor McFarland gave a bridge update.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

(Complete listing of accounts payable is open for public inspection the Finance Department.)

Certified accounts were presented.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Payroll Summary - November 11, 2024 to November 26, 2024 was presented.

LICENSES:

Ald. Smith made a motion to deny the application for operator's license from Ashley E Grimm due to Cat I and II of the Watertown Licensing Guidelines, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Ord. 24-33 - Amend Chapter 550 Official Zoning Map of the City of Watertown through the amendments of language to Sections §550-38, §550-39, §550-40, §550-41; §550-42, §550-43, and §550-150, and §550-152 and to Chapter 532: Flood Plain and Shoreland-Wetland Zoning Code (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission, First Reading). Ald. Blanke moved for adoption of ordinance 24-33 on the first reading, seconded by Ald. Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Ord. 24-34 - Amend Chapter 500-3(B), Stop Intersections of the City of Watertown General Ordinances (Sponsor: Ald. Davis From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee, First Reading). Ald. Davis moved for adoption of ordinance 24-34 on the first reading, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-1 (Schmid); 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. 9687 - Resolution to authorize Joint Powers Agreement with Dodge County (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9687, seconded by Ald. Schmid and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9688 - Resolution to authorize Joint Powers Agreement with Jefferson County (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland). Ald. Schmid moved to adopt resolution 9688, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9689 - Resolution to approve the Preliminary Plat for Hunter Oaks Enclave Subdivision (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9689, seconded by Ald. Blanke and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-1 (Schmid).

Exh. 9690 - Resolution to approve the Preliminary Plat for Edge Field Subdivision (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Plan Commission). Ald. Lampe moved to adopt resolution 9690, seconded by Ald. Blanke. Ald. Blanke made a motion to amend resolution 9690 striking item 8 *Perform a Traffic Impact Analysis on the plat and surrounding area* due to the developer and city engineer's recommendation that it is not necessary at this time with the recent request of an extension of another road into the area, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0. Motion to approve resolution 9690 carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-1 (Schmid); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9691 - Resolution to enter into agreement with Mead Hunt for engineering design and construction services for Wastewater Biosolids Dryer project (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9691, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9692 - Resolution to approve US Cellular equipment upgrades on City Hall Tower (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9692, seconded by Ald. Smith and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Exh. 9693 - Resolution for the purchase of a Combination Sewer Cleaner Truck to be used by the City of Watertown DPW - Water Systems (Sponsor: Ald. Board From: Public Works Commission). Ald. Board moved to adopt resolution 9693, seconded by Ald. Davis and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9694 - Resolution to establish pay for the Office of Alderperson for terms beginning on or after April 15, 2026 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9694, seconded by Ald. Lampe. Ald. Blanke made a motion to table until March 1 to see if there is any change to Act 10, seconded by Ald. Schmid. Ald. Smith called point of order to address the type of motion made to table with the recommendation that it should be a motion to postpone to a time certain of March 1. Motion by Ald. Blanke to postpone to a time certain of March 1, seconded by Ald. Schmid and failed by roll call vote: Yes-3 (Blanke, Schmid, Wetzel); No-5 (Davis, Lampe, Board, Smith, Moldenhauer); Abstain-0. Motion to approve resolution 9694 carried by roll call vote: Yes-6; No-2 (Blanke, Schmid); Abstain-0.

Exh. 9695 - Resolution to establish pay for the Municipal Judge for the terms beginning on or after May 1, 2025 (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Davis moved to adopt resolution 9695, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0.

Exh. 9696 - Resolution to establish pay for the Office of Mayor for terms beginning on or after April 15, 2025 (Sponsor: Ald. Bartz From: Finance Committee). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9696, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by roll call vote: Yes-5 (Moldenhauer, Davis, Lampe, Smith, Wetzel); No-2 (Blanke, Schmid); Abstain-1 (Board).

Exh. 9697 - 2025 Payroll Resolution (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Wetzel moved to adopt resolution 9697, seconded by Ald. Blanke. Ald. Davis made a motion to amend resolution 9697 to move the Water Distribution Technician from Grade H to Grade J, seconded by Ald. Lampe and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0. Motion to approve resolution 9697 carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-0

Exh. 9698 - Resolution to enter into construction easement agreement with AbleLight (Sponsor: Mayor McFarland From: Finance Committee). Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adopt resolution 9698, seconded by Ald. Wetzel and carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Dean Gagliano of 909 Casey Dr spoke on the Edge Field plat.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Ald. Moldenhauer moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Schmid, and carried by unanimous voice vote at 8:18pm.

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>