

MINUTES
March 5, 2026

Members Present: Jean Abreu (C), Alder Carol Lukens, Christine Daniels, Britnie Remer, and Dan Zinsmeister

Others Present: Vincent Bonino and Carrie Edmondson

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

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Public comment.

No public comment was received.

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

Motion/second Christine/Britnie to approve the February 5, 2026, minutes as presented, passed 5-0.

4. Discussion and possible action.

- a. Wausau Sustainability Award – determination on Wausau Sustainability Awards application submittal from Liz Reynolds on behalf of Kolbe Windows and Doors
Motion/second Dan/Christine to approve the award, passed 5-0. The award will be presented at the March 23, 2026, Common Council meeting. One or two group members will attend.
- b. Mayors' Monarch Pledge – consideration and recommendation to take the annual Mayors' Monarch Pledge
Carol provided an overview of the draft Mayors' Monarch Pledge submission. She reviewed potential interest items including a proclamation, changing mowing protocol, and adding signage for recognition.
Motion/second to approve the Mayors' Monarch Pledge Christine/Britnie, passed 5-0.
- c. Consideration and recommendation on the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Wausau and the Midwest Renewable Energy Association

(MREA) to partner in the operation of the Grow Solar Central Wisconsin Group Buy Program

Carrie provided an overview of the Grow Solar Central Wisconsin Group Buy Program and the proposed sponsorship agreement. Dan asked about other cities experiences in partnering with the program.

Motion/second Christine/Dan to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, passed 5-0.

5. Discussion

- a. UW-Extension – Beginning Vegetable Gardening for Everyone – discussion of marketing plan.

Carrie noted that she had created a press release and City Facebook post. She also printed flyers for the group to distribute to area establishments. She and Janell have a radio interview scheduled with WXCO. The MCPL is advertising on their social media and Janell has shared with Master Gardeners and Wausau Yards and Gardens Facebook group. Britnie created half sheets with information about SEEC to hand out at the classes.

- b. Earth Day Initiatives – discussion of potential committee involvement with various Earth Day initiatives

The group discussed Earth Day and noted there are a lack of events in the Wausau area.

- c. Work plan prioritization activity

The group continued the work plan discussion including prioritization and creation of goals statements, including the following:

- The SEEC Committee will oversee the creation of a five-year climate action/sustainability plan, present it to the City Council, and attain adoption by the Council by April 1, 2027.
- The SEEC will educate the community by engaging our neighbors, youth, residents & businesses through sustainability-focused programming and providing opportunities for involvement culminating in Earth Week, April 2027.

Dan agreed to bring various climate action/sustainability templates forward for discussion.

6. Adjournment.

Motion/second to adjourn Carol/Britnie to adjourn, passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.