



OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Public Health and Safety Committee
DATE/TIME: Monday, November 17, 2025 at 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall – Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Lisa Rasmussen (C) Lou Larson (VC)
Becky McElhaney Sarah Watson
Carol Lukens

Members Present: Lisa Rasmussen, Lou Larson, Becky McElhaney , Sarah Watson, Carol Lukens
Members Not Present:
Members Excused:
Present 5, Not Present 0, Excused 0

Noting the presence of a quorum, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 05:16 PM.

- 1 Public comment on agenda items and reading of the City of Wausau Public Comment Statement.**
- 2 Consideration of the minutes of the preceding meeting(s).**

Motion by Alderperson Lukens, seconded by Alderperson Watson, to approve all items outlined below. Motion Passed 5-0.

October 20, 2025 Regular Public Health & Safety Committee Minutes

- 3 Discussion and possible action.**

- a. Approval or denial of various license applications.

Rasmussen stated Renee West, applicant for Bartender/Operator New License, did not appear to appeal the denial recommendation.

Motion by Alderperson Watson, seconded by Alderperson Larson, to approve or deny various licenses as recommended by staff. Motion Passed 5-0.

- b. Request for a waiver of financial judgments prior to issuance of license or permit due to extraordinary financial hardship for Renee West, applicant for a New Bartender/Operator License.

Without objection, this item was not taken up at this time as the denial recommendation of Renee West stands.

- 4 Discussion.**

- a. Summary of School-Based Fire Prevention Efforts and Community Outcomes.

Discussion was held. No action taken.

- b. Fire Department Update

Discussion was held. No action taken.

- c. Tavern Activities Report from October 2025.

Report placed on file.

d. Community Outreach Update.

Report placed on file.

5 **Adjournment.**

Motion by Alderperson Larson, seconded by Alderperson Lukens, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 05:39 PM.



City of Wausau
(715) 261-6500 | clerk@wausauwi.gov
wausauwi.gov





Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

Date: November 8, 2025

To: Chief Barnes

From: Lt. Peter Fish

Subject: Tavern Report, October 1 – October 31

ROUTINE TAVERN INSPECTIONS*

TAVERN NAME	LOCATION	INSPECTION Y/N	VIOLATION(S)	Underage Compliance Check
Pregame Pub	2002 N 6th St	Y	N	N
Bob & Randy's Bar	1515 N 6th St	Y	N	N
Cop Shoppe Pub	701 Washington St	Y	N	N
Glass Hat	1203 N 3rd St	Y	N	N
Hiawatha Restaurant & Lounge	713 Grant St	Y	N	N
Intermission	325 N 4th St	Y	N	N
Limerick's Public House	634 N 3rd St	N	N	N
Loppnow's Bar	1502 N 3rd St	y	N	N
Malarkey's	412 N 3rd St	Y	N	N
Emerald Night Club	320 Washington St	Y	N	N
Nevermore On Third	1206 N 3rd St	Y	N	N
Timekeeper Distillery	607 Grant St	N	N	N
Bull Falls Brewery	901 E. Thomas St	N	N	N
Kin and Kind	2108 Grand Ave	N	N	N
Chellis St. Pub	265 Chellis St	Y	N	N
Christine's Bar	936 S. 3rd Ave	N	N	N
Denmar Tavern	601 W Thomas St	Y	N	N
Eagle's Club	1703 S 3rd Ave	Y	N	N
Jim's Corner Pub	1244 S 9th Ave	Y	N	N
Treu's Tic Toc Club	1201 W Thomas St	Y	N	N
M&R Station	818 S 3rd Ave	Y	N	N
Days Bowl-A-Dome	1715 Stewart Ave	Y	N	N
Hutch's Bar	4411 Stewart Ave	Y	N	N
Whiskey River Bar & Grill	5512 Stewart Ave	Y	N	N
101 Pub	101 N 3rd Ave	Y	N	N
After Shock Bar and Grill	1418 Lenard St	Y	N	N

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

Callon Street Pub	209 Callon St	Y	N	N
Chatterbox Bar	102 S 2nd Ave	Y	N	N
4 Fathers Pub	1724 Merrill Ave	Y	N	N
Labor Temple	318 S 3rd Ave	Y	N	N
North End Pub	1002 N 3rd Ave	Y	N	N
Lickity Splitz	1709 Merrill Ave	Y	N	N

*During a routine tavern inspection, officers check for the following:

- Sober, licensed bartender present.
- Presence of underage persons.
- Intoxicated persons being served.
- Entertainment license posted if applicable.

In addition to the listed tasks, officers often conduct walkthroughs of taverns, especially when observing large crowds to establish a visible presence, aiming to discourage criminal activities and to encourage compliance with ordinances related to alcohol licenses.

CONVENIENCE/GROCERY STORE INSPECTIONS

None.

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS

None.

ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE CHECKS*

*Alcohol Compliance Check Procedure: Police officers conduct alcohol compliance checks by deploying with underage volunteer(s) to taverns and other licensed establishments selling or serving alcoholic beverages to ensure compliance with ordinances related to alcohol licenses.

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

ACTIVITY LOG

Cop Shoppe Pub, 701 Washington Street

- (1) *Event #25129884 10/04/2025 at 01:25 Hours.* CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS: Officers responded to the report of a male who was refusing to leave the bar. Upon arrival the male agreed to leave. No enforcement action was taken.

Malarkey's, 412 N 3rd Street

- (1) *Event #25129918 10/02/2025 at 04:31 Hours.* CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS: An officer received a call from a bartender who reported earlier she served customers who got into a shouting match. She said the customers were asked to leave. She knew one of the customers personally and wanted the interaction documented because she was uncomfortable with their behavior.
- (2) *Event #25129050 10/02/2025 at 15:10 Hours.* CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS: An officer responded to the report of a female who refused to leave the outdoor seating area. Upon arrival, the female left.

Aftershock Bar and Grill 1418 Lenard Street

- (1) *Event 25136921 10/18/2025 at 22:05Hours.* NOISE COMPLAINT: (REFUSED CALLER) An officer responded to the report of "Super Loud" music. Upon arrival the officer noted, "Volume was not excessive from the exterior of the building. Bass noise could be heard at a slightly higher volume. Made contact with the hotdog DJ who adjusted his levels. While outside the music was barely audible following the adjusted levels."
- (2) *Event 25136976 10/19/2025 at 00:59 Hours.* NOISE COMPLAINT: (NAMED CALLER) An officer responded to the report of loud music and bass and a bunch of people out front. The responding officer noted the following: "Halloween event going on. Music/bass volume was not excessive, bartender explained they already turned it down. No group out in front of the bldg. Bartender advised they have instructed everyone to use the enclosed area in the back of the property if patrons choose to go outside. Bartender explained there`s been increased traffic due to the road construction, only one way in and out."
- (3) *Event 25140068 10/26/2025 at 00:23 Hours.* NOISE COMPLAINT: (REFUSED CALLER).

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

An officer responded to the report of loud music. The responding officer noted the following: "Appears to be karaoke night at the bar. Talked to the bartender and advised her of the noise complaint. The bass of the music can be heard from outside. Advised if a named caller comes forth then I may issue some paperwork.

(4) *Event 25140089 10/26/2025 at 03:49 Hours. WELFARE CHECK: (REFUSED CALLER)*

An officer responded to the report of music playing and the lights still on. Upon arrival at 03:58 the officer observed the lights were not on and no music could be heard.

Callon Street Pub, 209 Callon Street

(1) *Event #25129868 10/04/2025 at 00:45 Hours. CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS:* An officer responded to the report of a stolen vehicle. As a result, the vehicle was recovered, and a male was arrested for operating a motor vehicle without the owner's consent. The bar staff was able to provide surveillance footage inside the bar which assisted with the investigation.

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

DEMERIT POINTS ASSESSED

No demerit points were assessed during the month of October.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete Fish".

Lt. Peter Fish

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-7800

ADDENDUM #1 of 1: CURRENT DEMERIT POINTS

TAVERN NAME	VIOLATION	POINTS ASSESSED	DATE
Lemongrass	No Licensed Bartender	50	7/05/2025
Hiawatha Restaurant & Lounge	No Licensed Bartender	50	7/05/2025
Glass Hat Bar	Sale/Serve Underage	25	4/17/25
Hutch's	Sale/Serve Underage	25	4/17/25
Hiawatha Restaurant & Lounge	Disorderly Conduct	50	2/24/2025
4 Fathers Pub	Noise Complaint – Citation	50	2/1/2025

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

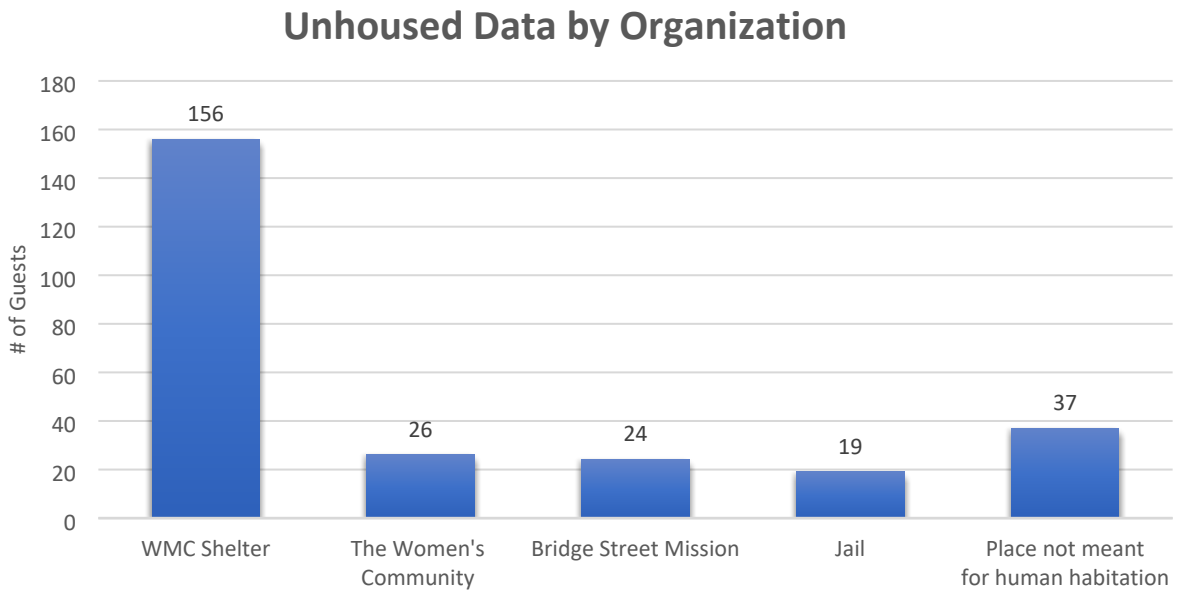
Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain

To: Public Health and Safety Committee
From: Tracy Durante, Community Outreach Specialist
Date: October 20, 2025
Re: Community Outreach Update



Unhoused Data

The following graph shows the number of unduplicated¹ guests housed by each organization in the previous month.



Unhoused Data Summary

In October, data provided suggests there were approximately 262 unhoused individuals identified in Wausau through various partnering agencies. As indicated in the footnote, 262 is not the true number of unhoused. As of today, organizations do not cross-reference names when coming up with their unduplicated count. This means an unhoused individual may be part of more than one organization's count, thereby inflating the true number of unhoused. An example is provided in the footnote. This number also does not include those individuals who are considered "couch surfing".

¹ The numbers reflected do not eliminate duplicates across organizations. For example, a person who stays at the WMC Shelter and Marathon County jail in the same month will count as 1 person for each organization.

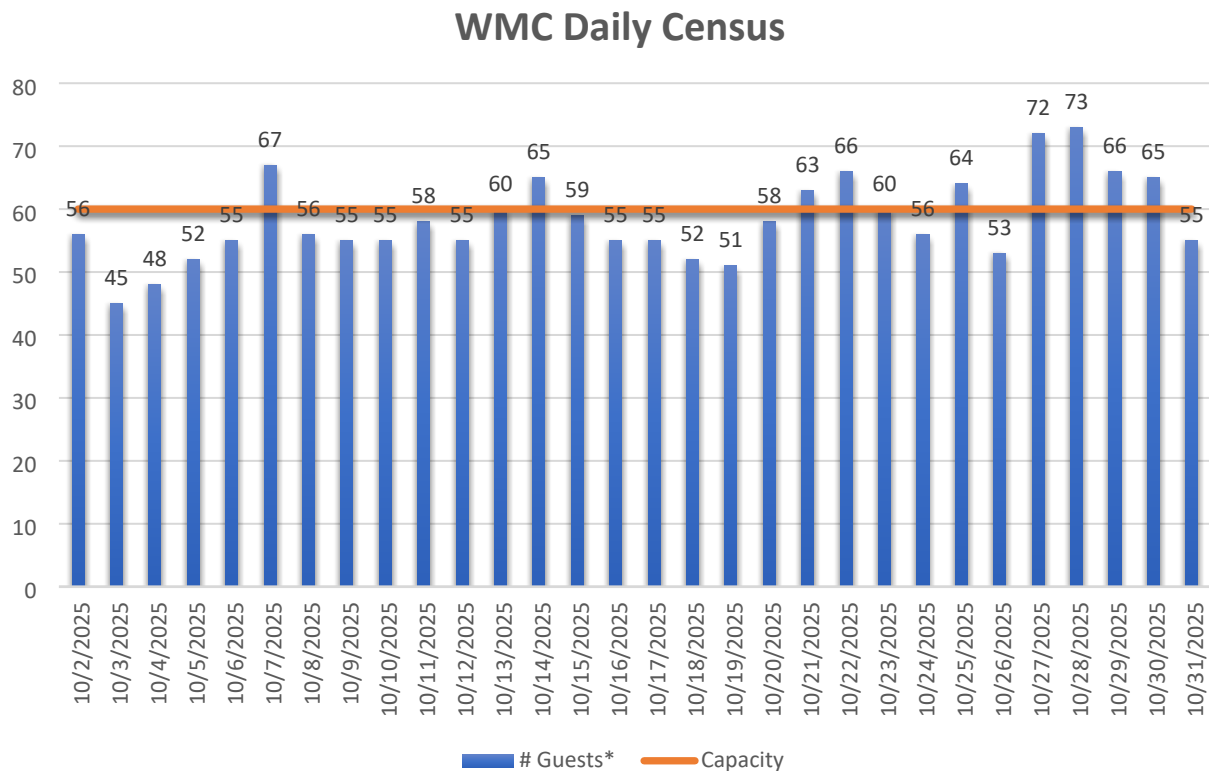
In the graph above, 86 percent of the unhoused sought or received shelter in the month of October. Approximately 14 percent of the unhoused were living outside, or in places not meant for human habitation.

The Women’s Community data includes crime victims who sought shelter because their home was unsafe. This number reflects both adult residents (13) and their children (13).

Bridge Street Mission includes individuals who have received shelter after release from jail/prison, drug rehab, or homelessness. The number reflected should include all individuals who are housed at Bridge Street Mission, because without this amazing program in our community, 24 (per this month’s census) individuals would likely be unhoused in our community.

The Marathon County Jail includes individuals who identify as “homeless” or “unhoused” at the time of booking.

Daily Census



Daily Census Summary

156 unduplicated individuals sought shelter at WMC shelter in the month of October. 28% (44 individuals) were entered in as “new” clients to the shelter. Approximately, 29% of these individuals were unhoused females. Approximately 16% of these individuals are actively employed. To date, 310 unduplicated individuals have sought shelter services at WMC Shelter since May 1, 2025.

936 volunteer hours were recorded for the month of October.

Outreach Update

In October, 7 guests (2 women and 5 men) were exited out of shelter, into stable housing.

In addition to assisting with housing, we have also provided additional aid like transportation to medical/psychiatric appointments, bus passes, medication management, collaboration with St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Charities, NCCAP, Social Services, Probation/Parole, and CW Solutions (FSET). Assistance was also provided with obtaining identification, setting individuals up with additional services through the ADRC as well as Community Treatment through NCHC. Case/Care Management is a service provided through both resources.

Collaboration with landlords and other non-profit agencies is on-going. Office hours at agencies throughout the city have proven beneficial in reaching the unhoused population.

Challenges and Opportunities

While we celebrate every time an unhoused individual achieves stable housing, the work does not and cannot end there. Generally, the unhoused population is vulnerable. Without someone providing ongoing support, management, intervention, accountability, and aid, the chances of remaining housed wane dramatically. In other words, our work can and will be undone in short order without systems to sustain the work. Thankfully, there are systems in place, but there are also gaps. Where gaps in case management exist, we are filling that void. We recognize, however, that our time and resources are limited in this regard. As a result, we are working to improve our understanding and relationship with existing systems while also exploring solutions that not only bridge the gap to housing, but to the essential supports that will make housing permanent.