



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Common Council

Thursday, November 14, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers
City Hall, First Floor

Draft until approved by Council: 12/12/2024

Mayor Mitch Reynolds, Presiding

Roll Call

Present: 12 - Tamra Dickinson, Erin Goggin, Barb Janssen, Larry Sleznikow, Chris Kahlow, Mac Kiel, Mackenzie Mindel, Chris Woodard, Rebecca Schwarz, Jennifer Trost, Douglas Happel, Mark Neumann

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dickinson, seconded by Kahlow, that the minutes of October 10, 2024 be APPROVED. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

[24-1476](#)

Financial Report from the Director of Finance for the Month of September.

2024-11-001

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Notices and Discussions

Council Member Janssen thanked the City Clerk and staff for the work put into the election. Council Member Goggin thanked the Police Department for their work when the various presidential candidates came through the city. Mayor Reynolds noted that the Library received a Flexible Facilities Program Grant that will help the library with renovations and technological connectivity improvements. Mayor Reynolds also noted that the City has recently been named on the Army Corps of Engineers Navigation Ecosystem Sustainability Program List and funds will be used to improve marsh hydrology. Lastly, Mayor Reynolds thanked the Chamber of Commerce's for the invitation to participate in the recent event La Crosse Links, which is a community onboarding program for new people coming to the city.

COMMON COUNCIL MATTERS

[24-1475](#)

Resolution approving 2024 Bills and Engineering Estimates paid in November 2024.

2024-11-002

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

[24-1442](#)

Aviation Board: Bill Blank.

2024-11-003

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

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

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Sleznikow, to SUSPEND CR XV for 24-1436, 24-1387, and 24-1469. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF BID/QUOTE RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[24-1270](#)

Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$1,071,244.22 for the Mormon Coulee Force Main project.

2024-11-004

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

ITEMS WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

[24-1387](#)

Resolution approving the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) and Securian for a voluntary employee paid accident insurance plan, effective January 1, 2025.

2024-11-005

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

[24-1469](#)

Resolution approving EPA Community Grant Partnership agreement between Habitat for Humanity for the Greater La Crosse and the City of La Crosse.

2024-11-006

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

[24-1468](#)

Amended Resolution approving Assignment of Lease and Estoppel Certificate on behalf of Riverstone Hospitality, LLC for property located at 200 Pearl Street, formerly Holiday Inn Express.

2024-11-007

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

[24-1376](#)

Resolution creating and defining the membership and duties of a City Administrator Working Group.

2024-11-008

A motion was made by Goggin, seconded by Woodard, that the Resolution be ADOPTED.

A motion was made by Neumann, seconded by Kiel, that the Resolution be AMENDED (Sleznikow proposal). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 1 - Dickinson

A motion was made by Dickinson, seconded by Trost, that the Resolution be AMENDED (Dickinson proposal). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Dickinson, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Woodard

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[24-1385](#)

Resolution authorizing takeover, maintenance, and ownership of ornamental neighborhood streetlighting on MacHarley Lane.

2024-11-009

A motion was made by Neumann, seconded by Kahlow that the Resolution be ADOPTED.

A motion was made by Neumann, seconded by Dickinson, that the Resolution be AMENDED (Neumann proposal). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

[24-0951](#)

AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Washburn Residential Neighborhood District to the Traditional Neighborhood District - Specific allowing for continued use of the property as a professional office space at 212 11th Street South.

ORD. 5311. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Trost, seconded by Dickinson, that the Ordinance be ADOPTED.

A motion was made by Woodard, seconded by Kahlow, that the Ordinance be AMENDED (Woodard amendment with deed restriction). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Happel

No: 3 - Dickinson, Trost, Neumann

A motion was made by Trost, seconded by Dickinson, that the Ordinance be ADOPTED AS AMENDED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Neumann

No: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Kahlow, Happel

[24-1375](#)

AN ORDINANCE to create Section 32-44 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of La Crosse regarding trespass to City Parking Facilities.

ORD. 5312. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

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

Yes: 10 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Happel, Neumann

No: 2 - Schwarz, Trost

[24-1380](#)

AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 36-68 (b) and create Subsections 36-38 (c), -(1), and -(2) of the Municipal Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse, regarding the Brush Site.

ORD. 5313. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Dickinson, seconded by Schwarz, that the Ordinance be ADOPTED.

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Woodard, that the Ordinance be Referred for 60 days. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Kahlow, Woodard

No: 8 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

The motion to ADOPT carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Kahlow, Woodard

[24-1381](#)

Resolution amending Appendix C Fee Schedule regarding the Brush Site.

2024-11-010

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

Yes: 8 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Kahlow, Woodard

[24-1383](#)

Amended Resolution allocating unused Sanitary Sewer Utility funds for the Mormon Coulee Road Force Main project bid in 2024.

2024-11-011

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Schwarz, seconded by Woodard, that the Consent Agenda be ADOPTED. The motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

- [24-0732](#) AN ORDINANCE to annex a parcel of land from the Town of Shelby to the City of La Crosse (approx. 10.75 acres - Shrine Property).
ORD. 5314. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.
- [24-1303](#) AN ORDINANCE to annex a parcel of land from the Town of Medary to the City of La Crosse (Property adjacent to 4224 Meadowlark Lane - Evans).
ORD. 5315. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.
- [24-1330](#) AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Planned Development District - Specific to the Planned Development District - Specific, allowing for the construction of a transient residential and congregate living facility at 5250 Justin Road, 6015, 6025, 6105 County Road MM and tax parcels 17-50365-102 and 11-2003-0.
ORD. 5316. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.
- [24-1007](#) Resolution Approving Development Agreement and Sale Agreement with Jeff Murphy and Jill Murphy for Former Fire Station #4 at 906 Gillette St.
2024-11-012
- [24-1131](#) Resolution approving the partial vacation of the public street right-of-way on Chestnut Place.
2024-11-013
- [24-1306](#) Resolution amending Appendix C Fee Schedule regarding release of raze and remove orders filed with the Register of Deeds under Chapter 103 of the La Crosse Municipal Code.
2024-11-014
- [24-1320](#) Resolution amending the Floodplain Relief Program.
2024-11-015
- [24-1327](#) Resolution levying Special Charges for Services performed in 2024.
2024-11-016

- [24-1328](#) Resolution granting various license applications pursuant to Chapters 4, 6, and/or 10 of the La Crosse Municipal Code for the license period 2024-2025 (November).
2024-11-017

- [24-1329](#) Resolution approving application of A1 Hospitality LLC for a Conditional Use Permit at 210 Jay Street, allowing permission to apply for a Combination "Class B" Beer & Liquor license.
2024-11-018

- [24-1333](#) Resolution approving the sale of City owned property at 800 Moore St to Taylor William DeFrang and Brian DeFrang.
2024-11-019

- [24-1353](#) Resolution approving Certified Survey Map - Located in the NE 1/4 & the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 and the NW 1/4 & SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 23, and the NE 1/4 & SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 and the NW 1/4 & SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 and the NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 and the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 26, T15N, R7W, City of La Crosse and Town of Shelby, La Crosse County, Wisconsin.
2024-11-020

- [24-1355](#) Resolution approving the Agreement between the Redevelopment Authority and the City of La Crosse to obligate ARPA funds for housing development in the floodplain.
2024-11-021

- [24-1368](#) Resolution declaring the Statement of Project Intentions for the La Crosse Regional Airport.
2024-11-022

- [24-1370](#) Resolution Petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid.
2024-11-023

- [24-1371](#) Resolution appropriating ARPA funds to pay for the remediation required on detached garages which violate the current floodplain standards per FEMA.
2024-11-024

- [24-1386](#) Resolution approving a reorganization to the table of positions and classifications for the Community Risk Management department.
2024-11-025

[24-1436](#) Resolution re-appropriating Operating Budget funds for purchase of Public Works vehicles from the fleet lease program.
2024-11-026

ITEM RECOMMENDED TO BE RE-REFERRED

[24-0977](#) AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Local Business and Commercial Districts to the Traditional Neighborhood District - General, allowing for the combination of parcels and construction of commercial and residential mixed-use buildings at 1822 State Road 16 and adjacent parcels at State Road 16.
Referred for 6 months to the May 2025 meetings.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ACCEPTED AND FILED

[24-0731](#) Petition for Direct Annexation by Unanimous Approval pursuant to Sec. 66.0217(2), Wis. Stats. of land from the Town of Shelby to the City of La Crosse (approx. 10.75 acres - Shrine Property).
2024-11-027

[24-1302](#) Petition for Direct Annexation by Unanimous Approval pursuant to Sec. 66.0217(2), Wis. Stats. of land from the Town of Medary to the City of La Crosse (4224 Meadowlark Lane - Evans).
2024-11-028

ITEM RECOMMENDED TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED

[24-1092](#) Single Audit with Independent Auditors Report as of December 31, 2023.
2024-11-029

ITEM RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[24-1343](#)

Amended Resolution Allocating Funding for Development of Specialized Housing Capacity Utilizing American Rescue Plan Act Funds. *(Note: The Committee and/or Common Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 19.85(1)(e) to consider the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Following any closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)*

2024-11-030

A motion was made by Goggin, seconded by Trost, to Convene in CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 19.85(1)(e) to consider the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to Reconvene in OPEN SESSION.

Roll Call

*Present: Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann
Excused: Mindel*

[24-1343](#)

Amended Resolution Allocating Funding for Development of Specialized Housing Capacity Utilizing American Rescue Plan Act Funds. *(Note: The Committee and/or Common Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 19.85(1)(e) to consider the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Following any closed session, the Committee and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)*

A motion was made by Trost, seconded by Dickinson, that the Resolution be ADOPTED.

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Goggin, that the Resolution be AMENDED with monies split equally between Karuna and Couleecap. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Woodard

No: 6 - Dickinson, Kiel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Mindel

The motion to ADOPT carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Kiel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 3 - Goggin, Janssen, Kahlow

Excused: 1 - Mindel

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.