

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL
held on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

Roll Call

9/22/2020 6:44:03 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 proclaimed September 15 – October 15, 2020 as HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH throughout the City of Wausau and commended this observance to all citizens.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed September 21-27, 2020, as DEAF AWARENESS WEEK in Wausau and called this observance to the attention of all citizens.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed the month of October 2020 as BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in the City of Wausau and encouraged all women and men to learn more about how this disease may affect their lives and to take the necessary steps for early detection and prevention.

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

- 1) Gary Olson, 211 Grand Ave, Rothschild, spoke on behalf of the Village of Rothschild regarding the termination of the contract with the CVB and indicated Rothschild was ready and willing to work with Wausau to help form a tourism entity.
- 2) Christine Martens, 1228 Arthur St, spoke in support of the Resolution of the Historic Preservation Commission for preservation of the Grant School building. She believed the plan to raze the school needed to be reconsidered.
- 3) David Torkko, 609 McIndoe St, spoke in opposition to the termination of the city's contract with the Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB).

Consent Agenda

9/22/2020 6:55:27 PM

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

Peckham requested file # 20-0901 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

20-0907 Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Authorizing the removal of stop signs on N. 3rd Street at McIndoe Street and authorizing the installation of a stop sign on McIndoe Street at N. 3rd Street,

20-0909 Resolution of the Human Resources Committee Approving Overtime Pay to Regular Full Time and Part Time Staff for Drive Up Voting Outside Normal City Hours.

20-0912 Resolution of the Park & Recreation Committee Approving gas easement with Wisconsin Public Service for the installation of a gas line in Brookmeyer Park.

20-0913 Resolution of the Transit Commission Approving proposed changes to Route A to serve Island Place Apartments via River Drive and 4th Street.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0901

9/22/2020 6:56:44 PM

Motion by Peckham, second by Herbst to amend and approve the minutes of previous meeting on 9/08/20 to insert Tom Kilian's name on page 2 as the person who was confirmed as the Mayor's Appointment to the Liberation and Freedom Committee.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0903

9/22/2020 6:58:11 PM

Motion by Kilian, second by Larson to confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Anayancy Williams to the Citizens Advisory Committee-CDBG and Brenton Wildman to the Freedom and Liberation Committee.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0910

9/22/2020 7:06:13 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Larson to adopt the Resolution of the Historic Preservation Commission Supporting preservation of the historic building at 500 N. 4th Avenue (Grant School).

Neal questioned if taking this action would in any way be back-dooring the referendum on the ballot in November regarding the School District proposal. Rasmussen commented they needed to understand the significance of the building and she intended to support this resolution. She felt the School District plan was committed to the destruction of Grant School without consideration for the neighborhood impact.

Ryan noted she represented on the Historic Preservation Commission and this topic was also addressed at the Westies Neighborhood meeting. There was a budget number of \$16 million to renovate Grant School, however they chose not to go in that direction; in order to keep this historic building she felt the renovation should be reconsidered.

Brad Lenz explained this is only a supportive resolution supportive of the preservation and not an action that would prohibit anything in the referendum. It is basically an official stance by the commission. There is a second action to officially landmark it through the city and this process is moving forward and will come to Council after a public hearing and the Plan Commission weighs in.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0908

9/22/2020 7:06:51 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Rasmussen to adopt the Resolution of the Transit Commission Supporting legislation to enable the creation of regional transit authorities.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Suspend the Rules

9/22/2020 7:07:29 PM

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

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0712

9/22/2020 7:21:10 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wadinski to adopt the Resolution of the Common Council Approving COVID-19 related mask requirement in city-owned facilities.

Larson stated the Governor just extended the mask mandate into November but the city policy extends through December. He questioned if the state order ends in November or before, if the city will end the policy or continue through December. Mayor Rosenberg stated if it passes it will be in force through December.

Attorney Jacobson stated they can be more restrictive, but cannot pass anything less restrictive than the state, so it made this resolution moot and they did not necessarily have to pass this tonight. She noted Number 1 under exceptions is not allowed by the Governor's Order and would have no legal effect. *Discussion followed.*

Wadinski questioned if they could pass the resolution so that when the Governor's Order goes away there is something in place, rather than have to call a special meeting. Jacobson stated they could do that because even though it is less restrictive, it is a resolution not an ordinance.

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

02-0432

9/22/2020 7:24:16 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Martens to adopt the Ordinance of the Common Council Amending Section 2.16 Standing Rules of the Common Council Rule 2 Quorum Required and Rule 4 Absence of Members.

Jacobson explained on March 18th is when they added the ability to appear remotely, establish a quorum and vote without being present in person. The deadline was extended on June 9th to October 1st and this is just another extension to December 31, 2020.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

02-0432

9/22/2020 7:25:01 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Watson to adopt the Ordinance of the Common Council Amending Chapter 2.16 Standing Rules of the Common Council Rule 2 Quorum Required.

Jacobson explained on August 11th they added that members must appear in person to establish a quorum, participate and vote in a Closed Session. This provision expires October 1st and this extends it to December 31, 2020.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0911

9/22/2020 7:26:19 PM

Motion by Kilian, second by Neal to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving budget modification for funding to complete Phase II Environmental testing at 1300 Cleveland Ave.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

12-1012

9/22/2020 7:27:19 PM

Motion by Wadinski, second by Herbst to adopt the Joint Resolution of the Human Resources Committee and the Finance Committee Authorizing CCIT Inclusion on the City's health, dental, vision and All State insurance plan design for 2021.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

12-1012

9/22/2020 7:27:50 PM

Motion by Wadinski, second by Herbst to adopt the Joint Resolution of the Human Resources Committee and the Finance Committee Authorizing health, dental and supplemental insurance plan design for 2021.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

16-0704 Amendment

9/22/2020 7:54:11 PM

Motion by Ryan, second by Kilian to amend the Resolution of the Wausau Water Works Commission Approving application for and administration of funds from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program - to increase the grant request to \$1 million.

Mayor Rosenberg noted the Wausau Water Works Commission just passed this today and added the following language: "to apply for and administer principal forgiveness funds through the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program for lead service line replacement."

Ryan felt due to the large number of lead laterals in the city, they should be asking for \$1 million in funds and get the word out and encourage replacement.

Lindman agreed these are important projects and it is important to get the lead out of the ground, but it has been a challenge to spend \$300,000 per year on the grants we had previously. He explained this is a one year grant, which means we have to spend what we request. It has to be practical or we incur the risk of applying for the following year. He noted the last funding wasn't received until April/May and by the time notices went out it was already well into the summer. There is a lot of administration work and we typically got 60 – 70 done per year; he indicated they are proposing doing 90-100 at approximately \$4,500 each or \$450,000 for 2021. He did not want to put the utility in a situation where we commit to something that we cannot deliver.

Kilian questioned if they were to request significantly more funds, could they leverage any of those funds to ease the burden of getting this implemented. Is the grant for the materials exclusively or could it be used to increase the manpower to have more efficiency and get more done? Lindman stated the grant is specifically for the replacement and they can't use it to hire more staff.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Call the question

Motion by Watson to call the question to end discussion and proceed to vote on the amendment.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Vote on Amendment:

Yes Votes: 2 No Votes: 9 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: FAIL

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

16-0704

9/22/2020 7:54:45 PM

Motion by Herbst, second by Wadinski to approve Resolution of the Wausau Water Works Commission Approving application for and administration of funds from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Closed Session

9/22/2020 7:55:54 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Herbst to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the rendering of 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, specifically regarding the contract for services with the Wausau Central Wisconsin Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 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	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES

Reconvened into Opens Session to take action on Closed Session item.

94-0828

9/22/2020 8:34:28 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Neal to adopt the Joint Resolution of the Finance Committee and Room Tax Commission Approving termination of Tourism Entity Agreement between City of Wausau, its Room Tax Commission and the Wausau Central Wisconsin Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc.

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

Adjourn

9/22/2020 8:35:00 PM

Motion by Watson, second by Wadinski to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Leslie M. Kremer, City Clerk