City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Common Council

Thursday, July 11, 2024 | **6:00 PM** | **Council Chambers, City Hall, First Floor**

Mayor Mitch Reynolds, Presiding

Roll Call

Present: 11 - Tamra Dickinson, Erin Goggin, Barb Janssen, Larry Sleznikow, Chris Kahlow, Mac Kiel, Chris Woodard, Rebecca Schwarz, Jennifer Trost, Douglas Happel, Mark Neumann

Excused: 1 - Mackenzie Mindel

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Moment of silence.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Sleznikow, to APPROVE minutes of June 4, 13, and 17, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

24-0870 La Crosse Fire Department Strategic Plan.

2024-07-001

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0965 Financial Report from the Director of Finance for the Month of May.

2024-07-002

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

Notices and Discussions

Mayor Reynolds noted that July is Park & Recreation month and recognized staff for their work to support the health and wellbeing of the community through programs and extensive maintenance of the 47 parks within the city. He noted that he visited Friedberg, Junglinster, and Epinal last month to strengthen relationships with these Sister Cities. Reynolds also noted that last fall, the city joined the Mississippi River Operation Pollination Partnership and just this week the Mississippi Rivers and Towns Association has also joined the partnership. Council Member Goggin reminded everyone of the National Night Out events throughout the city on August 6, 2024. Council Member Woodard that the American Legion is also participating in the National Night Out.

COMMON COUNCIL MATTERS

24-0964 Resolution approving 2024 Bills and Engineering Estimates in July 2024.

2024-07-003

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

24-0943 La Crosse Center Board: Brent Smith, David McDowell. City Plan Commission: Mark Neumann. Neighborhood Revitalization Commission: Karl Green. Housing Authority of the City of La Crosse: Roxanne Marina.

2024-07-004

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

REPORT OF BIDS/QUOTES RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

24-0648 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Fowler & Hammer, Inc. in the amount of $818,881.57 for the Victory Street project.

2024-07-005

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0649 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc. in the amount of $211,002.81 for the Smith Valley Storm Improvements project.

2024-07-006

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0841 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Interstate Roofing & Waterproofing, Inc. in the amount of $820,750.00 for the La Crosse South Hall Re-Roof project Re-Bid.

2024-07-007

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0844 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc. in the amount of $667,449.34 for the 2024 Pettibone Water Main Extension project.

2024-07-008

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0845 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc.in the amount of $254,147.05 for the Manhole Replacement Hagar & Sumner project.

2024-07-009

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

ITEMS WITH NO RECOMMENDATION

24-0876 AN ORDINANCE to amend Sec 32-5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding camping on City-owned property.

Ord. 5297. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

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

Yes: 7 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Woodard, Happel, Neumann

No: 4 - Dickinson, Kiel, Schwarz, Trost

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0532 Resolution approving a partial vacation of public street right-of-way on the West side of 8th St North.

2024-07-010

A motion was made by Schwarz, seconded by Janssen, that the Resolution be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

24-0790 AN AMENDED ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Residence District to the Traditional Neighborhood District - General, allowing for construction of a bakery, deli, and coffee shop with a second-story apartment at 1513 Market Street.

ORD. 5298. 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 Kahlow, seconded by Janssen, that the Ordinance be AMENDED as proposed in Legistar (including restrictive covenant). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Woodard, Happel, Neumann

No: 4 - Dickinson, Kiel, Schwarz, Trost

Excused: 1 - Mindel

The vote to ADOPT AS AMENDED carried by the following:

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0684 Resolution ordering a special election for Council Member of the 5th Aldermanic District on April 1, 2025.

2024-07-011

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

Yes: 10 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 1 - Dickinson

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0890 Resolution authorizing the filling of Council Member vacancy for Council Member District 5.

2024-07-012

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

Yes: 4 - Dickinson, Kiel, Schwarz, Trost

No: 7 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Woodard, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0772 Resolution authorizing acceptance of a Wisconsin Public Service Commission Energy Innovation Grant to conduct home energy audits for low income residents.

2024-07-013

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0794 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 (July).

2024-07-014

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

Yes: 10 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Mindel

Abstain: 1 - Woodard

24-0810 Amended Resolution assigning development of projects and programs for American Rescue Plan Act housing funds to the Economic and Community Development Commission.

2024-07-015

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0855 Resolution approving an appropriation of the City's ARPA monies earmarked for childcare to go towards a final ARPA-funded contract with The Parenting Place.

2024-07-016

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

Yes: 7 - Dickinson, Kiel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0698 Resolution reallocating 2022 Capital Equipment Budget funds for replacement of fire suppression hoses.

2024-07-017

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

24-0869 Amended Resolution allocating unused Utility funds for Utility projects bid in 2024.

2024-07-018

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

ITEM PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

24-0850 Resolution adopting an updated City of La Crosse Travel Policy.

2024-07-019

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

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

Excused: 1 - Mindel

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Kiel, to ADOPT the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

24-0679 AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Residential District to the Single Family Residence District, allowing for the property to be combined with the adjacent parcel, at 223 West Ave. S.

ORD. 5299. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

24-0776 AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Public/Semi-Public District to the Residence District, allowing for a duplex at 906 Gillette Street.

ORD. 5300. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

24-0818 AN ORDINANCE to amend Sec 32-5(b) and Sec 32-5(c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding camping on City-owned property.

ORD. 5301. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

24-0872 AN ORDINANCE to amend Section 8-22 and 8-51 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding the Aviation Board.

ORD. 5302. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

24-0873 A CHARTER ORDINANCE to amend Section 6(b) regarding appointment authority with regard to the position of Airport Director.

Ch. Ord. 41. For complete ordinance, see p. ____ of Volume 2 of Charter Ordinances.

24-0620 Resolution designating concessionaire for the La Crosse Regional Airport along with authorization to apply for "Class B" Intoxicating Liquor Permit

2024-07-020

24-0660 Resolution designating City Hall as the official meeting location for City of La Crosse governmental bodies.

2024-07-021

24-0735 Resolution approving application of Sughra Group of Companies LLC for a Conditional Use Permit at 212 Main St. allowing for application of a Combination "Class B" Beer and Liquor License.

2024-07-022

24-0771 Resolution authorizing acceptance of an American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Community Challenge grant to host a design competition for accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

2024-07-023

24-0851 Resolution adopting an updated Procurement Card Policy.

2024-07-024

24-0857 Resolution authorizing Wisconsin Land Purchase and Sale Contract with Huitage, LLC for Lot 9 at 3106 Berlin Drive in the International Business Park.

2024-07-025

24-0858 Resolution approving a Wisconsin Department of Transportation - Transportation Alternatives Program State/Municipal Agreement for the Drift Cycle expansion project and appropriating a funding source to the project.

2024-07-026

24-0859 Resolution approving Certified Survey Map - Part of Government Lot 5, Section 6, T15N-R7W City of La Crosse, La Crosse County, WI and request for waiver of platting requirements.

2024-07-027

24-0894 Resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed $18,425,000 aggregate principal amount of General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2024-A, of the City of La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, for the purpose of completing certain capital projects in and for the City and purchasing certain equipment for the City, prescribing details of said notes and the form of note, authorizing the award of said notes to the best bidder therefor, levying taxes, and related matters.

2024-07-028

ITEM FOR POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION

24-0871 Appeal by Mayor Mitch Reynolds for the City of La Crosse of the Heritage Preservation Commission designation of historical structure for the building located at 1307 16th St. S.

(Note: The Common Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel and Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(a) to deliberate its decision. Following any closed session, the Council may reconvene in open session.)

A motion was made by Goggin, seconded by Janssen, to OPEN Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

The following spoke: David Riel, Larry Anderson, Catherine Roraff, Tiffany Trimmer, Krista Hamilton, Dennis Ross, and Cynthea Gillespie.

A motion was made by Trost, seconded by Schwarz, to CLOSE Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

2024-07-029

A motion was made by Goggin, seconded by Schwarz, that the Appeal be DENIED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Woodard, Schwarz, Happel, Neumann

No: 3 - Dickinson, Kiel, Trost

Excused: 1 - Mindel

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.