



OFFICIAL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Finance Committee
DATE/TIME: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall — Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Michael Martens Vicki Tierney
(C) (VC)
Becky McElhaney Aaron Griner
Sarah Watson

Members Present: Michael Martens, Vicki Tierney, Becky McElhaney , Sarah Watson, Aaron Griner
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 05:17 PM.

1 Public comment on agenda items and reading of the City of Wausau Public Comment Statement.

Martens read the public comment statement.

McElhaney was present for the rest of the meeting.

1. Deb Hoppa, 1108 Bugbee Avenue - spoke in opposition to the solar array project.

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.

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3 Discussion and possible action.

- a.** Approving Airspace Obstruction Removal Agreement with Schofield Ridgeland Legacy LLC – 724 and 732 Ridgeland Avenue, Schofield and related budget modification.

Griner questioned if this would be funded through the airport's budget. It was stated this would come from the general fund generated by the airport revenue.

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

- b.** Approving Airspace Obstruction Removal Agreement with Zachary Lange – 811 Ridgeland Avenue, Schofield and related budget modification.

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

- c.** Approving Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Service Agreement with Harter's Fox Valley Disposal LLC.

Tierney questioned if the existing agreement was for 10-years and if this was a new 7-year agreement. It was stated that this agreement was for a 10-year agreement.

Griner questioned the reason why the contract increased standard operating costs. It was

stated that the previous 10-year agreement was a great deal that locked in the prices with a 2% increase each year because Harter's was just entering the local market to establish services in the area. Griner further questioned other respondents to the request for proposal.

McElhaney questioned if the agreement was supposed to be a 7-year agreement or a 10-year agreement as recommended by the Finance Committee and the Public Health & Safety Committee. It was stated that the Public Health & Safety Committee had approved a 7-year contract but the resolution approved a 10-year contract.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Tierney, to approve the Harter's contract contingent upon verification of the term selected at the September 23, 2025 Common Council meeting. Motion Passed 5-0.

- d.** Budget amendment for the Wausau Police Department to use the proceeds of the sale of a Thompson Sub-Machinegun to purchase red-dot optics.

Watson questioned if the construction of a shooting range for the Police Department was still a goal. It was stated that these funds would not make the difference between moving forward or not with the proposed shooting range.

Griner questioned the legality of spending funding on this new purchase as opposed to the agreement to sell the guns for the building of the shooting range. It was recommended that the committee approve the rescinding of the funds as originally allocated along with the motion to approve.

Motion by Tierney, seconded by Griner, to rescind the previous motion to use the funds and approve the budget amendment. Motion Passed 5-0.

- e.** Approving Sole Source Request for the purchase of Vortex Defender ST Red Dot sights for the Wausau Police Department.

Watson questioned the life-range on the sights. It was stated that the manufacturer has a lifetime warranty to replace parts on the purchased sights.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Watson, to approve the Sole Source Request for the purchase of Vortex Defender ST Red Dot sights for the Wausau Police Department. Motion Passed 5-0.

- f.** Approving Sole Source Request for the purchase of Stryker cots for the Wausau Fire Department.

Tierney questioned how many cots needed to be replaced. It was stated this was for two cots used in ambulances with funding coming from assistant programs from state assistance for EMS equipment.

Griner questioned if that would come out of the budget or the assistance program. It was stated the funding would come out of the assistance program funding only.

McElhaney questioned the decision-making for switching cots to Stryker. It was stated that the previously utilized cots were not user-friendly.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Tierney, to approve the Sole Source Request for the purchase of Stryker cots for the Wausau Fire Department. Motion Passed 5-0.

- g.** Approving Sole Source Request for the purchase of services to complete the site investigation for the Thomas Street Corridor Area A, BRRS #02-37-98599 by REI Engineering for the Wausau Department of Public Works.

Tierney questioned why other providers were not considered. It was stated that the vendor was already familiar with the site area and the tight turn-around to complete the testing as a local vendor. Tierney stated other vendors could complete the testing without being local. It

was stated that vendors outside the area would be more expensive to complete the testing.

Griner questioned the funding source. It was stated that this could come out of allocations for affordable housing to remediate parcels.

Motion by Watson, seconded by McElhaney, to approve the Sole Source Request for the purchase of services to complete the site investigation for REI Engineering. Motion Passed 5-0.

- h.** Approving renewal of Parking Lot Lease with Colonial Property 4, LLC (Grant and 3rd Streets).

Martens stated the 4% seemed reasonable considering the cost involved.

Watson questioned if that was an increase every year or over the 3-year term. It was stated this was over the 3-year term.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Griner, to approve the renewal of the lease with Colonial Property 4, LLC at a 4% increase for the 3-year term. Motion Passed 5-0.

- i.** Approving proposal from Clark Dietz, Inc. to perform engineering professional services for the solar array project.

Griner stated support for sustainable energy but wanted to see what the final cost would be before moving forward, as it will not be known if the city will receive federal grants and reimbursement until May of this year.

Martens stated that if the committee failed to move forward the city would miss some of the incentives to fund the project. It was stated that the financial incentives would remain in place, but the timeline for construction would be constricted. Martens further stated support for moving forward with the project within the next few months to stabilize the water rates for Wausau Water Works.

Motion by Tierney, seconded by Griner, to postpone consideration until the city hears back on grant funding outcomes. Motion Passed 5-0.

- j.** Approving paid duty time for out of country training for a Wausau Police Department Officer.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Tierney, to approve paid duty time for out of country training for a Wausau Police Department Officer. Motion Passed 5-0.

- k.** Approving Community Outreach Professional shelter operations duty premium differential.

Watson questioned if this would be a permanent change. It was stated this was not.

Motion by Watson, seconded by McElhaney, to approve Community Outreach Professional shelter operations duty premium differential. Motion Passed 5-0.

- l.** Approving contract with Kueny Architects LLC for Wausau Area Transit Feasibility Study.

Watson questioned the funding sources. It was stated this would come locally from the transit fund and from grant funding.

Motion by Watson, seconded by McElhaney, to approve contract with Kueny Architects LLC for Wausau Area Transit Feasibility Study. Motion Passed 5-0.

4 Adjournment.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Griner, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 06:33

PM.

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



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