

MINUTES

February 23, 2026

Members Present: Jonathan Smith (Chair), Alder Tom Neal, Alder Terry Kilian, Chris Filtz, and Veronica Hope

Others Present: Makayla Galecki (Wausau MPO), Lt. Jillian Kurtzhals, Jim Tlusty, Dave Wood, and Carrie Edmondson

Location: Wausau City Hall, 407 Grant Street, Council Chambers

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the Wausau Daily Herald in the proper manner.

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Public Comment**

Jim Tlusty spoke about the lack of snow removal on Grand Avenue near Kent Street. He saw someone in a wheelchair using Grand Avenue because the sidewalk was not accessible. Dave Wood also reported issues with sidewalk clearing in that area.

**3. Consideration of the January 26, 2026, meeting minutes.**

*Motion/second by Neal/Kilian to approve. Passed unanimously. 5-0*

**4. Discussion and possible action**

*a.* Wausau MPO Draft Model E-Bike Ordinance

Carrie noted that she had met with Director Polley, Parks Director and the Police Department and had noted their comments. Alder Kilian noted that enforcement is still problematic because often once reported it is too late. Lt. Kurtzhals noted that the CSO's are out along the River Edge Parkway and they assist with enforcement if someone is operating in an erratic or unsafe manner. Alder Neal said the presence of the CSO provides a deterrent and that we need to be aggressive with signage. Chair Smith did not support including one-wheels specifically. Chris Filtz noted he would like to include anything without pedals as not allowed on the trails. Alder Neal expressed the importance of including all devices in this code. Carrie clarified that this ordinance will be brought back as a draft and most likely move through Public Health and Safety Committee on to Common Council. Director Polley noted that the east side of the River Edge Parkway and the west side will be signed in spring. She is still considering whether an additional sign should be placed near the playground at Riverlife Park.

*Motion/second by Neal/Filtz to incorporate comments and bring a draft forward. Passed unanimously, 5-0.*

- b. Spring newsletter submittal – due 3/6/26  
Jonathan will be preparing a newsletter submittal about his Mellow Streets map.

**5. Discussion**

- a. Sidewalk Snow Removal Process and Procedure  
Carrie presented an overview prepared by Kurt DuBore on the process for reporting sidewalk snow removal complaints, issuing violation letters, and assessing fees for cleaning and administration. Chris Filtz noted that Westwood Avenue sidewalks have not been cleared and that people are walking along Bridge Street. Alders Kilian and Neal noted that the seven days after a Violation Letter is mailed is too long for the sidewalk to not be cleared and thought a more aggressive process is in order. Chris Filtz agreed due to the fact that this is a safety concern. There was group consensus that this process must be improved to facilitate safety and accessibility.
- b. MPO Bike/Ped Subcommittee Update
  - Bicycle Friendly Community application – Carrie is working with Wausau School District to complete the Education section.
  - Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant update. The MPO did not receive the grant, but were given direction to make adjustments and resubmit.
  - Grand Avenue design. The City of Schofield has similar concerns about the Grand Avenue design
  - Wisconsin Healthy Communities Summit will be held April 23-24, 2026, at the Hilton Garden Inn.

**6. Update on City projects.**

- a. Bikeshare expansion – City staff has started the sponsorship campaign.
- b. RRFB installation 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Bridge Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue/Callon Street  
No update.
- c. River Edge Parkway – Northcentral Technical College has made a stencil for the on-street logo that will be painted along the on-street portion of the River Edge Parkway.

**7. Items for future agendas.**

- Sidewalk snow removal process and procedure
- RRFB update
- Bike flags – City of Wausau or outside sponsorship
- River Edge Parkway

**8. Next meeting date.**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2026.

**9. Adjournment**

*Motion/second by Neal/Filtz to approve. Passed unanimously. 5-0*