

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL
held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

Roll Call

2/09/2021

Roll Call indicated 11 members present.

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Present</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	YES (<i>WebEx</i>)
4	Neal, Tom	YES (<i>WebEx</i>)
5	Wadinski, Jim	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES (<i>WebEx</i>)
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES (<i>WebEx</i>)
11	Ryan, Debra	YES (<i>WebEx</i>)

Proclamations

Mayor Rosenberg noted the proclamations were in the packet for **February 2021**, as **Black History Month** and **February 2021**, as **Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month**.

Public Comment for Pre-registered citizens for matters appearing on the agenda and other public comments

None

Presentations:

Brad Sippel explained last fall the Sustainability, Energy and Environment Committee established a program to recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations within the Wausau community that are taking steps or making efforts to improve sustainability. This is the first award of this program to be presented to Aspirus Health. He stated they have set goals to reduce carbon emissions by 80% and their energy costs by 50% by 2030.

Consent Agenda

2/09/2021

Motion by Larson, second by Martens to adopt all the items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

Deb Ryan requested file number 21-0207 from the Consent Agenda.

21-0101 Minutes of previous meeting. (1/26/21)

20-0107 Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Accepting Temporary Limited Easement at 1202 North 3rd Street and 1204 North 3rd Street (Buchkoski)

20-1105 Joint Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee and the Plan Commission Vacating and discontinuing Hilltop Road north of Forest Valley Road to termini

21-0204 Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Approving the Prohibition of Possession of Firearms and Weapons at Polling Places

21-0205 Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Approving agreement between the City of Wausau and Marathon County approving "Level B Hazardous Materials Response Agreement

21-0108 Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Approving or Denying Various Licenses.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0207

2/09/2021

Motion by Peckham, second by Rasmussen to adopt the Resolution of the Plan Commission Approving preliminary plat for Royal Vistas.

Pat Peckham explained this is a plat in the Town of Rib Mountain that is just barely in our extraterritorial zone and which the Plan Commission did not find any ramifications to the city.

Deb Ryan questioned if the Fire Department looked at the boundaries only being 25 feet and whether there were any concerns with fire issues. Chief Kujawa indicated she had not received any concerns relayed to her. Brad Lenz stated it is 2 ½ miles outside the city limits and in SAFER's jurisdiction.

Yes Votes: 10 No Votes: 1 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

15-0613

2/09/2021

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Neal to adopt the Resolution of the Economic Development Committee Approving the amendment to the 2017 Blenker River East Brownstones Development Agreement for Short Street properties.

Yes Votes: 9 No Votes: 2 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

21-0209

2/09/2021

Motion by Peckham, second by Neal to adopt the Resolution of the Economic Development Committee Approving sale of 1214 North Third Street to Aedifix Builds, Inc.

Tom Kilian stated at ED Committee the Planning Department had indicated it would make sure in the subsurface there was no development on this property due to an old culvert for Stinchfield Creek which had its share of problems. Sean Fitzgerald confirmed that and indicated it would be addressed in the permitting process. Currently the proposed use from the developer acquiring the property is to put some garages and a driveway parking lot to accommodate four vehicles.

Yes Votes: 10 No Votes: 1 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES

7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

19-1109

2/09/2021

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Herbst to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing 2020 Budget Modification for Emergency Storm Sewer Repair.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

2/09/2021

Motion by Herbst, second by Wadinski to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing 2021 Budget Modification for Purchase of LED lighting for the McClellan Ramp.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0206

2/09/2021

Motion by Peckham, second by Wadinski to adopt the Ordinance of the Plan Commission Rezoning 2025 County Road U from SMU, Suburban Mixed-Use Zoning District to LI, Light Industrial Zoning District.

Tom Killian questioned what year the parcel was zoned industrial and if the objection from a nearby resident was withdrawn. Brad Lenz stated new zoning was established on January of 2020; that property has historically been industrial and assumed it was zoned that way when the city's zoning was established in 1967.

Lisa Rasmussen stated the initial opposition to zoning was because the residents were not sure what was going there, but upon finding out it was K&M Electric and understanding what their operation entails, they were accepting of that land use for that particular business. She noted they don't operate at odd hours or create a lot of noise or pollution. She indicated she has not heard any further opposition from them.

Yes Votes: 8 No Votes: 3 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	NO
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

Suspend the Rules

2/09/2021

Motion by Rasmussen second by Peckham to suspend Rule 12(A) Referral of Resolutions.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0208

2/09/2021

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Herbst to adopt the Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Urging state legislators to oppose the passage of state legislation affecting the sale of alcohol beverages.

Lisa Rasmussen explained there is legislation regarding "cocktails-to-go" circulating in Madison which started out as one bill, but has now become three bills as it has gained some momentum. She felt the worst part of this state legislation is that it completely usurps local control and sets a dangerous precedence to continue to usurp local control in the management of alcohol licensing. She believed the city has managed the licensing effectively and has been responsive to the businesses during this pandemic and need to be able to continue manage them locally. She noted the City of Milwaukee has joined the fight against having the state dictate what is allowed.

Rasmussen stated once this passes at the state level it is never going back, which she felt was a huge mistake. She pointed out the city has been able to help businesses during the pandemic without increasing underage access to alcohol and without creating backslide in the progress that's been made to the alcohol culture in central Wisconsin since 2010.

Mayor Rosenberg stated there was a meeting with the League of Municipalities and there was broad opposition to the state creeping into local control. She indicated she spoke with a local Assembly representative who stated there were some gaps in this legislation that needed to be fixed. *Discussion followed.*

Rasmussen stated in their packets were two resolutions, Version 1 and 2. She explained Public Health & Safety approved Version 1 opposing Senate Bill 22, but after that meeting Senate Bill 56 was added. The Version 2 resolution opposes both bills. She indicated she was amending her motion on the floor to approve Version 2 because it encompasses the two bills we are concerned about. She noted there is a third bill that we are not opposing which allows for the online purchase of alcohol to be home delivered.

Amendment to 21-0208

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Herbst to amend the Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Urging state legislators to oppose the passage of state legislation affecting the sale of alcohol beverages - to Version 2 (Resolution of the Common Council).

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Kilian put forth a motion to amend the resolution to direct Public Health & Safety Committee to study alcohol treatment options for residents and how the city can facilitate. *This motion died for lack of a second.* Rasmussen commented this resolution is being sent to state legislators asking them to specifically oppose these two bills; the PH&S Committee can take up that discussion on alcohol treatment any time without an amendment.

Tom Neal stated if the cocktails-to-go legislation fails at the state level he wanted us to move quickly at the local level. He commented there is a difference between a mixed drink and a craft cocktail that some businesses pride themselves on and some of their customers really appreciate. People may miss that special drink because they are not going out and he wanted to locally make allowances for a business to mix cocktails with alcohol included, put it in a safe container that is tamper resistant to be transported, just like a corked bottle of wine or a refilled growler. He stated it is a valid business/consumer consideration that we should be able to handle with reasonable guidelines.

21-0208 - Vote as amended on Council floor

Vote on the Resolution of the Common Council Urging state legislators to oppose the passage of state legislation affecting the sale of alcohol beverages.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0210

2/09/2021

Motion by Peckham, second by Watson adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing the Mayor to formally join the Guaranteed Income Research Project through Mayors for a Guaranteed Income (MGI) and the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice's Center for Guaranteed Income Research; and accepting the \$100,000 in grant funding to start a pilot MGI program in the City.

Becky McElhaney questioned how they will know if this is successful or not. She commented typically when going for a grant they know the parameters of what is a win or what is not; she questioned who will participate and who decides that.

Mayor Rosenberg explained this resolution is authorizing her to tell MGI the city wishes to participate and MGI has already indicated the city qualifies for \$100,000; and what they will ask from us is for a plan. She stated she would work with Community Development Manager Tammy Stratz and some other non-profit agencies who deal with poverty and those populations and develop a criteria for who can be in the program. She indicated they would be looking at people who are working but are not making enough to get by very well. People involved in the program will receive \$500 a month for a year to a year and a half.

Rasmussen commented she has had mixed dialogue with her residents and one that was vehemently opposed because he views it as a disincentive to work. She stated Finance Committee is requesting that the criteria to be met for dispensing these funds is the selected individuals need to be employed; no city taxpayer funds are ever injected into this plan, and that there is no extension once it is closed out. It is a research study where we take someone else's money, dole it out, study the impact, and send the results back to the university that is conducting the study.

Discussion followed.

Amendment to 21-0210

Motion by Peckham, second by Herbst to amend the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing the Mayor to formally join the Guaranteed Income Research Project through Mayors for a Guaranteed Income (MGI) and the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice's Center for Guaranteed Income Research – to eliminate the last part of the 5th Whereas to read: “Whereas, in December 2020, the U.S. economy lost 140,000 jobs, ~~with women accounting for all of the job loss~~”

Mayor Rosenberg stated one of the things about Guaranteed Income that is important is that you are strategic in who you are helping. She noted they are seeing that more women have lost their jobs and particularly women of color have been hit hard. Some cities this program to target specific populations. She felt it was worthy to note that more women have lost their jobs in this current economy.

Vote on amendment:

Yes Votes: 5 No Votes: 6 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: FAIL

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Martens, Michael	NO
3	Kilian, Tom	NO
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	NO
6	McElhaney, Becky	NO
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	NO
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	YES

21-0210 - *Vote on original motion as presented:*

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

2/09/2021

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Martens to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing 2021 Budget Modification for Priority Based Software Program.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

2/09/2021

Motion by Herbst, second by Peckham to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing 2021 Budget Modification Robotic Survey Equipment.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

2/09/2021

Motion by Kilian, second by Herbst to adopt the Finance Committee Authorizing 2021 Budget Modification DPW Material Crushing Activity.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Public Comment or Suggestions:

Pat Peckham stated this is the last week of work for one of our City Planners, Brad Sippel, and wished him well in his new position.

Adjourn

2/09/2021

Motion by Peckham, second by Herbst to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Leslie M. Kremer, City Clerk