

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL

held on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, in Council Chambers, beginning at 6:30 p.m.,
Mayor Doug Diny presiding.

Roll Call

05/27/2025

Roll Call indicated 10 members present.

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Lukens, Carol	YES
2	Martens, Michael	YES
3	Kilian, Terry	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Gisselman, Gary	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	EXCUSED
9	Tierney, Vicki	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Henke, Chad	YES

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

05/27/2025

1. Evan Pretzer, address not provided – Spoke in opposition of 25-0507

Communications and Recommendations from the Mayor – Homeless Task Force Update and WMC Shelter

05/27/2025

The Mayor and Police Chief Matthew Barnes spoke on the Joint City of Wausau and Marathon County Homelessness Taskforce and the Wausau Marathon County Shelter.

Consent Agenda

05/27/2025

Without objection, item 25-0518 was pulled from the consent agenda by the request of the Mayor.

Motion by Neal, seconded by Henke, to adopt all items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

25-0501 from the Common Council Approve Minutes of a previous meeting(s) (05/13/2025).

25-0523 Initial Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Setting a Public Hearing Regarding Vacating and Discontinuing Pine Ridge Boulevard from N. 28th Avenue to Westhill Drive.

25-0510 Resolution from the Finance Committee Approving Interlocal Agreement between the City of Wausau and Marathon County for the 2024 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program Award.

25-0511 Resolution from the Finance Committee Approving 3-year Contract with Allied Cooperative, Inc. for Purchasing Fuel.

25-0513 Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving First Revision to State/Municipal Agreement for Stewart Avenue from South 72nd Avenue to South 48th Avenue.

25-0514 Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving State/Municipal Agreement for Signal Rehab on BUS 51/Grand Avenue at Thomas Street.

25-0515 Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving State/Municipal Agreement for Signal Rehab on WIS 52/6th Street at Bridge Street.

25-0516 Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving State/Municipal Agreement for Signal Rehab on WIS 52/5th Street at Bridge Street.

25-0517 Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving State/Municipal Agreement for Signal Rehab on BUS 51/1st Avenue at Bridge Street.

25-0519 Resolution from the Human Resources Committee Approving Amendment to Fleet Safety Policy.

25-0521 Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving Amendment to Temporary Lease Agreement with Woodson YMCA Foundation Inc. (Yawkey Park).

25-0522 Ordinance from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Amending Section 10.20.080(a) Designating No Parking on the North Side of Sherman Street Beginning at the Intersection with S. 9th Avenue and Extending East to the Alley.

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

25-0518 **05/27/2025**

Motion by Henke, seconded by Rasmusen, to adopt the Resolution from the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approve Plat and Relocation Order for establishing a multiuse trail extending from 72nd Avenue to 84th Avenue (Business Campus Trail E-W Connector, Project ID 6999-18-11).

Rasmussen stated that the purpose of that trail is to provide safe infrastructure to this area of the city to make the business campus more appealing. Rasmussen stated support.

Gisselman stated concerns over the use of eminent domain and further stated support for the project.

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

25-0507 **05/27/2025**

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Larson, to override the veto of the Resolution from the Economic Development Committee Authorizing the Sale of City-Owned Property at 208-214 Wyatt Street to 208 Wyatt Street, LLC.

Larson stated the item was moot as the developer withdrew from the agreement while stating initial support for this redevelopment to offload the property to the private sector as it had been in the city coffers for decades.

Lukens stated that the sale has not been made and further stated opposition to overriding the veto as new information of the age of the developer has come to light.

Rasmussen stated that the prudent thing to do would be to not take up the veto override as the developer withdrew from the agreement making the action moot.

McElhaney stated initial opposition as a number of questions remained unanswered by the Mayor and the Economic Development Department which would have clarified possible improprieties of this agreement.

Kilian stated initial opposition stemming from concerns on if the disposition of property ordinance was properly followed.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Rasmussen, to remove 25-0507 from the agenda.

Rasmussen questioned the ramifications of removing the item from the agenda verses voting to not override the veto. It was stated that the rules provide items to be brought back 30 days later, and that the developer would not be of the proper age to make this agreement for another six months. Rasmussen stated there was nothing to lose by voting to not override the veto

Without objection, Rasmussen withdrew the second to the motion. Larson withdrew the motion.

Tierney stated further opposition as the trust with the developer had been eroded and stated the belief that the developer had meant to deceive the city into an improper agreement.

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

Yes Votes: 1

No Votes: 9

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: FAILED

24-11091

05/27/2025

Motion by Henke, seconded by Rasmussen, to adopt the Resolution from the Finance Committee Adopting 2025 Budget Modifications for Carryover of Capital Project Funds from 2024 to 2025.

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

25-0512

05/27/2025

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Henke, to adopt the Resolution from the Finance Committee Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of up to \$2,172,756 Taxable General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2025, and Providing for Other Details and Covenants with Respect Thereto.

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

Yes Votes: 8

No Votes: 2

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

25-0520

05/27/2025

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Neal, to adopt the Resolution from the Human Resources Committee Approving an Adjusted Summer Hours Pilot for July 7, 2025 – August 29, 2025.

Lukens stated that residents provided feedback on this proposal and that none of the feedback was in opposition.

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

Yes Votes: 8

No Votes: 2

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

19-0921

05/27/2025

Motion by Neal, seconded by Larson, to adopt the Resolution of the Infrastructure & Facilities Committee Approving Parking Stall Lease Agreement with Foundry on 3rd Ph 1, LLC – former Sears Ramp.

Neal stated support as this was an appropriate agreement as the developer has built a skywalk connection to the parking ramp with their development. It was further stated this was the type of agreement that could spur better relationships with the city and developers.

Larson stated opposition that the agreement was not necessary and shared concerns with the life of the parking ramp through the term of this agreement.

Kilian stated opposition as the city had already provided TID subsidies for this agreement and should not provide further incentives.

Rasmussen stated support as the city has partnered with other business owners in the past with similar agreements to support downtown economic development. It was also stated that the housing need of the area provided value to this agreement.

McElhaney stated concerns and possible opposition if the same agreement was not also afforded to other businesses in the area.

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

Yes Votes: 7 No Votes: 3 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 1 Result: PASSED

Suspend the Rules **05/27/2025**

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Neal, to Suspend Rule 6(B) Filing and/or 12(A) Referral of Resolutions.

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

25-0427 **05/27/2025**

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Henke, to adopt the Resolution from the Common Council Approving First Amended and Restated Declaration of Easement by City of Wausau at 700 Grand Avenue.

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

Yes Votes: 8 No Votes: 2 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 1 Result: PASSED

24-0915 **05/27/2025**

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Henke, to adopt the Resolution from the Finance Committee Proceeding with Airport Terminal Renovations Construction Change Orders as Temporarily City Only Funded Project Administered by Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA) with Approximately 95% of Project Costs to Be Ultimately Reimbursed with FAA Funding, Contingent on Assurance from BOA that FAA Reimbursement Will Occur: Cost of \$75,000.

Rasmussen stated that the assurances had been made on the federal and state funding of the project prompting support.

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

Closed Session **05/27/2025**

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Tierney, to go into closed session pursuant to 19.85(1)(g) of the Wisconsin State Statutes for conferring 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 regarding Marathon County Case No. 24CV40 Green Acres at Greenwood Hills, LLC vs. City of Wausau.

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

Public Comment & Suggestions

05/27/2025

Without objection, public comment was taken up at this time.

1. Tom Kilian, 133 E. Thomas Street – Spoke on Citizens for a Clean Wausau and the Wyatt Street property.

CONVENED into Closed Session.

Adjourn

05/27/2025

Motion by Lukens, second by Tierney, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Doug Diny, Mayor

Kaitlyn Bernarde, City Clerk