

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL

held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, in Council Chambers, beginning at 6:30 p.m.,

Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding

Roll Call

7/13/2021 6:30:51 PM

Roll Call indicated 10 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	NV
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	YES

Proclamations

Mayor Rosenberg stated these proclamations can be read on the city's website: June 19, 2021 – **Juneteenth**; June 20, 2021 as **World Refugee Day**

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

- 1) Gary Gisselman, 319 Park Ave, addressed the Council to speak against the development at 1200 N River Drive, because there is not much greenspace left in the plan. He felt it should go back to ED to look for more public space. He also felt the City Attorney's Office and the Mayor's Office should be looking at ways to agendaize committee meetings so that Council members attending meetings are not asked to leave because they constitute a quorum of another committee.
- 2) Pat Snyder, 129 Charles St, Schofield, State Assembly Representative, spoke regarding 3M and their desire to purchase the land at 1300 Cleveland Avenue to store additional rail cars. He asked the Council to consider this request.

Presentation: Core Values Award – Fire Department

Fire Chief Bob Barteck stated Shane Woller, Engineer/Paramedic, was nominated for the Fire Department Core Values Award for Professionalism and meeting our Mission Statement, resulting from response to a fire that occurred at a home on Christmas Eve of 2020. The homeowners were present to thank Shane and the crew of the Fire Department for their professionalism. Kraig Kruzan, Battalion Chief of C Crew, talked about the incident and presented the award.

Consent Agenda

7/13/2021 6:47:53 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Peckham to adopt all of the Items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

21-0601 Minutes of the previous meeting (6/15/21).

21-0704 Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Amending Section 10.20.080(a) designating no parking both sides on entrance road to Schulenburg Pool off of Summit Drive.

21-0409 Final Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee and the Plan Commission Vacating and discontinuing an unpaved alley lying west of 827 Turner Street between North 8th Street, North 9th Street and Augusta Avenue.

21-0108 Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Approving or Denying various licenses as indicated.

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

21-0703

7/13/2021 6:52:32 PM

Motion by Wadinski, second by Herbst to confirm the Mayor's Appointments.

Wausau Affordable Housing Regional Task Force: Sarah Watson, Sandra Kelch, Juli Birkenmeier, Diane Sennholz, Ben Lee, Kristin Slonski, and Carla Baker. *Capital Improvement Program Committee:* Carolyn Marohl

Deb Ryan didn't feel Council had enough time to review these appointments and was disappointed that the applicants did not submit resumes or information as to what kind of background they had in the field of affordable housing. She moved to table the appointments until more information is provided and/or other potential candidates were found that have more credentials and experience.

Assistant Attorney Nate Miller noted there is a difference between "tabling" and "postponing indefinitely" an agenda item. He explained tabling is to take up other urgent matters, but then still discuss this agenda item today. He questioned if she wished to postpone to a specific time or indefinitely. Ryan indicated she meant to indefinitely postpone because she felt the task force should be made up of people with affordable housing expertise. Motion died for lack of a second.

Yes Votes: 6 No Votes: 3 Abstain: 1 Not Voting: 1 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	NV
8	Watson, Sarah	ABS
9	Herbst, Dawn	NO
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

21-0705

7/13/2021 6:56:08 PM

Motion by Martens, second by Peckham to adopt the Joint Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee and the Plan Commission Annexing territory from the Town of Weston to the City of Wausau - Michael and Angela Grandaunt, Northwestern Avenue.

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

21-0708

7/13/2021 7:21:28 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Peckham to adopt the Resolution of the Plan Commission Amending the General Development Plan at 1200 North River Drive to allow for 120 residential units and 6,050 square feet of commercial space, in a PUB, Planned Unit Development Zoning District.

Tom Neal commented this proposal has been around for quite a while and has extraordinary potential for this city. He stated with regards to comments about green space, he pointed out the river walkway which extends a long distance including green strips and benches and trees. The reclamation of Barker Stewart Island, which is ongoing and adjacent to this area via a pedestrian bridge, is bringing more recreation opportunities for citizens along the river.

Lou Larson questioned if we need more apartment buildings on the riverfront when there are already three buildings there. He indicated he'd like to see some data to show if the community can support another 120 units. He questioned if the developer was still asking for \$2.5 million to build or is contractor putting them up on their own.

Mayor Rosenberg pointed out this resolution is just the zoning portion of the project and the development agreement will come back to the Council later.

Deb Ryan felt the Council should start looking at ways to make affordable housing along the riverfront. What about a community center for that area? She didn't think there was adequate parking for these buildings and that they were over building. She felt they should table this item for now and look at options for this area relative to affordable housing units.

Jim Wadinski commented they should be looking at where the City of Wausau is going to get its biggest bang for its dollar. He questioned where they would raise funds for a community center and/or low income housing. He pointed out they need facilities with high tax base to pay for these things and keep taxes in check.

Discussion continued. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDVEKr42Fm4>

Yes Votes: 7 No Votes: 3 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 1 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	NV
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

Suspend the Rules

7/13/2021 7:22:02 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Kilian to Suspend Rules - 6(B) Filing and 1 2(A) Referral of Resolutions (213 vote required)

Yes Votes: 9 No Votes: 1 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 1 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	NV
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

21-0706

7/13/2021 7:31:26 PM

Motion by Watson, second by Peckham to adopt the Resolution of the Common Council Authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of Wausau and Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker, LLC dba, BerryDunn for professional services for strategic plan development and mission statement review.

Pat Peckham requested more information on BerryDunn and who was involved in selecting them. Mayor Rosenberg explained after Council approved moving forward with a strategic plan last year an RFP was put out with 13 – 15 responses. There was a review panel that included Sarah Watson, Becky McElhaney, Brad Lenz, Maryanne Groat, Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Jamie Polley. There were interviews with six of them, but BerryDunn came out overwhelmingly on top. Groat noted they are currently helping the city evaluate financial software and were the number one pick of everyone on the panel. Mayor Rosenberg added one of things they liked about them was their willingness to work with our local people to do community engagement. *Discussion followed.*

Yes Votes: 7 No Votes: 2 Abstain: 1 Not Voting: 1 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	ABS
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	NV
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

20-0317

7/13/2021 7:32:53 PM

Motion by Kilian, second by Martens to adopt the Resolution of the Common Council Approving rules relating to meetings of

governmental bodies - city employees

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

12-1017

7/13/2021 7:37:15 PM

Motion by Herbst, second by Watson to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving amendment for storage for Stone Mill historic saw mill structure with Andy Johnson.

Michael Martens noted Finance approved this earlier today and nothing changes other than the term going from a set contract to month-to-month.

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

20-0317

7/13/2021 7:45:38 PM

Motion by Peckham, second by Kilian to adopt the Resolution of the Rules Review Committee Approving rules relating to meetings of governmental bodies dial-in option.

Sarah Watson indicated she was the lone no vote at committee because her issue was with transparency by eliminating the dial in option. She felt the dial in option should remain for meetings to be inclusive to everyone.

Michael Martens commented it does take additional staff time to keep using WebEx for meetings and there are several other ways to participate besides in person, such as cable TV or YouTube.

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

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

02-0432 Amendment

7/13/2021 7:55:40 PM

Motion by Wadinski, second by Neal to amend the Ordinance of the Rules Review Committee Amending Section 2.16.010 Generally – to add to Rule 17E of Standing Rules to only allow those in queue to speak up to 3 minutes each before question is called.

Attorney Nate Miller explained there has always been a question of whether or not our standing rules apply just to the Common Council or the Standing Committees as well. The main part of the amended ordinance will clarify that most of these rules will also apply to Standing Committees. The other changes were to remove the gender pronouns and replace with Alder, committee member, or Council member. He noted Wisconsin Statutes do not allow members of the body to remove themselves from their role as a member of that body to speak as a citizen about things that are not on the agenda.

Miller stated Rule 17E was basically copied from the County's rules regarding when there is a call for the question. When the question is called, normally that is supposed to stop debate, but at the County if there are members queued up to speak already, they will get to speak before the question is actually called and put to a vote.

Jim Wadinski stated the reason for calling the question is to stop debate and move the meeting along. He felt there should at least be a time limit on those that are in the queue, so as not to defeat the purpose.

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

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

02-0432

7/13/2021 7:59:38 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Watson to adopt the Ordinance of the Rules Review Committee Amending Section 2.16.010 Generally, as amended on Council floor

Yes Votes: 9 No Votes: 1 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 1 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	NV
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

20-1109

7/13/2021 8:07:52 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Kilian to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving the 2021 budget modification for additional environmental testing at 1300 Cleveland Avenue.

Eric Lindman explained this is from the results of the initial soil testing and the consultant put together a site investigation work plan for the next process. There was input from the DNR and there will be some additional soil testing conducted. The cost is \$98,500 of which the majority is for the soil testing and lab analysis, but also includes some report writing, engineering and review of the results. He stated once the results come back there will be conversation with the DNR to determine if any additional testing is needed or whether to go forward to the next phase of the project (remediation). He noted the money is coming out of the Environmental Fund. *Discussion followed.*

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

21-0707

7/13/2021 8:13:20 PM

Motion by Wadinski, second by Larson to adopt the Resolution of the Human Resources Committee Authorizing reclassification of Stockroom Specialist position to Parts Specialist.

Toni Vanderboom, Human Resources Director, explained they are reclassifying this position based on advice from the Fleet Study which wanted this position to have a little more independence or responsibility. She stated they are losing a lot of time with the mechanics coming in and doing parts work for us, so this would keep them on the floor doing the mechanic work. She noted they are bringing it up two salary grades to reflect the added responsibilities.

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

Adjourn

7/13/2021

Motion by Watson, second by Wadinski to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Leslie M. Kremer, City Clerk