

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL
held on Tuesday, April 27, 202 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

Roll Call

4/27/2021 6:31:06 PM

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
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	YES

Proclamations

Mayor Rosenberg indicated the proclamations for **Worker's Memorial Day – April 28, 2021**; **Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April**; and **Autism Spectrum Awareness Month – April**, were in the online packet and on the city's website.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed **May 5, 2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Day of Awareness** in the City of Wausau and called upon all Wausau citizens to commemorate the lives of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls and call attention to the many missing and murdered Native women and girls, as well as those who have experienced violence and assault and resolve to act to prevent further victimization.

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

None

Presentation: Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls – Tricia Zunker

Tricia Zunker stated these women are murdered at a rate 10 times higher than other ethnicities and it is the third leading cause of death to our women. The majority of these murders are committed by non-native people and often on native owned land. She pointed out of the 11 federally recognized tribes in Wisconsin, Ho-Chunk Nation of which she is a member, doesn't have reservation land; their lands are held in trust. Lack of communication between state, local and tribal law enforcement makes it difficult to begin the investigation process. The presentation in its entirety can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4u0xtSUHIWo>

Consent Agenda

4/27/2021 7:00:41 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Watson to adopt all the items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

21-0401 Minutes of previous meeting (4/13/21)

21-0409 Initial Resolution Setting a public hearing regarding vacating and discontinuing an unpaved-alley lying west of 827 Turner Street between North 8th Street, North 9th Street and Augusta Avenue

21-0412 Resolution Approving Request for Three Drive Approaches at 517-521 Fulton Street

21-0413 Resolution Approving Amendment #1 to the contract with Kapur & Associates for the Business Campus Trail 72nd Avenue, Packer Drive to International Drive

21-0415 Resolution Approving Agreement for the Management and Maintenance of a Stormwater facility (Eye Walk LLC 1204 West Bridge Street)

21-0410 Resolution Approving the acquisition of 1010 Bugbee Avenue

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Motion by Herbst, second by Larson to approve Mayors Appointments.

Reappointments to the Board of Review – Nan Giese, Monty Raskin, and Carmen Siegel

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0411

4/27/2021 7:01:59 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Rasmussen to adopt Ordinance Creating temporary ordinance Section 12.44.070 Installation of Parklets

Tom Kilian stated he recently received some feedback on parklets and one concern was to the impact to the parking spaces reserved for those with a disability. He commented this appears to essentially be a pilot program, so since stakeholders from that community have not had a chance to weigh in on this topic, it would be productive to get that feedback during and after the program.

Lisa Rasmussen indicated there would be discussion at the CISM Committee to analyze how it worked at the end of the trial season. She pointed out under this provision they do not exist year round and will be removed at the end of the fall season so that snow can be removed.

Deb Ryan stated as part of their discussion in CISM they recommended not allowing more than two restaurants in one block to use parklets in order to preserve parking spaces. Rasmussen clarified not more than two *parklets* per block, however, parklets can be shared by multiple restaurant owners.

Lou Larson, CISM member, also clarified that parklets will not affect the handicapped spaces.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0411

4/27/2021 7:07:47 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Larson to adopt Resolution Authorizing the approval of City of Wausau Temporary Parklet Policy

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

13-0309

4/27/2021 7:08:25 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wadinski to adopt Resolution Authorizing the addition of fees to the City of Wausau Fees and Licenses Schedule adopted pursuant to Wausau Municipal Code 3.40.010(a). (Parklets)

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

4/27/2021 7:09:06 PM

Motion by Watson, second by Rasmussen to adopt Resolution Approving Modification of the 2021 Budget General Fund and Capital Project Funds for projects in process and other obligations.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

4/27/2021 7:09:47 PM

Motion by Kilian, second by Herbst to adopt Resolution Approving budget modification for environmental testing at Riverside Park.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

21-0414

4/27/2021 7:13:08 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Martens to adopt Resolution Designating the Month of May, 2021, as No Mow May and suspending enforcement of W.M.C. 6.48.010 Mowing Required and 6.48.040 Penalty from May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021.

Lisa Rasmussen indicated she was the lone no vote at committee because there was a fair amount of push back from the residents of District 7. She indicated the reasons for the opposition by her constituents were based on the fact that in May most people put out flowering plants and gardens, and that the City of Wausau is bordered by a number of natural areas for pollinators to thrive. There was concern about weeds and the wind spreading the seed to other adjacent yards.

Pat Peckham felt there were a lot of reasons to support No Mow May and pointed out it is only for one year. It is important that people must register in advance to participate and those not registered are not exempt from the penalty for not mowing. He indicated he had zero opposition to it from his district, actually there was a lot of enthusiasm.

Rasmussen confirmed that Public Health & Safety Committee was very clear that acceptance of this was dependent upon participating households be allowed to not mow, but others would need to continue to maintain property. There is a website to opt into the program and there is signage for those yards. (*No Mow May Signs can be picked up at City Hall*)

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

Suspend the Rules

4/27/2021 7:18:07 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Neal to Suspend the Rules - 6(B) Filing and 12(A) Referral of Resolutions.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0317 Amendment #1

4/27/2021 7:36:49 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by McElhaney to Amend the Resolution Approving rules relating to meetings of governmental bodies - in Paragraph Number 3 of the Now Therefore clause to require voting members of all committees, boards and commissions to appear in person for meetings.

Anne Jacobson reviewed that Council did not renew the amendment to the Council Rules that had allowed them to appear virtually/remotely for Council meetings. This item is specific to all the other committees, boards, and commissions, but they can change whatever they wish. She noted as proposed it states that all Standing Committees (consisting of alderpersons) must be present in person. City employees wishing to attend meetings but whose personal appearance is either not required or requested by the chair may continue to appear remotely. The resolution provides that all other committees, commissions and boards can continue to meet virtually, but based on the advice received from the AG's office there still has to be a physical locations so the chair would have to be present in person to call the meeting to order. She noted if this is approved it will not apply until May 3rd to give people enough time to plan. *Lengthy discussion followed.*

Vote on Amendment #1

Yes Votes: 7 No Votes: 4 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

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

20-0317 Amendment #2

4/27/2021 7:55A1 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Kilian to Amend the Resolution of the Common Council Approving rules relating to meetings of governmental bodies - to include the option to allow for remote participation with 72 hours' notice in the event of illness or injury that would prevent in person attendance.

Tom Neal felt there should be an option in extreme situations for an individual to attend remotely rather than be excused. He did not think this tool should be thrown out completely when it could enable someone under extreme difficulty to participate and vote. Mayor Rosenberg questioned who would make the decision as to what is an acceptable reason.

Lisa Rasmussen commented as long as a committee has a quorum business can still be conducted and if someone has an extreme illness or injury that perhaps they shouldn't be trying to participate, but should be resting. A meeting can be rescheduled if a quorum cannot be achieved. Becky McElhaney agreed that someone shouldn't try to participate from a hospital bed and also questioned who will decide what constitutes a reason for attending remotely. She did not feel WebEx was as transparent to the public as being in person. *Discussion continued.*

Jim Wadinski called the question, seconded by Watson; being no opposition the vote was taken.

Vote on Amendment #2

Yes Votes: 4 No Votes: 7 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	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	NO
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	NO
8	Watson, Sarah	NO
9	Herbst, Dawn	NO
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

20-0317

4/27/2021 7:56:37 PM

Motion by Watson, second by Peckham to adopt Resolution Approving rules relating to meetings of governmental bodies, as amended on the Council floor.

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

21-0416

4/27/2021 7:57:18 PM

Motion by Watson, second by Peckham to adopt Resolution Supporting continued State investment in local critical services and Increased commitments to shared revenue funding.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1109

4/27/2021 6:03:31 PM

Motion by Herbst, second by Rasmussen to adopt the Resolution Approving Modification of the 2021 Budget Taste and Glow Sponsorship.

Lisa Rasmussen clarified the Finance Committee passed this unanimously for funding to come from the portion of Room Tax that the city manages. She stated it will not impact previous allocations or continuing appropriation entities, nor are we looking to set a precedent or pattern with late applications; this is a special circumstance. She explained the event was revived after it was canceled

by Wausau Events and found a home just outside the city limits. Future requests for this will go back to the Room Tax Commission.

Tom Kilian questioned that this was an event being held outside the city limits. Maryanne Groat, Finance Director, explained when the Tourism Commission first developed their rules it was restricted to within the city limits. She indicated they received an application a couple years ago for an event very close to the city drawing a lot of people and generating a lot of hotel room night stays for the area. At that point, the room tax rules were changed to allow for events outside the area and there is also precedence because the city made a contribution to Granite Peak a number of years ago for restoration/improvements. Kilian stated as a representative he was not supportive of sending city funds outside the city limits.

Rasmussen noted that all of the EMS and Law Enforcement resources that are needed to manage the event at the municipal airport will not be needed and will save the city a lot of money. Deb Ryan added the Department of Public Works also did a lot of work for the event.

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	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	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	YES

Public Comment or Suggestions

Mayor Rosenberg announced Ric Mohelnitzky, Department of Public Works, is retiring after 37 years of service to the city.

Deb Ryan stated the Transit Commission has been dealing with more input from the bus riders and recommended the Council consider forming a subcommittee for Transit as an advisory committee for the bus riders. She also stated there will be a Plan Commission meeting on Thursday with a number of public hearings; two of those hearings involve Lokre and the Elm Street project. She was concerned with the entry/exit to the Plaza property on Elm Street causing traffic issues.

Adjourn

4/27/2021 6:03:31 PM

Motion by Wadinski, second by Watson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Leslie Kremer, City Clerk