



OFFICIAL NOTICE & AGENDA REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Public Health & Safety Committee
DATE/TIME: Monday, July 20, 2026, at 5:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall — Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Lou Larson (C) Kristin Slonski
Carol Lukens (VC) Bruce Trueblood
Sarah Watson

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).

June 15, 2026 Regular Public Health & Safety Committee Minutes

3 Discussion and possible action.

- a. Approval or denial of various license applications.
- b. Consider request granting a 90 day extension to open for business for good cause for The Copper Kettle Steakhouse located at 5512 Stewart Avenue, The Copper Kettle Steakhouse, LLC., agent Robert A. Lamovec.
- c. Amending Section.10.40.040 Rules of the Road and Areas of Operations.
- d. Review of large-item drop off event and consideration of changes to future events.
- e. Interval of the Community Outreach report and other communications from organizations supporting the unhoused population.

4 Discussion.

- a. Wausau Police Department Quarter 2 2026 Report
- b. Tavern Activities Report from June 2026.
- c. Community Outreach Report

5 Adjournment.

Lou Larson, Chairperson

NOTICE POSTED AT CITY HALL (407 GRANT STREET) AND
TRANSMITTED TO THE OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED NEWSPAPER

DATE: 07/14/2026
TIME: 7:30 PM
POSTED BY: Kody Hart



This meeting can be viewed on
YouTube and Channel 981 on Cable TV

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-

6622 or ADAServices@wausauwi.gov to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.



City of Wausau
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OFFICIAL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

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LOCATION: Wausau City Hall — Council Chambers
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MEMBERS:
Lou Larson (C) Kristin Slonski
Carol Lukens (VC) Bruce Trueblood
Sarah Watson

Members Present: Lou Larson, Carol Lukens, Kristin Slonski, Bruce Trueblood, Sarah Watson

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 05:16 PM.

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

Larson read the public comment statement.

1. Deb Ryan, 702 Elm Street - spoke on having meetings on transit issues and vehicles, and on the homeless population.

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

May 18, 2026 Regular Public Health & Safety Committee Minutes

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

June 1, 2026 Special Public Health & Safety Committee Minutes

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

3 Discussion and possible action.

a. Approval or denial of various license applications.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Slonski, to approve or deny various licenses as indicated.
Motion Passed 5-0.

b. Consider request granting a 90 day extension to open for business for good cause for True North #855 located at 4611 Stewart Avenue, True North Energy LLC, agent Michelle Knox.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Trueblood, to grant the extension to True North to September 18th, 2026. Motion Passed 5-0.

c. Reviewing Wausau Municipal Code Chapter 10.40 Bicycles, E-Bikes, and Similar Devices Regulated.

Without objection, this item was not taken up at this time.

d. Amending Section 17.16.020 Inspections of buildings and premises.

Without objection, this item was not taken up at this time.

- e.** Approving City of Wausau Emergency Operations Plan.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Lukens, to approve the City of Wausau Emergency Operations Plan with the grammatical errors corrected as noted. Motion Passed 5-0.

- f.** Approving Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding Fox Valley Regional Fire Departments Mobile Food Preparation Vehicle Inspection Program.

Trueblood questioned how many of the food trucks pass inspection.

Watson stated that perhaps food trucks should have a different bar of inspection and questioned if that was a state regulations determination.

Motion by Slonski, seconded by Trueblood, to approve. Motion Passed 5-0.

- g.** Approving Agreement for Urban Search and Rescue Emergency Response Services 2026-2028.

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

- h.** Reviewing Wausau Police Department staffing for the downtown area.

Larson questioned if behaviors observed by some unhoused individuals had been lessened by the presence of the officers in the downtown area. It was stated that the consistent presence of the same officers and the Community Outreach Specialist has helped with the community policing and prevention of such behaviors.

Watson questioned how well the new shelters on the city's west side fit into the neighborhood. It was stated the police have made efforts with neighbors of the shelter to communicate about happenings in the area and are working with shelter residents to limit nuisances.

4 Discussion.

- d.** Community Outreach Update from Bridge Street Mission.

Without objection, this item was taken up at this time out of order of the agenda.

Craig Vincent, Executive Director at Bridge Street Mission, and James Torstenson, Director of Homeless Services at Bridge Street Mission, presented on homelessness initiatives of the organization. Meagan Barnett, Public Health Coordinator for Homelessness Response for Marathon County, presented on homelessness coordination between the Bridge Street Mission, the City of Wausau, and Marathon County.

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- a.** Wausau Police Department use of Flock Safety ALPR (Automated License Plate Recognition), including program updates and safety, security, and privacy considerations.

Ben Graham, Investigations Captain at the Wausau Police Department, presented on Flock Safety Automated License Plate Recognition.

Watson stated the policy that was presented was well conceived and addressed the issues brought forward by the community. Watson requested a report from the annual audit come before the Public Health & Safety Committee.

Larson requested a report from the annual audit in January.

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- b. Tavern Activities Report from May 2025.

Report placed on file.

- c. Community Outreach Specialist Update.

Watson questioned if Bridge Street Mission numbers would be included in future updates. It was stated that data would be included in future update reports.

Report placed on file.

5 Hearing.

- a. Rent Abatement Request for 1418 N. 1st Street, Apartment 105 (Viviane De Azevedo Dias-Gomes and Vagner Luis Costa-Gomes, Tenant; Paramark Real Estate Service, Landlord).

Larson called forward all witnesses to be sworn in for testimony by Deputy Clerk Kody Hart. Viviane De Azevedo Dias-Gomes and Vagner Luis Costa-Gomes, tenant at the address in question, Joe Sigl, representative of the landlord of the address in question, and Adam Malzahn, Property Inspector with the City of Wausau, were sworn in. Larson proceeded with instructions for the hearing.

Viviane De Azevedo Dias-Gomes and Vagner Luis Costa-Gomes testified, followed by questions asked and answered between the witnesses and members of the committee. Joe Sigl testified, followed by questions asked and answered between the witnesses and members of the committee. Adam Malzahn testified, followed by questions asked and answered between the witnesses and members of the committee.

6 Closed Session.

Adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute § 19.85(1)(a) for deliberating a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before the governmental body, for the purpose of deliberating a rent abatement request for 1418 N. 1st Street, Apartment 105.

Motion by Lukens, seconded by Trueblood, to adjourn into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute § 19.85(1)(a) for deliberating a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before the governmental body, for the purpose of deliberating a rent abatement request for 1418 N. 1st Street, Apartment 105.

Yes - Larson, Lukens, Slonski, Trueblood, Watson

No - None

Abstained - None

Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

MOTION PASSED.

The Public Health & Safety Committee convened into Closed Session.

Motion by Trueblood, seconded by Watson, to reconvene into open session. Motion passed 5-0.

7 Reconvene into Open Session, if necessary, to take action on Closed Session items.

The Public Health & Safety Committee reconvene into Open Session.

Motion by Watson, seconded by Slonski, to abate rent at 50% backdated to the initial inspection of July 24, 2025 and have the 50% abatement continue until the violation is remediated. Motion Passed 5-0.

Finding of Fact and Conclusions of Law placed on file.

8 Adjournment.

Motion by Trueblood, seconded by Lukens, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

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



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City Clerk

DATE: July 20, 2026
TO: Public Health & Safety Committee
SUBJECT: Approval or denial of various license applications.

PURPOSE

Approve or deny various licenses as indicated on the attached summary report of all applications received.

BACKGROUND

Applications as listed have or will have a background check run by staff and reviewed by the Police Chief or a designee. In accordance with city ordinance, all permits approved are held for debts owed to the city until the debt is paid in full.

RECOMMENDATION

Denial Recommendation - New Bartender/Operator License:

- **Zion Merriam** – This application is recommended for denial due to 2020 Conviction of 4th Degree Sexual Assault.
- **Brent Ruffin** – This application is recommended for denial due to 2018 conviction for resisting an officer with substantial bodily harm with attempted armed robbery dismissed but read in.
- **Darrius Williams** - This application is recommended for denial due to previous convictions of battery, felony possession of a firearm, and false imprisonment.

Approval Recommendation - Obstruction Permit:

- **Sugar 'n Spice Cheesecakes & Coffee** located at 108 S. 2nd Avenue, license applicant Sugar N Spice Cheesecakes LLC, Hannah Steege.
- **Evolutions In Design** located at 626 N. 3rd Street, license applicant Evolutions In Design LLC, Randy P. Verhasselt

Approval Recommendation - Special Event Class I License:

- **Harvest Fest** located at the 400 Block on October 3, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, license applicant Wausau Events, Brooklyn Hess.
- **Wausau Arts Festival** located at the 400 Block on September 12 and 13, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, license applicant Wausau Festival of

Arts Inc, Meghan Schneck.

Approval Recommendation – Special Event Class II License:

- **New Jobs on the Block - Community Job Fair** located at the 400 Block on September 17, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, license applicant Advance Wisconsin Employment, Peter Gelhar.

Pending Recommendations – “Class B” Beer & Liquor Reserve License:

- **The Rec Room** located at 811 N. 3rd Avenue, license applicant The Rec Room LLC, Molly and Scott Bergman. The Liquor License Review Subcommittee will bring the recommendations to the committee meeting.

Approval Recommendations – “Class C” Liquor (Wine Only) License:

- **Writual Collective** located at 525 N. 3rd Avenue, license applicant Writual Press LLC, Sheila M. Ellis.

Approval Recommendation - Temporary "Class B" Picnic License:

- **Member Appreciation Picnic** located at 209 W. Washington Street on August 13, 2026, from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM, license applicant Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce, agent Kaycee Packard.
- **Barn Dane** located at 1104 S. 9th Avenue on August 16, 2026, from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM, license applicant Holy Name of Jesus Parish, James Lynch.

Approval Recommendation - Live Poultry License:

- **Kelly Clerk-Gartmann** vending from 1017 S. 9th Avenue applicant Kelly Clerk-Gartmann.



PHS Date 07/20/2026

License ID	License Typ	Name	Address	Details	Business	Begin Dt	End Dt	Police	PHS	Council
228873	9010 - Bartender/Operator New	MERRIAM, ZION	637 1/2 S 3RD AVE WAUSAU WI 54401		FUEL ON #62	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	No		
231898	9010 - Bartender/Operator New	RUFFIN, BRENT	102 S 6TH AVE WAUSAU WI 54401		FUEL ON #62	07/01/2026	06/30/2027	No		
232718	9010 - Bartender/Operator New	WILLIAMS, DARRIUS	305 STEWART AVE #2 WAUSAU WI 54401		FUEL ON #62	07/01/2026	06/30/2027	No		
233049	850 - Obstruction	STEEGE, JUSTIN	419 FRENZEL ST WAUSAU WI 54403							
232760	850 - Obstruction	VERHASSELT, RANDY	626 N 3RD STREET WAUSAU WI 54403-4831							
232048	9026 - Special Event - Class I	HESS, BROOKLYN	316 SCOTT STREET WAUSAU WI 54403	2026 HARVEST FEST on 10/03/2026 Organized by WAUSAU EVENTS						
233336	9026 - Special Event - Class I	SCHNECK, MEGHAN	726 WINTON STREET MADISON WI 54403	WAUSAU FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2026 on 09/12,09/13/2026 Organized by WAUSAU FESTIVAL OF ARTS						
232049	9027 - Special Event - Class II	,	2801 HOOVER ROAD STEVENS POINT WI 54467	NEW JOBS ON THE BLOCK - COMMUNITY JOB FAIR on 09/17/2026 Organized by ADVANCED WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT						



PHS Date 07/20/2026

License ID	License Typ	Name	Address	Details	Business	Begin Dt	End Dt	Police	PHS	Council
233436	9066 - "Class C" Wine	,	4603 CAMP PHILLIPS ROAD SCHOFIELD WI 54476		WRITUAL COLLECTIVE			Yes		
233069	9068 - "Class B" Beer & Liquor Reserve	BERGMAN, MOLLY	312 SOUTH ROAD MARATHON WI 54448		THE REC ROOM			Yes		
233428	9069 - Temporary "Class B" (Picnic)	LYNCH, JAMES	1104 S 9TH AVE WAUSAU WI 54401		HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH					
233017	9069 - Temporary "Class B" (Picnic)	PACKARD, KAYCEE	209 W WASHINGTON ST WAUSAU WI 54403		GREATER WAUSAU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE					
233288	9055 - Live Poultry	CLARK-GARTMANN, KELLY	1017 S 9TH AVE WAUSAU WI 54401			04/01/2026	11/01/2026			
Total Licenses										6



Planning, Community and Economic Development

Date: July 14, 2026

To: Infrastructure and Facilities Committee
Public Health and Safety Committee
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)

From: Carrie Edmondson, AICP, Assistant City Planner

RE: River Edge Parkway - Thomas Street Bridge to River Drive

Improving connectivity through the identification and resolution of gaps, including micro gaps along the River Edge Parkway, continues to be a focus of staff. A small but important gap has been identified between the Thomas Street Bridge protected multiuse path and the multiuse path within Oak Island Park. Currently, pedestrians and bicyclists must navigate the driveways in Oak Island Park between River Drive and the end of the River Edge Parkway. Outside the park, bicyclists should be using River Drive, which is unmarked, between Thomas Street and the park entrance, while pedestrians can use the sidewalk along River Drive.

In the long term, the most logical solution appears to be expanding the sidewalk on the west side of River Drive into a full multiuse path. In the interim, staff requested BPAC's guidance on whether this segment of sidewalk should be designated in the Wausau Municipal Code as one where bicycling on sidewalks is permitted. At their regular meeting on June 22, 2206, BPAC recommended moving forward allowing bicyclists on this stretch of sidewalk to standing committees.



ORDINANCE OF	
Amending Section.10.40.040 Rules of the Road and Areas of Operations	
Committee Action:	Ordinance Number:
Fiscal Impact: None	
File Number: 26-0507	Date Introduced:

The Common Council of the City of Wausau do ordain as follows:

Add ()
Delete ()

Section 1. That Section 10.40.040 Rules of the Road and Areas of Operations, is hereby amended to read as follows:

....

(b) Sidewalks.

(1) Bicycle, E-Bicycle, Electric Scooter, and PAMD shall be permitted to operate on the sidewalks in the following locations:

- i. Grand Avenue, from Schofield City limits to the southern boundary line of Forest Street.
- ii. Forest Street, from the east boundary of Sixth Street to the west boundary of Fifth Street.
- iii. East Randolph Street, at the beginning of the curb radii, of the East Randolph Street terminus, to approximately 350 feet east onto Burek Avenue.

iv. River Drive from its southern terminus at East Thomas Street 750 feet north.

v. East Thomas Street from the Thomas Street bridge to the intersection with River Drive.

~~iv~~vi. Bridge Street bridge

~~v~~vii. Thomas Street bridge

~~vi~~viii. Scott Street and Washington Street bridges

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on the day after its publication.

Adopted:
Approved:
Published:
Attest:

Approved:

Doug Diny, Mayor

Attest:

Rachel Brown, Clerk

MINUTES

June 22, 2026

Members Present: Alder Kristin Slonski (Chair), Alder Terry Kilian, Chris Filtz, Cody Shaide, and Arlene Kaatz

Others Present: Makayla Galecki (Wausau MPO), Carrie Edmondson (staff), and Patricia Thwaites

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 by the presiding officer

Chair Slonski called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
The group went around with introductions.

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

Patricia Thwaites 2407 Oakwood Blvd., Wausau, stated that she rides a traditional bicycle and has concerns about e-bikes and pedestrian safety on walking paths, specifically the River Edge Parkway. She is grateful for the posted 15 maximum speed limit, but encourages reduction to 8-10 mph. She also suggests requiring bells and horns be used to signal to pedestrians versus a person's voice, as it is more consistent.

3. Election of a Vice Chair

Alder Slonski nominated Alder Kilian for Vice-Chair who noted she would be open to other nominations.
Code Shaide self-nominated and Filtz seconded. Passed unanimously, 5-0.

4. Consideration of the April 27, 2026, meeting minutes.

Motion/second by Kilian/Filtz to approve. Passed unanimously, 5-0.

5. Discussion and possible action

- a. Approve bike rack request (four total) for Westsider Diner & Lounge 628 N. Third Avenue

Carrie noted that the applicant had submitted a request for four bike racks and has ample space. She said that this item was before BPAC as four bike racks are requested and the City only has six in stock. Tyler noted that he would like to paint them orange. Alder Slonski noted that making them more visible would be positive. No one voiced objection to the number or the color.

*Motion/second by Filtz/Shaide to approve the four bike racks and to paint them orange.
Passed unanimously, 5-0.*

- b. Approve River Drive bicycling on sidewalk and intersection improvements.

Carrie noted that this is a microgap that has been identified in the River Edge Parkway. A gap exists between the Thomas Street bridge and the River Edge Parkway within Oak Island Park. Alder Kilian stated she has no objection to allowing bicycling on the sidewalk. Arlene noted she thinks it is much more comfortable. The eventual goal will be to make this segment a multiuse path, Cody noted there is a desire path that cuts in further at the corner. Alder Kilian suggested signage noting that bicyclists may use sidewalk. Chris stated that signage similar to what is posted on Grand Avenue would work well.

Motion/second Kilian/Kaatz to approve amending the municipal code to allow bicyclists on this sidewalk segment. Passed unanimously 5-0.

Motion/second Slonski/Shaide to create a high visibility crosswalk at River Drive at the intersection of Thomas Street at the River Drive.

- c. Approve River Edge Parkway Sign Concept and Plan

Carrie noted that the sign where the River Edge Parkway meets Thomas Street was relatively inexpensive and was developed in-house. The committee consensus was to develop concepts for larger trailheads that could include a map and for small signs at key locations.

Motion/second Kaatz/Filtz to approve development of sign concepts and implementation plan. Passed unanimously 5-0.

- d. Approve Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of E. Thomas Street just west of McCleary Street.

Pedestrians waited 5-10 minutes at times to cross because there was uninterrupted traffic. Cody noted that in the spirit of having an interconnected River Edge Parkway, counts will go up as we create the infrastructure. Alder Kilian noted that this is a very problematic crossing. *Motion/second Filtz/Shaide to approve. Passed unanimously.*

- e. Approve Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of 1st Street and McClellan Street

Cody noted that a 240 foot walk to the intersection is a 480 foot round trip for pedestrians. Alder Slonski noted that if people are going to the intersection and working in the Dudley Tower, they are not walking extra distance. Carrie also noted that during pedestrian counts it was noted that people are crossing illegally, which could indicate that they are comfortable crossing. Alder Slonski wondered about the likelihood of people going to an RRFB to cross if they are illegally crossing from the building to the parking lot now. Chris noted that the Dudley Tower has an agreement with the City for a skywalk.

Motion/second Filtz/Slonski to deny Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of 1st Street and McClellan Street. Passed unanimously 5-0.

- f. Approve Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Stevens Drive and Golden Meadow Street

The group discussed the age criteria for youth and noted that many of these pedestrians would likely be high school students and still near the age where pedestrians are double-counted.

Filtz/Shaide motion/second to approve this location and to deny the Stevens Drive and Knox Street proposal. Unanimous approval 5-0.

- g. Approve Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Stevens Drive and Knox Street

6. Discussion

a. MPO Bike/Ped Subcommittee Update

- Wausau MPO Pedal Passport
- Wausau MPO Bike Map
- BFC Application
Application was submitted
- Wisconsin River Loop
- Bike Counter Placement and Locations
Near WOW, near Woodchucks, near old Marathon County buildings, and Peckham Way

Makayla provided an overview of current MPO Bike/Ped Subcommittee initiatives.

7. Update on City projects.

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

The 1st Avenue/Callon Street RRFB installation has been completed, and the 6th Avenue/Bridge Street should be completed by next meeting.

b. River Edge Parkway

The OCR petition process continues to move forward.

8. Items for future agendas.

- RRFB analysis to cross Thomas Street at the intersection of E. Thomas Street and River Drive.
- RRFB installation at 6th Avenue and Bridge Street

9. Adjournment

Motion/second by Slonski/Filtz to approve. Passed unanimously. 5-0 The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.