



OFFICIAL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Finance Committee
DATE/TIME: Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 6:15 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall — Council Chambers
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Michael Martens (C) Vicki Tierney
Sarah Watson (VC) Matt Hoenecke
Tom Neal

Members Present: Tom Neal, Michael Martens, Vicki Tierney, Matt Hoenecke

Members Not Present:

Members Excused: Sarah Watson

Present 4, Not Present 0, Excused 1

Noting the presence of a quorum, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 06:15 PM.

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

Martens read the public comment statement.

1. Carrie Marohl, 1025 Everest Boulevard - spoke on the feasibility study.
2. Deb Ryan, 702 Elm Street - spoke on city management and Marathon Park.

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

Motion by Neal, seconded by Hoenecke, to approve all items outlined below. Motion Passed, 4-0.

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3 Discussion and possible action.

a. Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Brownfield Grant for MBX.

Neal questioned whether, if the grant is approved by the committee, the city would have to accept the funding. It was stated this is the first step of accepting the grant and that the city reserves the option to take the grant or not.

Martens stated that the amount of remediation needed on the property prompted the acceptance of the grant to offset the cost of remediation.

Motion by Neal, seconded by Hoenecke, to approve. Motion Passed 4-0.

b. June 2026 Financial Report Review.

MaryAnne Groat, Finance Director at the City of Wausau, presented on the June 2026 Financial Report Review.

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

c. Approval of WisGo/Cubic Fare Collection System contract and related budget modification for Wausau MetroRide.

Neal shared concerns about whether any riders would be left behind by the transition to a technology-based fare method.

Martens questioned if the system will allow for the cash fare option. It was stated that the cash fare would still be accepted for riders that did not want to adopt the technology-based fare method.

Hoenecke questioned why the question before the committee was no longer to approve. It was

stated that the contract was not presented to the City/County Information Technology (CCIT) department in time for a proper review before this meeting. Hoenecke stated concerns about moving this to the next committee meeting for approval and then to the Common Council meeting immediately succeeding that meeting, because if changes are needed there would not be enough time for other alders to make informed decisions on the changes.

Tierney stated a preference for the cash fare option to remain in place.

Martens requested that if changes to the contract is substantial after CCIT review, those changes would come back to the committee for approval.

Motion by Neal, seconded by Hoenecke, to approve pending CCIT approval. Motion Passed 3-1, with Tierney opposed.

d. Budget amendment for UW-Stevens Point at Wausau campus conversion to Police Department and Fire Department facility expansion to Public Safety Building feasibility study.

Martens shared reservations about the project as a whole but wanted to know more about the effort through a possible study.

Hoenecke stated many residents shared concerns with this proposed project. It was further stated that there are concerns with spending by the city with regard to the value being generated by the outcome balanced with the need and cost of ongoing maintenance of such buildings. Hoenecke stated opposition to the study.

Neal stated support because of the possibility for tenants to also occupy the building and to avoid future major capital projects to meet the needs of the city at a fraction of the cost.

Hoenecke questioned if there was an inability to deliver the same level of services in the current Public Safety Building.

Martens stated that the Public Safety Building was built in 1962 and that the facility does not have the capacity to expand with the increased staff and modern needs. Martens stated support of the study to know more about the feasibility of expanding before outright dismissing the idea of the project at the outset.

Tierney stated reservations on the ultimate cost, because when an older building is remodeled there will be unforeseen costs for renovation and maintenance. It was further stated support for the study to know if those reservations are founded.

Martens questioned if the study funding would come from reserves. It was stated this funding would come from reserves.

Motion by Neal, seconded by Tierney, to approve the budget amendment for UW-Stevens Point at Wausau campus conversion to Police Department and Fire Department Public Safety Building feasibility study. Motion Passed 3-1, with Hoenecke opposed.

4 Adjournment.

Motion by Neal, seconded by Tierney, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 07:12 PM.

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



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