

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL

held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 in Council Chambers, beginning at 7:10 p.m.,

Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

Roll Call

4/11/2023

Roll Call indicated 11 members present.

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Present</u>
1	Lukens, Carol	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	YES
4	Diny, Doug	YES
5	Gisselman, Gary	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Henke, Chad	YES

Proclamations:

- Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed April 2023 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the City of Wausau and commended this observance to all citizens. The proclamation was accepted by the Women's Community.
- Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed April 10-14, 2023 as Community Development Block Grant Week in the City of Wausau and commended this observance to all citizens, that our community urges Congress and the Biden Administration to recognize the outstanding work being done locally and nationally with CDBG by supporting increased funding for the program YY 2024. (A brief video was shown) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPaNNSbcsdE>
- Mayor Rosenberg declared April 2023 as Family Strengthening Month in the City of Wausau and commended this observance to all citizens.

Presentation: Children's Wisconsin on Strengthening Families Month

Maria Coakley, Prevention Manager with Children's Wisconsin presented on their programming. The presentation can be viewed online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sPaNNSbcsdE>

Public Comment: Pre-registered citizens for matters appearing on the agenda and other public comment.

None.

Consent Agenda

4/11/2023

Motion by Diny, second by Henke to adopt all the items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

23-0301 Minutes of previous Council meeting (3/28/23)

12-1118 Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving Production Agreement between Marathon County and City of Wausau.

12-0219 Resolution of the Human Resources Committee Approving amendment to the Employee Handbook Section 5.19 -- Tuition Reimbursement.

12-0219 Resolution of the Human Resources Committee Approving amendment to the Employee Handbook Section 8.08 - General Leaves of Absence.

12-0219 Resolution of the Human Resources Committee Approving amendment to the Employee Handbook Section 4.01 - Employment Categories.

16-1207 Resolution of the Plan Commission Approving Final Plat for the 1st Addition to Royal View Estates

23-0108 Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Approving or Denying Various Licenses as Indicated. Adopted 11-0.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

22-1109

4/11/2023

Motion by Watson, second by Herbst to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving contract for professional cleaning services with Hands-on Cleaning, LLC and related budget modification.

Maryanne Groat clarified that the resolution refers to a budget modification, however there is no budget modification because after evaluation of the line items there were sufficient funds found to pay for the new contract.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

22-1109B

4/11/2023

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Lukens to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving and Adopting the Budget Modification for 4th of July Fireworks.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

22-1109C

4/11/2023

Motion by Watson, second by Lukens to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving and Adopting the Budget for American Rescue Plan Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Funded Projects -- Corrosion Control Study and Testing.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

22-1109D

4/11/2023

Motion by Herbst, second by Larson to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving 2023 Budget Modifications - City Hall Security Improvements.

Gary Gisselman spoke to the historic nature of the lobby and his concern that some of the marble walls, especially on the east side, will be removed. He suggested they be stored in the basement so they can be restored in the future if someone wanted. He felt the lobby with the art deco and grating of the windows up the stairs is something that the city treasured. He questioned what the reason was for the one dissenting vote at committee.

Doug Diny indicated he was the dissenting vote only due to the use of ARPA funds for the project. He did not feel the project passed the test for ARPA fund use. He questioned why CIP Committee had not approved this request years ago and if it is an emergency now, he was not apprised of exactly why.

Carol Lukens felt there was robust discussion at Finance Committee in regard to this and although she also preferred other funds be used rather than ARPA funds, she understood the importance of safety for the city employees as well as the citizens that visit city hall.

Maryanne Groat clarified the project requested ARPA funding, however the Finance Committee directed her to look for alternate funding sources, if possible and use them first. She stated this budget modification resolution is coming from the General Fund, not ARPA.

Lisa Rasmussen stated there are some vulnerabilities that exists in this building and anyone who comes in here knows you have access to the entire building. Times have changed where people need to feel safe in their work environment and having unabated access to the entire building is problem. She acknowledged it was a subject of prior CIP requests, but in the recent past events have taken place in the building that have escalated the sense of urgency to get the project done.

Michael Martens recognized the historical nature of city hall but felt the glass wall proposed will still allow you to feel the expanse and grandeur of the art deco marble lobby and to see the grating on the first floor landing up the stairs. He noted it also includes necessary security upgrades to Municipal Court.

Police Chief Ben Bliven addressed the Council stating the first security study done on this building was 15 years ago in 2008. He felt this work should have been done a decade ago, but the last seven City Council's had decided that the safety of the staff that works here was not a priority. He believed the men and women that work in this building deserve to feel safe and be safe. He commented we can't go a day in this country without seeing a shooting in a building and we need to do this now. He believed it was an emergency and a priority.

Tom Kilian questioned if there was something the Council should be apprised of in terms of specific threats or ongoing risks. The Chief stated there is no specific immediate threat in this building, but he stated he'd hate to see the city Council yet again fail to fund this project and there be a tragedy in this building that will impact this community for decades. He did not feel it was that expensive in the

scope of our budget. Mayor Rosenberg relayed some personal scary incidents that took place in city hall and her office resulting in arrests, as well as a Saturday when 16 individuals had entered the building. *Discussion continued.*

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

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Lukens, Carol	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Tom	NO
4	Diny, Doug	YES
5	Gisselman, Gary	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Henke, Chad	YES

Suspend the Rules 4/11/2023

Motion by Watson, second by Henke to Suspend Rule 6(B) Filing and 12(A) Referral of Resolutions.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

95-0817 4/11/2023

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Lukens to adopt the Resolution of the Common Council Approving contract for Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team Services with the State of Wisconsin.

Fire Chief Robert Barteck explained he received a notice in late March that the revisions to the state contract had been made and they needed to be signed and returned by April 17, 2023. He stated it is a long time contract the city has had with the state for providing a Type 2 Regional Response HAZMAT Team, one of six Type 2 teams in the State of Wisconsin. Annually we have currently collected \$81,000 per year to help supplement the cost of the team. He indicated the would be going to Wisconsin Dells at the Joint Finance Listening Session advocating on behalf of the Wisconsin State Fire Chief's for 25% increase in what we are receiving. He noted the contract does not have a dollar amount listed in there yet because the state budget has not been set. By signing the contract in good faith we will receive at least what we have gotten in the past and hopefully more.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

23-0404 4/11/2023

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Henke to adopt the Resolution of the Common Council Approving agreement for settlement of lawsuit -- James Kurth and Lynn Kurth, Marathon County Case No. 20-SC-513.

Attorney Anne Jacobson indicated she an included an opportunity to go into Closed Session on the agenda if they so choose, however, she included the resolution in the packet with all the facts. She recommended they approve the resolution. *The Council did not convene in Closed Session.*

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Public Comment or Suggestions

None.

Adjourn 4/11/2023

Motion by Henke, second by Watson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Kaitlyn Bernarde, City Clerk