

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL
held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

Roll Call

9/08/2020

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 proclaimed the week of **September 17-23, 2020** as **CONSTITUTION WEEK** in the City of Wausau and encouraged all citizens to demonstrate our love for the United States of America and the Blessings of Freedom our Founding Fathers secured for all of us.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed the month of **September 2020** as **National Suicide Prevention & Action Month in Wausau** and encouraged all residents to take the time to check in with their family, friends, and neighbors on a regular basis and to honestly communicate their appreciation for their existence by any gesture they deem appropriate.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed **September 2020** as **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month** and encouraged all citizens in the City of Wausau to observe Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and support this cause that so deeply impacts families in every community across our country.

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

- 1) Debra Ryan, 702 Elm St, spoke as leader of the Westies Neighborhood Group, noting Grant School is within its boundaries. She stated she did not agree with consolidating of Grant School and its razing. She noted the School Board was invited to the Westies Neighborhood meeting tomorrow night at the Reservoir Park Shelter to answer questions.
- 2) Gary Gisselman, 319 Park Ave, spoke against the proposed School District referendum which calls for the razing of Grant School. He pointed out the building has been recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and is an important part of the city.
- 3) Christine Martens, 1228 Arthur St, spoke in opposition to the referendum and talked about the historical value of Grant School and the importance of its architecture.
- 4) Mark Holdhusen, 625 S 4th Ave, spoke in opposition to the referendum closing Lincoln, tearing down Grant and creating the largest K-5 School in the district. He was concerned that this neighborhood receives the highest percentage of students that receive free and reduced meals and has the highest percentage of ethnic minorities. He believed smaller schools have better results and the neighborhood was not heard by the school district.
- 5) Ku Her, 9848 Siberian Dr, Weston, spoke in opposition to the proposed referendum of the School Board. She felt this proposal segregated the students.
- 6) Charlotte Vang, 506 Sherman St, student, spoke in opposition to the School Board referendum.
- 7) Mary & Yeng Thao, 506 Sherman St, spoke in opposition to the School Board referendum. She thanked the Council for providing a platform for people to come forward to speak about the proposal. She felt it was very important to keep our neighborhood schools.
- 8) Christopher Norfleet, 221 Scott St, spoke to the Council about “doing better” for minorities.

Presentation: Wausau School District Upcoming Referendum Proposal.

Keith Hiltz, Superintendent of the Wausau School District, stated this project has been developed solely on the feedback/input of community and staff over the last two and a half years. Other speakers: Dianna White, Communications Director; Bob Tess, Chief Financial Officer; Steve Schoner, Nexus Solutions; and Tricia Zunker, School Board President

Presentation can be viewed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmZP81yvJgQ>
The presentation was followed by questions and discussion of Council members.

Consent Agenda

9/08/2020

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

20-0801 Minutes of the previous meeting(s). (8/25/20)

20-0904 Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Approving storm sewer easements with Galleria Inc. I, 11 and III at 501, 505 and 605-607 S. 24th Avenue and storm sewer access easement with Galleria Inc. III at 501 S. 24th Avenue

20-0905 Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Approving storm sewer easement with Wausau Hospitality, LLC at 615 S. 24th Avenue.

20-0906 Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Approving storm sewer easement with Costigan Properties LLC at 2221 Stewart Avenue.

20-0108 Resolution of the Public Health & Safety Committee Approving or Denying Various Licenses.

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

20-0903

9/08/2020

Motion by Neal, second by Larson to confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Tom Kilian to the Liberation & Freedom Committee.

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

19-1109

9/08/2020

Motion by Herbst, second by Kilian to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving budget modification for Parks Playground Equipment.

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

Suspend the Rules

9/08/2020

Motion by Neal, second by Watson to Suspend the Rule - 6(B) Filing.

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

19-1109

9/08/2020

Motion by Herbst, second by Watson to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving the 2020 budget modification for Elections.

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

Public Comment & Suggestions

Tom Kilian commented he felt the School District's public input process may have been severely flawed, may not have been representative, and believed it would create a disparate impact on some of our most vulnerable children and families. He encouraged his constituents and the public at large to vote decisively against this referendum.

Adjournment

9/08/2020

Motion by Wadinski, second by Watson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Leslie M. Kremer, City Clerk