



OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Finance Committee
DATE/TIME: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall – Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Michael Martens (C) Vicki Tierney (VC)
Becky McElhaney Chad Henke
Sarah Watson

Members Present: Michael Martens, Vicki Tierney, Becky McElhaney , Sarah Watson
Members Not Present:
Members Excused:
Present 4, 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.

No public comment was given.

2 Consideration of the minutes of the preceding meeting(s).

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

September 29, 2025 Budget Session #1 Finance Committee Minutes

September 30, 2025 Budget Session #2 Finance Committee Minutes

October 6, 2025 Budget Session #3 Finance Committee Minutes

October 13, 2025 Budget Session #4 Finance Committee Minutes

October 14, 2025 Joint Finance Committee and Economic Development Committee Minutes

3 Discussion and possible action.

a. 2026 Business Improvement District Operating Plan.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Henke, to approve. Motion Passed 5-0.

b. Authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$311,838 Taxable General Obligation Water System Promissory Notes, Series 2025, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto and approval of related \$9,450,172 financial assistance agreement.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Henke, to approve. Motion Passed 5-0.

c. Authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$4,596,236 Water System Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto and approval of related \$5,407,337 financial assistance agreement.

Motion by Henke, seconded by Watson, to approve. Motion Passed 5-0.

d. Recommending a 2026 Budget including setting the 2026 Fee Schedule.

McElhaney stated opposition to the fee schedule because of the increase in fees for pet licenses.

Watson questioned if the city could increase the animal license late fee. It was stated state statutes outlined the amount late fee could be charged.

Tierney stated opposition to the fee schedule because the fees direct too much to individuals trying to make ends meet and questioned why the city is required to give funds to the county. It was stated that state statutes require the city to cover county expenses for non-dog strays and that the city has two contracts with the humane society for animals held for cause and non-dog strays.

Martens stated that if the city's portion remained the same as last year, the fees would have to increase to \$27.

Watson questioned if setting a \$25 would be able to compromise.

Tierney questioned why there was a reduction in the microchip discount. It was stated that it was to help make the math easier for people who have difficulty totaling the animal license fee they owe. Tierney further stated there were items on the fee schedule that did not make a profit, but with animals it is not about profit.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Henke, to approve the fee schedule without the pet animal license fees. Motion Passed 5-0.

4 Adjournment.

Motion by Henke, seconded by Tierney, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:41PM



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