City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Common Council

Thursday, August 13, 2026 | **6:00 PM** | **Council Chambers, City Hall, First Floor**

Mayor Shaundel Washington-Spivey, Presiding

Roll Call

Present: 13 - Tamra Dickinson, Erin Goggin, Barb Janssen, Larry Sleznikow, Olivia Stine, Chris Kahlow, Gary Padesky, Mackenzie Mindel, Aron Newberry, Jennifer Trost, Crystal Bedford, Lisa Weston, Rosanne Northwood

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dickinson, seconded by Northwood, to APPROVE the minutes of July 9, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

26-0830 Financial Report from the Deputy Director of Finance for the Month of June.

2026-08-001

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

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

Notices and Discussions

Council Member Goggin thanked Attorney Atterbury and the Engineering Department for their efforts in preventing the closure of streets on the north side and restricting access near the railroad. Goggin also noted that Trinity Lutheran Church was able to feed between 900-1000 people and provided back-to-school shoes to children in need during their recent block party. Council President Dickinson thanked Derek Grebon and Ryan Rasmussen for their recent informational presentations at the Board of Public Works meetings. Council Member Weston noted that community members are establishing a neighborhood association in District 12 and they will be having a meeting on August 18th at Central High School. Weston also noted the Ugetconnected platform where citizens on of all ages can find opportunities for volunteering. Council Member Bedford gave a thanks to all of the children's programming provided over the summer. She also gave a shout-out to the La Crosse Steam softball team, and noted a Transit Talk & Treats event hosted by La Crosse Area Transit Advocates which is being held at the People's Food Co-Op on August 20. She also noted that July was Disability Awareness month and thanked everyone that is disabled and is involved in advocacy for the community. Council Member Newberry gave recognition to the Clerk's office related to administration of the August Election. He also thanked the Director of IT in their quick response during the difficulties in the F&P meeting. Council Member Trost commended her F&P colleagues and those involved in the Safe-Cam Project and noted that next week is National Week of Action Against Automated License Plate Readers (DeFlock). Council Member Northwood noted that Cia Siab, Inc. celebrated their 10th anniversary of serving the La Crosse Hmoob community. Mayor Washington-Spivey thanked the Clerk's office for their work leading up to the election as well as all of the citizens that exercised their voting rights.

COMMON COUNCIL MATTERS

26-0849 Resolution approving 2026 Bills and Engineering Estimates paid in August 2026

2026-08-002

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

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

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

A motion was made by Padesky, seconded by Janssen to SUSPEND Council Rule XV for files 26-0783, 26-0789, and 26-0800. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF BIDS/QUOTES RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

26-0671 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Fowler & Hammer, Inc. in the amount of $286,422.64 for the Washburn Lighting North project.

2026-08-003

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

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

26-0675 Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Fowler & Hammer, Inc. in the amount of $38,194.51 for 2026 14/61 RRFB project.

2026-08-004

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

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

REPORT OF BIDS/QUOTES RECOMMENDED TO BE REJECTED

26-0672 Report of Bids for the Placement of Accessible Water Bubblers project.

2026-08-005

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

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

ITEM WITH NO RECOMMENDATION

26-0499 Resolution approving the 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Budget.

2026-08-006

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

A motion was made by Trost, seconded by Northwood to AMEND (Street Equipment funding change). Motion was disallowed as not germane to the Capital Improvement Projects.

A motion was made by Jansssen, seconded by Goggin, to AMEND by moving Library Parking Lot (#27-107) to 2031. The motion failed on a vote of 5 to 7 (No: Dickinson, Stine, Mindel, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood; Abstain: Newberry).

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Padesky, to AMEND to move Houska Park Bathrooms (#26-996) to 2027. The motion failed on a vote of 3 to 10 (No: Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Mindel, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood).

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Goggin, to AMEND to move MSC building (#26-017) out one year. The motion failed on a vote of 5 to 8 (No: Dickinson, Sleznikow, Stine, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Northwood).

The motion made by Trost, seconded by Bedford, that the Resolution be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Stine, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

No: 4 - Goggin, Janssen, Kahlow, Padesky

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

26-0726 AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Light Industrial District to the Commercial District, allowing for a mix of residential and commercial uses within the building at 2423 & 2425 16th St. S and 1613 & 1617 Chase St.

ORD. 5380. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

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

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

26-0741

A CHARTER ORDINANCE to create Section 20 of Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse creating the position, duties and responsibilities of the Office of the City Administrator and removing duties from the Office of the Mayor.

2026-08-007

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

A motion was made by Newberry, seconded by Weston, to AMEND (remove "three to five years" and "option to renew"). The motion carried on a vote of 12-1 (No: Dickinson).

A motion was made by Newberry, seconded by Sleznikow, to AMEND to remove "full time" and "part time." The motion carried on a vote of 12-1 (No: Dickinson).

A motion was made by Newberry, seconded by Northwood, to REFER for 60 Days.

A motion was made by Newberry, seconded by Bedford, to AMEND the referral to include direction to Board of Estimates to incorporate funding ($275,000) for a City Administrator by their next meeting, for staff to provide a market rate funding for this position compared to the $275,000, and Ehlers providing information on how the TIF could provide this funding. The motion carried on a vote of 10-3 (No: Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen).

A vote to REFER as AMENDED failed on a vote of 1-10 (No: Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston).

A motion was made by Trost, seconded by Newberry, that the Charter Ordinance be ADOPTED AS AMENDED. The motion failed by the following vote (2/3 vote required):

Yes: 8 - Sleznikow, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Weston, Northwood

No: 5 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Stine, Bedford

26-0755 Resolution authorizing funds in connection with the appeal of the incorporation for the Town of Campbell.*(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.)*

2026-08-008

A motion was made by Padesky, seconded by Northwood, to convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

No: 1 - Goggin

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

26-0739 Resolution allocating TID (Tax Increment District) 11 funds to the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) to oversee predevelopment work for the Public Market project.

2026-08-009

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

Yes: 11 - Dickinson, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

No: 2 - Goggin, Janssen

26-0783 Certificate by City Clerk of Petition for Direct Legislation requesting An Ordinance to create Section 2-422(c)(9) and Sections 2-496 through 2-500 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse relating to the creation of the Citizens' Advisory Healthcare Action Committee.

2026-08-010

A motion was made by Bedford, seconded by Weston, that the Petition be Referred to Referendum at the November 2, 2026 election. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Stine, Kahlow, Padesky, Mindel, Newberry, Trost, Bedford, Weston, Northwood

CONSENT AGENDA

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

26-0634 AN ORDINANCE to amend Sec. 115-399. (d) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding the type of retaining wall appearances allowed when adding fill for a building site.

ORD. 5381. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

26-0697 AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Commercial District to the Residence District, allowing for redevelopment of the building into a duplex at 1705 & 1707 16th St. S.

ORD. 5382. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

26-0715 AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Single Family Residence District to the Residence District, allowing for redevelopment of the building into a duplex at 1233 & 1235 16th St. S.

ORD. 5383. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

26-0749 AN ORDINANCE to create Section 115-413 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse to establish a temporary moratorium on data centers.

ORD. 5384. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

26-0631 Resolution granting various license applications pursuant to Chapters 4, 6, and/or 10 of the La Crosse Municipal Code for the license period 2026-2027 (August).

2026-08-011

26-0664 Resolution authorizing public improvement and levying special assessments against benefited property in La Crosse, Wisconsin - Noncompliant Sewer Lateral Reconstruction.

2026-08-012

26-0685 Resolution and report of the Board of Public Works on the costs of operating and maintaining the parking system in downtown La Crosse.

2026-08-013

26-0700 Resolution declaring official intent to reimburse expenditures from proceeds of borrowing under the Clean Water Fund Loan Program (#4105-09) for the Sanitary Sewer Utility upgrade of UV Disinfection at the WWTP.

2026-08-014

26-0703 Resolution to amend the 2024 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

2026-08-015

26-0704 Resolution approving an Amendment to the Project Plan of Tax Incremental District No. 11, City of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

2026-08-016

26-0719 Resolution approving Certified Survey Map for property located at Fox Hollow Drive in the Town of Barre (Tax Parcel 2-355-0) owned by Trudy Miller and request for waiver of platting requirements.

2026-08-017

26-0720 Resolution relocating District 7 polling place for the remainder of elections in the 2026-2027 election term.

2026-08-018

26-0731 Resolution #2 regarding the administration and financial maintenance of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received by the City.

2026-08-019

26-0737 Resolution endorsing the City of La Crosse's application for Bird City Recognition from Bird City Wisconsin and supporting the annual World Migratory Bird City Celebration at the Nature Place.

2026-08-020

26-0746 Amended Resolution approving Certified Survey Map for parcel located at 748 Losey Blvd. N. (Parcel 17-20260-10) and request for dedication of right-of-way and waiver of platting requirements.

2026-08-021

26-0751 Resolution authorizing public improvement and levying special assessments against benefited property in La Crosse, Wisconsin - Non-Compliant Utility Services - 10th & King Street.

2026-08-022

ITEM RECOMMENDED TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED

26-0699 La Crosse Water Utility YE 2025 Annual Report to the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin.

2026-08-023

ITEM RECOMMENDED TO BE RE-REFERRED

26-0545 Resolution approving assignment of parking assignment at Market Square Parking Ramp from Cameron Park Condo Association to Free Heel Capital. *(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committees and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)*

Referred 30 days to the September 2026 meetings.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED - NOTICED FOR CLOSED SESSION

26-0789 Resolution approving Estoppel Certificate with regard to Riverstone Hospitality, LLC at 200 Pearl Street. *(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committees and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)*

2026-08-024

26-0800 Resolution approving a settlement in the case of *State Farm Mutual Insurance Co. et al. v. City of La Crosse et al.*, La Crosse County Case No. 25CV402. *(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.)*

2026-08-025

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 p.m.