

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL**  
held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, in Council Chambers, beginning at 6:38 p.m.,  
Mayor Katie Rosenberg presiding.

**Roll Call**

**10/24/2023**

Roll Call indicated 11 members present.

| <u>District</u> | <u>Aldersperson</u> | <u>Vote</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1               | Lukens, Carol       | YES         |
| 2               | Martens, Michael    | YES         |
| 3               | Kilian, Tom         | YES         |
| 4               | Diny, Doug          | YES         |
| 5               | Gisselman, Gary     | EXCUSED     |
| 6               | McElhaney, Becky    | YES         |
| 7               | Rasmussen, Lisa     | YES         |
| 8               | Watson, Sarah       | YES         |
| 9               | Herbst, Dawn        | YES         |
| 10              | Larson, Lou         | YES         |
| 11              | Henke, Chad         | YES         |

**Presentation: Awards from FireOPS for Mayor Rosenberg and Alderman Diny**

Presentation was given by Adam Rahn, Firefighter with the City of Wausau Fire Department and President of Local 415, and Maxxwel Nowitzke, Firefighter with the City of Wausau Fire Department and Vice President of Local 415, who presented the award from the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin, for completion of the Wisconsin Fire Ops 101 program.

**Consent Agenda**

**10/24/2023**

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

**23-1001** Minutes of a previous meeting. (10/10/23)

**12-1106** Resolution Authorizing Downtown Snow/Ice Removal 2023-2024.

**23-1008** Resolution Accepting Temporary and Permanent Easement with Wausau Area Chamber of Commerce for the installation of a lift station at 209 West Washington Street.

**23-1009** Resolution Accepting Temporary Easement with Wisconsin Public Service Corp for the extension of sanitary sewer main at 201 West Washington Street.

**23-1010** Resolution Accepting Permanent Easement with Wisconsin Public Service Corp for the extension of sanitary sewer main at 215 West Washington Street.

**23-1011** Resolution Approving Northcentral Wisconsin Stormwater Coalition Cooperative Agreement.

**23-0912** Resolution Accepting dedication of a portion of 7119 Stewart Avenue for public right-of-way.

**23-0912A** Resolution Approving Nominal Payment Parcel for a Temporary Limited Easement at 5411 Stewart Avenue, Parcel 36, Transportation Project Plat 6999-09-02.

**23-0912B** Resolution Approving Nominal Payment Parcel for a Temporary Limited Easement at 5602 Stewart Avenue, Parcel 27, Transportation Project Plat 6999-09-02.

**23-0912C** Resolution Approving Nominal Payment Parcel for a Temporary Limited Easement at 5606 Stewart Avenue, Parcel 26, Transportation Project Plat 6999-09-02.

**23-0912D** Resolution Approving Nominal Payment Parcel for a Temporary Limited Easement at 7015 Stewart Avenue, Parcel 11, Transportation Project Plat 6999-09-02.

**23-0912E** Resolution Approving Nominal Payment Parcel for a Temporary Limited Easement at 7111 Stewart Avenue, Parcel 13, Transportation Project Plat 6999-09-02.

**23-0912F** Resolution Approving Nominal Payment Parcel for a Temporary Limited Easement and New Highway Right-of-Way Fee at 7120 Stewart Avenue, Parcel 3, Transportation Project Plat 6999-09-02.

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

**23-1014****10/24/2023**

Motion by Henke, seconded by Watson, to adopt the Resolution from the Capital Improvements & Street Maintenance Committee Approving the connecting highway recission and designation for rerouting STH 52 and Business Highway 51 and execution of Agreements.

Kilian questioned if there was a proper public comment period for this item and questioned if this item could be referred back to committee for a public comment meeting to better inform residents. It was stated that there was proper notice for the meeting and the public comment period was published as required by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Diny stated that normally when an alder has concerns on an item, the item is differed, and questioned if there would be value in having the meeting for public comment in conjunction with the passage of this item at a future time. It was also questioned whether the meeting would be a regular committee meeting, council meeting, or a neighborhood meeting.

Kilian stated being amicable to the idea of having a public comment period for this item prior to the vote on this at a future meeting. It was stated that there may be concerns with changing traffic flows and patterns that impacted neighborhood walkability and following federal protocols and regulations. Kilian stated that formal concerns on this matter will be filed with the related.

Rasmussen stated the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has been a partner in working to make walkability and public safety accommodations a priority and that there is an unwillingness to delay action which risks transportation funds from the state.

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

Yes Votes: 8

No Votes: 2

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

**23-1013****10/24/2023**

Motion by Rasmussen, seconded by Herbst, to adopt the Resolution from the Wausau Water Works Commission Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures from the Clean Drinking Water Fund Program for Wastewater Treatment Plant Headworks – Influent Screens in Year 2024.

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

**Suspend the Rules****10/24/2023**

Motion by Watson, second by Henke, to suspend Rule 6(B) Filing and 12(A) Referral of Resolutions. (2/3 majority required)

Yes Votes: 10

No Votes: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: PASSED

**23-1012****10/24/2023**

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Henke, to adopt Resolution from the Common Council Approving contract with Flock Group, Inc. for automated license plate recognition cameras.

| <u>District</u> | <u>Aldersperson</u> | <u>Vote</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1               | Lukens, Carol       | YES         |
| 2               | Martens, Michael    | YES         |

|    |                  |         |
|----|------------------|---------|
| 3  | Kilian, Tom      | NO      |
| 4  | Diny, Doug       | YES     |
| 5  | Gisselman, Gary  | EXCUSED |
| 6  | McElhaney, Becky | YES     |
| 7  | Rasmussen, Lisa  | YES     |
| 8  | Watson, Sarah    | YES     |
| 9  | Herbst, Dawn     | YES     |
| 10 | Larson, Lou      | YES     |
| 11 | Henke, Chad      | YES     |

Yes Votes: 9      No Votes: 1      Abstain: 0      Not Voting: 1      Result: PASSED

**23-0912G** **10/24/2023**

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Watson, to adopt the Resolution from the Finance Committee Discussion and possible action on approving accepted offer for the following parcel in the Stewart Avenue, South 72nd Avenue to South 48th Avenue street project: Parcel 49 (4805 Stewart Avenue & 4905 Stewart Avenue) – New Highway Right-of-Way Fee/Temporary Limited Easement.

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

**22-1109** **10/24/2023**

Motion by Watson, seconded by Rasmussen, to adopt the Resolution from the Finance Committee Approving 2023 Budget Modification - City Hall Security Improvements.

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

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

**04-1006** **10/24/2023**

Motion by Watson, seconded by Lukens, to adopt the Resolution from the Finance Committee Approving the 2024 Operating Plan for Business Improvement District (BID) No. 1.

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

**03-1112 Amendment** **10/24/2023**

Motion by Kilian, seconded by Diny, to amend the Joint Resolution from the Human Resources and Finance Committees Approving a 3% pay increase for elected officials including the Alderspersons and the Mayor of the City of Wausau to decrease alder pay by 3%.

Rasmussen stated that a previous alder considered time spent serving in this position and calculated an hourly rate of \$1.27 an hour. It was stated that the average person doesn't take these positions for the money but to serve their community. Rasmussen stated that the current wage is adequate for the work being done.

Larson stated that the amendment was ludicrous.

Herbst stated opposition and suggested that a decrease in salary should come from the alder who proposed the amendment.

| <u>District</u> | <u>Aldersperson</u> | <u>Vote</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1               | Lukens, Carol       | NO          |
| 2               | Martens, Michael    | NO          |

|    |                  |         |
|----|------------------|---------|
| 3  | Kilian, Tom      | YES     |
| 4  | Diny, Doug       | YES     |
| 5  | Gisselman, Gary  | EXCUSED |
| 6  | McElhaney, Becky | NO      |
| 7  | Rasmussen, Lisa  | NO      |
| 8  | Watson, Sarah    | NO      |
| 9  | Herbst, Dawn     | NO      |
| 10 | Larson, Lou      | NO      |
| 11 | Henke, Chad      | NO      |

Yes Votes: 2

No Votes: 8

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: FAILED

### **03-1112**

**10/24/2023**

Motion by Herbst, seconded by Larson, to adopt the Joint Resolution from the Human Resources and Finance Committees Approving a 3% pay increase for elected officials including the Alderpersons and the Mayor of the City of Wausau.

Larson questioned to Rasmussen if there has been a raise in alder salary since Rasmussen has been on the Common Council. Rasmussen stated that there has not been an increase in that time. Larson stated that alders make important decisions and while employees receive regular increases in wages to attract candidates, alders are often excluded.

Herbst stated that the amount of work that goes into being on the Common Council including attending meetings and reading the packet material constitutes an increase in salary.

Rasmussen stated that due to the increases in water and sewer rates in addition to a likely increase in the mill tax rate in the upcoming budget, an increase in salary is not appropriate. It was stated that in the future the salary should be examined to ensure that the salary is keeping pace with other local elected officials.

Diny stated opposition as there are more important issues to discuss than a salary increase for elected officials.

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

Yes Votes: 2

No Votes: 8

Abstain: 0

Not Voting: 1

Result: FAILED

### **Adjourn**

**10/24/2023**

Motion by Kilian, second by Watson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor  
Kody Hart, Deputy City Clerk