



OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Public Health & Safety Committee
DATE/TIME: Monday, December 15, 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, Sarah Watson, Carol Lukens
Members Not Present: Becky McElhaney
Members Excused:
Present 4, Not Present 1, Excused 0

Noting the presence of a quorum, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 05:15 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 Watson, seconded by Lukens, to approve all items outlined below. Motion Passed, 4-0.

November 17, 2025 Regular Public Health & Safety Committee Minutes

- 3 Discussion and possible action.**

- a. Approval or denial of various license applications.**

Rasmussen stated Krysten Thompson, applicant for Bartender/Operator License, did not appear to appeal the denial recommendation.

Rasmussen stated Jerry Jones, applicant for Public Transport Driver License, appeared to appeal the denial recommendation.

Rasmussen stated that due to the seriousness of the pending charge and the expectation held with granting a license for public transport drivers, there is a preference for having the pending charges resolved.

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Larson, to accept or deny license applications as recommended by staff. Motion Passed 4-0.

- b. Relocating Wards 17, 18, 19, 20 (District 7 & 8) to a New Polling Site in 2026.**

Motion by Larson, seconded by Watson, to approve moving the polling site for Aldermanic Districts 7 and 8 to East Gate Hall for the 2026 Spring Primary Election. Motion Passed 4-0.

- c. Changing the date of the January Public Health & Safety Committee meeting due to the regular meeting falling on MLK Day.**

Larson stated unavailability for the following Monday as there are neighborhood meetings at that same time.

Rasmussen stated that typically the winter months yield shorter agendas but was open to

considering an alternative day should a larger item arise.

Without objection, the meeting will be held on January 19th, 2025 during the regular scheduled time.

d. Tavern Activities Report from November 2025.

Rasmussen stated it made sense to summon the owner of Whiskey River to address the concerns of the establishment closing and not resuming operations. Rasmussen requested that the Clerk send a letter to the owner of Whiskey River that the establishment is in violation of the abandonment ordinance.

Report placed on file.

e. Community Outreach Update.

Report placed on file.

4 Discussion.

5 Adjournment.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Lukens, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 05:45 PM.

The recording of this meeting may be viewed on
YouTube [@CityofWausauMeetings](#)



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: December 7, 2025

To: Chief Barnes

From: Lt. Peter Fish

Subject: Tavern Report, November 1 – November 31

ROUTINE TAVERN INSPECTIONS*

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

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
Deputy Chief

Melinda Pauls
Patrol Captain

Benjamin Graham
Detective Captain

Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



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

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ACTIVITY LOG

Christine's Bar, 936 S 3rd Avenue

- (1) *Event #25152473 11/21/2025 at 21:18 Hours.* CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS: Officers received an anonymous tip about a male with a warrant who was under-aged (20 years old) and also armed with a handgun. As a result, the male was located and arrested. He was armed with a handgun and was inside the bar at the time of his arrest. The male was also cited for underage on premise. Neither the bar nor bartender were cited during the incident as there was nothing definitive showing the arrested male was served or consumed alcohol inside the bar.

Lickity Splitz Gentlemen's Club, 1709 Merrill Avenue

- (1) *Event #25142804 11/01/2026 at 02:25 Hours.* CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS: The bar called and reported a male was refusing to leave the bar. The male left prior to officers arrival.
- (2) *Event #25154162 11/25/2025 at 23:52 Hours.* CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS: An officer responded to the report of two males were refused service (Cut off) and became argumentative. The males were told to leave but went in and out of the bar multiple times. An officer arrived on scene and ensured the males left without incident.

Aftershock Bar and Grill 1418 Lenard Street

- (1) *Event 25155344 11/29/2025 at 00:36Hours.* EXTRA PATROL: An officer conducted an extra patrol and made no notable observations.

Matthew Barnes
Chief

Todd Baeten
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Melinda Pauls
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Benjamin Graham
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Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain



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DEMERIT POINTS ASSESSED

No demerit points were assessed during the month of November.

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

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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

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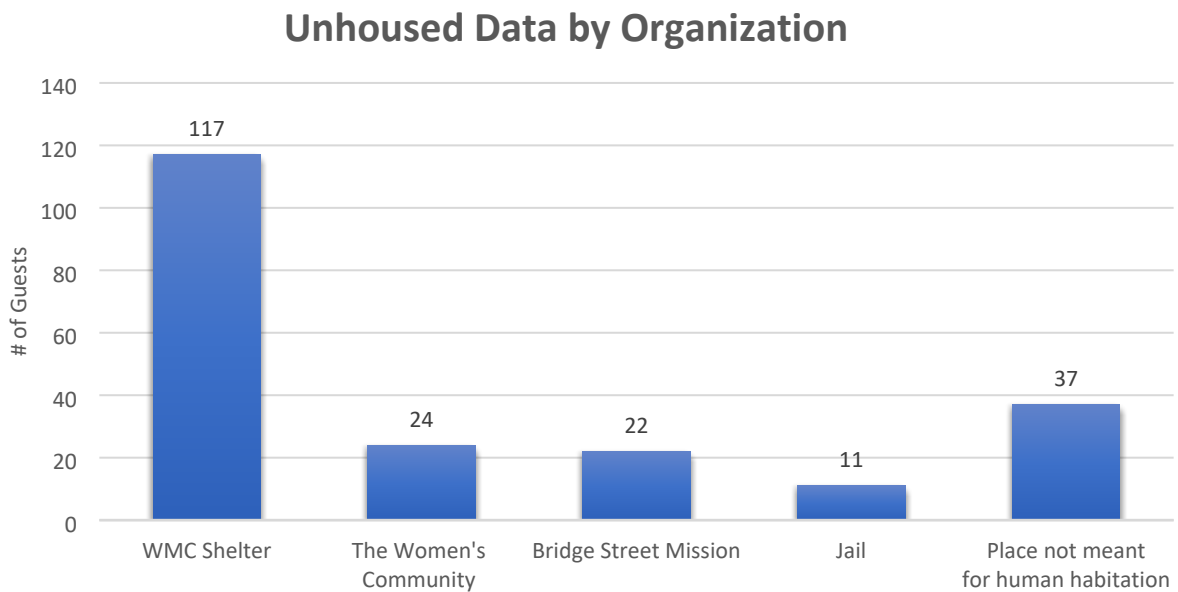
Nathan Cihlar
Administrative Captain

To: Public Health and Safety Committee
From: Tracy Durante, Community Outreach Specialist
Date: November 17, 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 November, data provided suggests there were approximately 211 unhoused individuals identified in Wausau through various partnering agencies. As indicated in the footnote, 211 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.

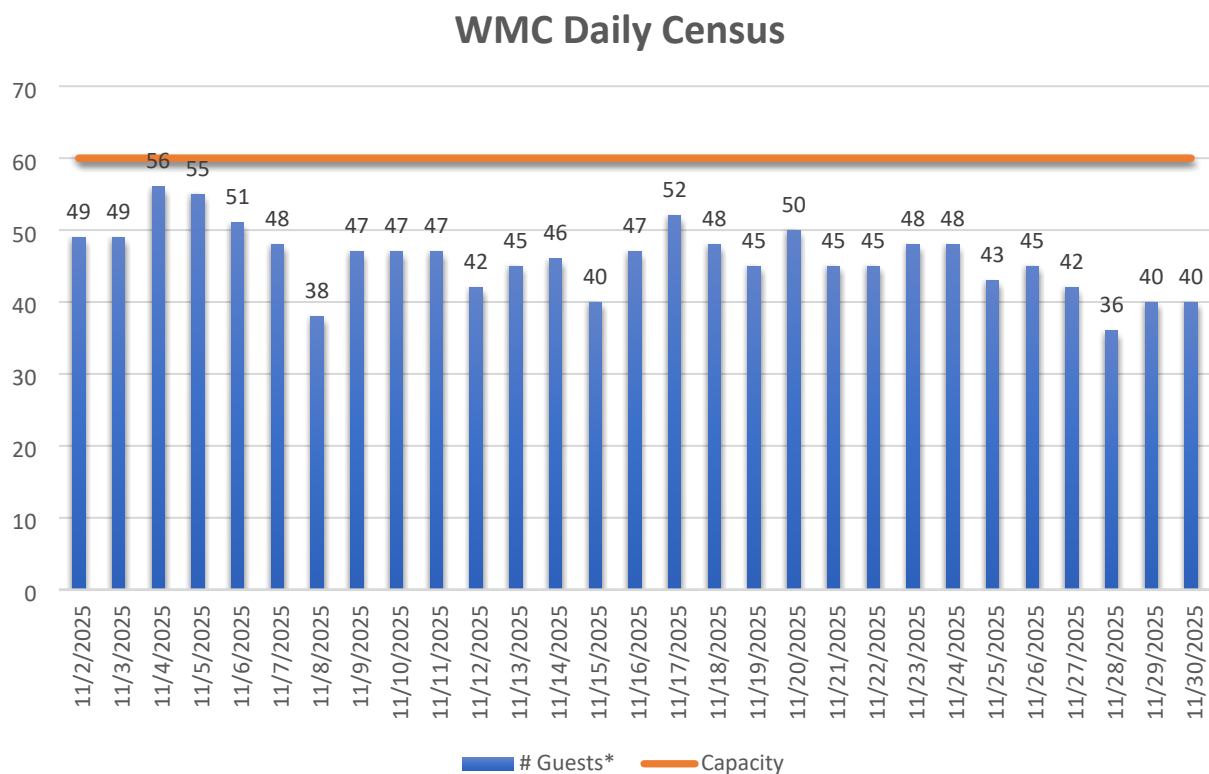
In the graph above, 82 percent of the unhoused sought or received shelter in the month of November. Approximately 18 percent of the unhoused were living outside, or in places not meant for human habitation.

The Women’s Community data includes crime victims who sought shelter because their home was unsafe. This number reflects both adult residents (11) 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, 22 (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

117 unduplicated individuals sought shelter at WMC shelter in the month of November. 15% (17 individuals) were entered in as “new” clients to the shelter. Approximately, 31% of these individuals were unhoused females. Approximately 16% of these individuals are actively employed. To date, 327 unduplicated individuals have sought shelter services at WMC Shelter since May 1, 2025.

1,026 volunteer hours were recorded for the month of November.

Outreach Update

In November, 3 guests (2 females and 1 male) 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.