



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Council Planning Meeting

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers
400 La Crosse Street

Call to Order

Council President Dickinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 11 - Tamra Dickinson, Erin Goggin, Barb Janssen, Larry Slezniow, Olivia Stine, Gary Padesky, Aron Newberry, Jennifer Trost, Crystal Bedford, Lisa Weston, Rosanne Northwood

Excused: 2 - Chris Kahlow, Mackenzie Mindel

Agenda Item:

[25-1394](#)

Municipal Structure

City Attorney Stephen Matty gave the background/history on powers of the Mayor and City Council, and the State Statutes and Charter Ordinances related to said powers. He also gave a brief history on the prior movement to add a city administrator (2010-2012) through the current movement to add a position of this type. He also went over the options on how to add a position, whether it be through charter ordinance or other means depending on the end goal of what the position would look like. Leading into the next portion of the session, Attorney Matty noted that the best way to decide on what kind of position is needed to figure out what problems need solving.

Council Members and staff broke out into groups to work on answers to the questions for Breakout 1 and then came back as a group to report their findings.

Daniel Foth, JD, Director, Certified Public Manager Program and Local Government Specialist, gave a presentation on the different municipal management structures in Wisconsin. He reiterated that it is important to figure out the problems that need solving in order to decide on what kind of management structure is needed. He also went over some considerations for hiring for a position of this type: timeline, formal search process, contract, benefits, interview process, and transition if duties end up being removed from the Mayor.

Council Members and staff broke out into groups to work on answers to the Breakout 2 questions and then came back as a group to report their findings.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.