



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Common Council

Thursday, September 8, 2022

6:00 PM

Council Chambers, City Hall
400 La Crosse Street

Mayor Mitch Reynolds, Presiding

Roll Call

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: 12 - Andrea Richmond, Scott Neumeister, Barb Janssen, Larry Sleznikow, Chris Kahlow, Mac Kiel, Mackenzie Mindel, Chris Woodard, Rebecca Schwarz, Jennifer Trost, Douglas Happel, Mark Neumann

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Pastor Mark Lockett, Neighborhood City Church.

Appointment of District 5 Council Member

Jenasea Hameister received a majority vote of the Council Members present in the initial round and was, therefore, appointed as 5th District Council Member. The Oath of Office was administered by City Clerk Nikki Elsen.

Roll Call

Present: 13 - Andrea Richmond, Scott Neumeister, Barb Janssen, Larry Sleznikow, Jenasea Hameister, Chris Kahlow, Mac Kiel, Mackenzie Mindel, Chris Woodard, Rebecca Schwarz, Jennifer Trost, Douglas Happel, Mark Neumann

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Woodard, seconded by Kahlow to APPROVE minutes of August 11, 2022; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Reports

[22-1141](#)

Financial Report from the Interim Director of Finance for the month of July 2022.

2022-09-001

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Mindel, that the Report be ACCEPTED AND FILED . The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Notices and Discussions

Sleznikow acknowledged Olivia Herken on their reporting of city government for the Tribune and wished her well on her move to the Wisconsin State Journal. Happel acknowledged new Fire Chief Schott on his first official meeting of the Common Council. Kahlow recognized the City and Parks and Rec. department for the outstanding facility award received on August 16 for the Green Island tennis complex. Mayor Reynolds acknowledged the City stormwater utility updates lead by the Director of Engineering and Public Works and the efforts of WTC and UWL to add stormwater retention.

COMMON COUNCIL MATTERS

[22-0949](#)

Amended Resolution approving a premise lease agreement between the City of La Crosse Fire Department & Gundersen Tri-State Ambulance.

2022-08-021

A motion was made by Richmond, seconded by Sleznikow to RECONSIDER; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A motion was made by Happel, seconded by Kahlow to AMEND by changing the lease from 6 months to 1 year; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Sleznikow, that the Resolution be ADOPTED AS AMENDED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

[22-1142](#)

Resolution approving 2022 Bills and Engineering Estimates paid in September 2022.

2022-09-002

A motion was made by Richmond, seconded by Janssen, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

[22-1150](#) Police and Fire Commission: Ellen Frantz. Room Tax Commission: Ryan Johnson.

2022-09-003

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Richmond, that the Appointment be CONFIRMED . The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

**SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL RULE VIII FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
(2/3 Vote Required)**

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Sleznikow to SUSPEND Council Rule VIII for items 22-1079, 22-1115, and 22-1149; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

REPORT OF BID/QUOTE RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[22-1010](#) Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Chippewa Concrete Services in the amount of \$10,961,937.96 for the River Point District - Phase 2 (Street & Utilities) Project.

2022-09-004

A motion was made by Richmond, seconded by Janssen, that the Report of Bids be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

REPORT OF BID/QUOTE RECOMMENDED TO BE REJECTED

[22-1009](#) Report of Bids for Riverside South Toilet Rooms Project.

2022-09-005

A motion was made by Schwarz, seconded by Mindel, that the Report of Bids be REJECTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

ITEM WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

[22-1149](#)

Resolution appointing Chadwick Hawkins as Director of Finance.

2022-09-006

A motion was made by Woodard, seconded by Kahlow, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[22-0636](#)

A SECOND AMENDED ORDINANCE to create Sec. 32-191 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse prohibiting Conversion Therapy. *(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel. Following such closed session, the Committees and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)*

Ord. 5220. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 11 of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Woodard to OPEN public hearing; the motion failed for lack of second.

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Richmond to CONVENE in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel; the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Unanimous consent to reconvene in OPEN session.

A motion was made by Richmond, seconded by Woodard to postpone indefinitely; the motion failed on a vote of 5 - 8 (No - Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Neumann).

A motion was made by Kiel, seconded by Neumann, that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Neumann

No: 4 - Neumeister, Janssen, Woodard, Happel

Abstain: 1 - Richmond

[22-0977](#)

Resolution declaring a climate emergency, committing to policies that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and accelerating the clean energy transition, and supporting intergovernmental cooperation to reduced GHG emissions.

2022-09-007

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Kahlow, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Richmond, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Neumann

No: 4 - Neumeister, Janssen, Woodard, Happel

[22-1048](#)

Resolution granting Various license applications pursuant to Chapters 4, 6, and/or 10 of the La Crosse Municipal Code for the remainder of license period 2022-2023 (September).

2022-09-008

A motion was made by Richmond, seconded by Kahlow, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Abstain: 1 - Woodard

[22-1115](#)

Resolution creating a storm water utility project and appropriating funds for emergency repairs to the storm drainage way south of Brickyard and Millatti Lanes.

2022-09-009

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Kiel, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Richmond, Neumeister, Janssen, Sleznikow, Hameister, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Richmond, seconded by Mindel to ADOPT the Consent Agenda; the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[22-0962](#)

AN ORDINANCE to amend sec. 46-175 and to repeal secs. 46-176 and 46-185 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding the Stormwater Utility.

Ord. 5230. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 11 of Ordinances.

[22-1032](#) AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Traditional Neighborhood District - Specific to the Traditional Neighborhood District - Specific allowing for a four-unit townhouse building with a four-car garage and four parking spaces at 618, 622, and 624 Jackson St., and 1002 7th St. S.
Ord. 5231. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 11 of Ordinances.

[22-0789](#) Amended Resolution approving the 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program Budget.
2022-09-010

[22-0918](#) Resolution authorizing the appropriation of funds for River Point District Phase II related street and infrastructure improvements.
2022-09-011

[22-0950](#) Resolution amending Appendix C Fee Schedule regarding Stormwater Application fees.
2022-09-012

[22-0999](#) Amended Resolution approving adjustments to the 2021 assessment and tax roll.
2022-09-013

[22-1005](#) Resolution establishing locations for the 2022 Board of Review meetings.
2022-09-014

[22-1031](#) Resolution approving Application of LAX Food Hall LLC for a Conditional Use Permit at 508 Jay St. allowing permission to apply for a Combination "Class B" Beer & Liquor license.
2022-09-015

[22-1034](#) Resolution requesting the release of funds from the La Crosse Center Room Tax Reserve Account for various equipment, repair and maintenance.
2022-09-016

[22-1045](#) Resolution authorizing the increase of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) for a position within the IT Department.
2022-09-017

[22-1046](#)

Resolution establishing definition of a Storm Event as part of the Stormwater Utility update.

2022-09-018

[22-1079](#)

Resolution approving a service agreement between the City of La Crosse Fire Department and Mayo Clinic Health System - Franciscan Medical Center.

2022-09-019

[22-1088](#)

Resolution Approving Condominium Plat of Jackson Street Townhomes to the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin (7th & Jackson Streets).

2022-09-020

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.