

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL
held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

Roll Call

10/13/2020

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 (WebEx)
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES (WebEx)
9	Herbst, Dawn	YES
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	YES (WebEx)

Proclamations:

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed the **second Monday in October** as **Indigenous People's Day** in Wausau and encouraged residents to learn more about the history of indigenous people and to celebrate their culture.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed **Thursday, October 15, 2020** as **WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY** in the state of Wisconsin and acknowledged the importance of pedestrian safety year-round.

Mayor Rosenberg proclaimed **October 2020** as **Dwarfism Awareness and Acceptance Month** in the City of Wausau to raise awareness and further educate individuals about dwarfism.

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

- 1) Jennifer Blair, 601 Blackhawk Dr, Burlington, indicated she was present representing Jerry Koble for the Sturgeon Eddy development and to answer any questions.

Consent Agenda

10/13/2020

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Peckham to adopt all the items on the Consent Agenda as follows:

Mayor Rosenberg noted Peckham has requested the removal of File # 20-0901 from Consent.

20-1004 Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Establishing Assessment Rates for 2021 New Street Construction Projects

20-1005 Resolution of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Approving storm sewer easement at 1302 McIntosh Street (Robison)

20-1007 Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Amending Section 10.20.080(a) designating no parking on both sides of Strowbridge Street from N. 1st Avenue to Cherry Street and on north side of Strowbridge Street from N. 3rd Avenue to N. 1st Avenue

20-1006 Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Amending Section 10.20.080(b) designating no overnight parking on Municipal Lot 12, 2001 N 2nd Street

82-0526 Joint Ordinance of the Airport Committee and the Park & Recreation Committee Approving execution of lease for Radtke Point Park and Grace Park with City of Schofield

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

12-1014 Ordinance of the Public Health & Safety Committee Amending Section 8.08.170 Licenses.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0901 Amendment

10/13/2020

Motion by Peckham, second by Neal to amend the minutes of the previous meeting on 9/22/20 to change the sentence on the 2nd to last page to read: "It has to be practical or we ~~hinder~~ incur the risk of applying for the following year."

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-0901

10/13/2020

Motion by Herbst, second by Peckham to approve the minutes of previous meeting on 9/22/20, as amended on Council floor.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1003

10/13/2020

Motion by Kilian, second by Larson to confirm the Mayor's Appointments to the Rules Review Committee.

Mayor Rosenberg noted she added an appointment late this afternoon of Doug Hosler to the Ethics Board. Jacobson recommended holding off on the additional appointment to the next meeting since it was added late in the day. *The Council voted on the Rules Review Committee only.*

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1008

10/13/2020

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Neal to adopt the Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Authorizing the installation of stop signs on Stark Street at 10th Street.

Neal indicated he brought this item forward because of the various complaints received about excessive speed on Stark Street. He noted you can travel approximately a mile on Stark Street without encountering a stop sign. There was a traffic study done to look at this and after a lot of discussion this resolution was passed at the committee level.

Peckham disagreed with turning the intersection into a four-way stop and felt the only stop signs should be on Stark Street and none on 10th Street. *Discussion followed.*

Yes Votes: 8 No Votes: 3 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	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Wadinski, Jim	NO
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Watson, Sarah	YES
9	Herbst, Dawn	NO
10	Larson, Lou	YES
11	Ryan, Debra	YES

20-1010

10/13/2020

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Neal to adopt the Ordinance of the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Authorizing the removal of stop signs on N. 1st Street at McIndoe Street and authorizing the installation of a stop sign on McIndoe Street at N. 1st Street.

Rasmussen explained the reason for the mixed vote at committee had to do with the permanent closure of McIndoe Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets for the Aspirus Clinic development downtown. In keeping with the standard that states traffic controls are to be installed on the lowest volume street, these signs needed to be turned around.

Larson indicated he voted no at committee because he did not believe it was consistent with what they have been doing at CISM. There were no traffic surveys or other study done to prove that this is needed. *Discussion followed.*

Yes Votes: 8 No Votes: 3 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	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

20-1011

10/13/2020

Motion by Neal, second by Herbst to adopt the Resolution of the Economic Development Committee Approving creation and implementation of the Wausau Poet Laureate Program.

Mayor Rosenberg stated she brought this forward to the Arts Commission because she felt it was an important way for our community to have more communication and allow for more arts. She indicated she worked with the Arts Commission and modeled the program after one that is in the city of Washington.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1012

10/13/2020

Motion by Neal, second by Wadinski to adopt the Resolution of the Economic Development Committee Approving city's Waiver of First Right of Refusal to Repurchase property at 5801 Packer Drive from Ideal Properties of Central Wisconsin, LLC, f/k/a T & L Properties of Wausau, LLC to Gore Enterprises LLC.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1009

10/13/2020

Motion by Peckham, second by Neal to adopt the Resolution of the Plan Commission Amending the General Development Plan and Specific Implementation Plan at 1404, 1406 & 1412 Grand Avenue and 105, 107 & 111 Sturgeon Eddy Road to allow for three multi-plex residential buildings, in a PUD, Planned Unit Development Zoning District.

Neal requested an update on the only outstanding issue at committee, which was potential concern for the driveway of the neighbor adjacent. Peckham indicated there was a meeting with this neighbor and an acceptable agreement was made. Wadinski questioned if the agreement will be in writing so the resident has something to fall back on.

Jennifer Blair, representing the developer, stated they have been in contact with the Kronenwetter's since the Plan Commission meeting and an email was sent to the City Clerk to document his agreement.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1014

10/13/2020

Motion by Peckham, second by Herbst to adopt the Resolution of the Transit Commission Approving Elimination of COVID-19 Capacity Limit on Metro Ride Buses.

Greg Seubert, Transit Director, stated the School District has announced it is going to resume in person classes and capacity limits of 10 on the bus may prevent some students from being able to get to school. This proposal from the Transit Commission is to lift the capacity limits entirely and they directed him to work with the WSD to see if it could be determined how many students are likely to use Metro Ride services. He stated they did some surveying and indicated to parents there should be no expectation of social distancing on the bus. WSD has determined a total of 320 students may use the bus service; however, they are going to split students by 50%. If no more than 50% of the student population is in attendance on any given day, it cuts the number of students using the bus to 160.

Seubert explained they have a system where students transfer at a central location, so although in a neighborhood we may not meet the capacity limit, we would likely have some capacity restraints when they arrive to the Transit Center downtown. There only so many additional vehicles that we can plug in to deal with that capacity. The capacity limit of 10 was originally implemented to enable social distancing and this resolution would eliminate that limit and he estimated 15 – 25 kids on a bus.

Rasmussen pointed out Metro Ride does not only serve students; it also serves a transit dependent community, many of which have health concerns. She was also concerned about the exposure to the bus drivers.

McElhaney commented we also have a very long history of serving the school population and driving a bus is not the only risk these employees take, they are at risk when they are out and about. She did not feel comfortable telling parents whose kids have always taken the bus that they can't, when they have no other way to get them to school. She did not want a child standing on a bus route to be passed by because there are 10 on board. What if the parent is gone and the door is locked, or they have to now walk and the weather is getting colder. She believed everyone will do the best they can to protect themselves and others.

Kilian commented he certainly did not want a child left out in the cold, but believed other facets of government, starting with the school district, need to realize this is reality. He stated if the school district wants to send the public toward a cliff it is not our job to transport them over the edge. He could not support filling a bus in a crowded fashion in a confined space during a pandemic of a novel virus.

Peckham stated he was one of the yes votes at the commission meeting and they did agonize over it. The decision was postponed for a week to get public input and after much discussion the head of union was asked if drivers might refuse to work and he did not believe that would happen. Peckham felt if the parents are willing to send the kids and the school is willing to take them in a closed building for six hours, we can have them on a bus for 12 minutes.

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	YES
2	Martens, Michael	NO
3	Kilian, Tom	NO
4	Neal, Tom	NO
5	Wadinski, Jim	NO
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	NO
8	Watson, Sarah	NO
9	Herbst, Dawn	NO
10	Larson, Lou	NO
11	Ryan, Debra	NO

Suspend the Rules

10/13/2020

Motion by Neal, second by Herbst to Suspend Rule 6(B) Filing.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

16-1110

10/13/2020

Motion by Wadinski, second by Neal to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing the Wausau Police Department to accept a Victims of Crime Act grant of \$300,000 per year for 4 years (an amount not to exceed \$1.2 million) to continue the Victim Resource Unit.

Cpt. Ben Graham stated there was a two page document in the packet outlining the reason for this resolution. The Police Department is entering the second year of a five year grant through the Victims of Crime Act. He noted last year in September we did request grant funding acceptance in the amount of \$300,000 to support our Victim Resource Unit, however, we did not address the reoccurring years 2 thru 5. He explained in years 2 thru 5 it is no longer competitive but we are required to resubmit an application. An additional \$300,000 per year for the next four years is anticipated. He noted there is potential for a decrease in funding in year 4 and 5 depending on Federal funding levels.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

92-1135

10/13/2020

Motion by Herbst, second by Larson to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Authorizing Joint Powers Agreement with Marathon County regarding E911/NG-911 system.

Attorney Jacobson explained this agreement was approved and has been in place since 199. It provides that when an emergency vehicle is dispatched in response to a 911 call, services will be rendered to that person even if they are outside of the jurisdictional boundaries. She indicated she was contacted by Deputy Billeb who felt it should be renewed given the change in leadership and staff

over the years, so this is a re-affirmation of that commitment and re-setting of the date effective September 1, 2020. It will expire after one year and will be renewed on an annual basis.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

19-1109

10/13/2020

Motion by Larson, second by Kilian to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving the 2020 Budget Modification for \$15,000 contribution to the Catholic Charities Homeless Housing Project and related payment.

Mayor Rosenberg commented they have been searching high and low for a space for the warming center to keep people out of the cold this winter, but also socially distanced. She indicated they received approval from the Methodist Church to use their basement, which will allow up to 40 people. The funds are being requested to add a shower facility.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

20-1013

10/13/2020

Motion by Peckham, second by Rasmussen to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving lease agreement with Wausau Area Winter Farmers Market, LLC for property at 180 E. Wausau Avenue.

Mayor Rosenberg explained they need a new space for their Winter Market because the Boys & Girls Club will not work for social distancing. Jacobson noted this is the Barrel House site and they are in agreement because they don't intend to take title to the property or begin construction until at least April next year.

Kilian questioned what this former Wausau Chemical property was used for by Wausau Chemical. Sean Fitzgerald responded it was a truck maintenance facility for the Wausau Chemical vehicle fleet. The Phase I environmental report that was done in November 2019 had come back with no issues on this particular property.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

19-1109

10/13/2020

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Kilian to adopt the Resolution of the Finance Committee Approving the Local Share Funding of Bus Purchases.

Greg Seubert explained a grant from the State of Wisconsin was awarded a year ago to purchase four replacement buses. There is another grant pending that we have been notified will be awarded for another three buses. There is a shortfall in the local share for both these grants due to delay. This request would be to fund an additional \$93,814 from the Metro Ride Reserve account.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

Public Comment and Suggestions:

None.

Adjourn

10/13/2020

Motion by Wadinski, second by Neal to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Leslie M. Kremer, City Clerk