

MINUTES

April 27, 2026

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

Others Present: Alder Kristin Slonski, Makayla Galecki (Wausau MPO), Police Chief Matt Barnes, Melinda Pauls, TJ Niksich, 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.

1. Call to Order

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

3. Consideration of the March 23, 2026, meeting minutes.

Motion/second by Kilian/Filtz to approve. Passed unanimously. 4-0

4. Discussion and possible action

- a. Approving April 2026 City of Wausau Sidewalk Snow Removal Non-Compliance Procedure*

Carrie provided an overview and noted that the policy had been modified to require abatement once snow/ice obstructions are identified and documented. Staff will publicize the change in the fall through social media and the Wausau Works for You newsletter to make the public aware of the change. Alder Kilian verified that 48 hours must pass before abatement is ordered. Carrie clarified that this is specified under Step 4 – Abatement Operations. A fee is charged for abatement. Chair Smith noted this is a policy change at the staff level versus an ordinance change.

Motion/second by Filtz/Kilian to approve. Passed unanimously, 4-0.

- b. Repealing and recreating Wausau Municipal Code Chapter 10.40 Bicycles and repealing chapters 10.41, 10.42, and 10.43.*

Alder Kilian stated that the Committee has expressed concern with enforcement. Chief Barnes stated that enforcement will be prioritized with all of the other work that the Police Department is doing. He does not expect many citations for e-bikers. He stated that he thinks users of electric devices create safety concerns for others and themselves. He encouraged the committee to keep the ordinance simple. Melinda Pauls asked if the Wisconsin Statute references in the definitions could be spelled out in our ordinance. She

asked for it to be on this agenda for consistency in enforcement over the summer months. Alder Kilian asked if the Police Department could assist in creating public awareness about e-bike laws in the City of Wausau. Chief Barnes agreed that the Police Department could create materials to simplify the ordinance for public education purposes.

Motion/second Smith/Filtz to approve as presented with expanded definition section. Passed unanimously 4-0.

c. Approving Wausau MPO bike counter placement locations

Discussion ensued on bike counter placement. The following priority locations were identified:

- 1) *River Drive near the County buildings*
- 2) *Peckham Way*
- 3) *Move WOW further north of the pedestrian bridge near Wausau Avenue*
- 4) *New 72nd Avenue segment*
- 5) *South 28th Avenue south of Sherman Street*
- 6) *Oak Island Park south of the boat landing*

Motion/second Smith/Hope to approve. Passed unanimously 4-0.

5. Discussion

a. Discussion on May Bike Month activities

Kwik Trip volunteered to donate coffee, hot chocolate, pastries, and bananas for the event. The Chocolate Shop may provide coupons for items later that day. Jonathan and Carrie will attend Chris is a maybe. The route will be the same as last year.

b. Discussion of next steps for Student Bicycle Safety Program

Carrie provided an overview and noted that the next step would be to ask a champion from the committee to come forward and that staff could seek funding.

c. MPO Bike/Ped Subcommittee update

Carrie provided an overview of the last MPO Bike/Ped Subcommittee meeting.

6. Update on City projects.

a. RRFB installation 6th Avenue/Bridge Street and 1st Avenue/Callon Street

No update.

b. River Edge Parkway

Jonathan noted that the signs are installed and look very nice. The asphalt at the end of Peckham Way is in need of attention.

c. 2026 Healthy Communities Summit

Carrie provided an update about the summit.

d. Department of Public Works conversation on municipal sidewalk snow clearing prioritization

Jonathan noted that he had a conversation with Director Lindman about prioritizing clearing on the bridges.

7. Items for future agendas.

Next meeting – Monday, June 22, 5:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

Motion/second by Filtz/Hope to approve. Passed unanimously. 4-0 The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.