

CITY OF MENASHA  
COMMON COUNCIL  
100 MAIN STREET, MENASHA  
AUGUST 21, 2023  
MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Merkes at 6:03 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Ald. Hammond, Lewis, Tom Grade, Ted Grade, Ropella, Nichols, Eisenach, Sevenich

ALSO PRESENT: CDD Schroeder, DDE Gordon, HD Hutter, FM Pearson, LD Kopetsky, DFC Krueger, HRM Cardoza, PC Thorn, PRD Sackett, CA Struve, Mayor Merkes, Clerk Neuman

D. PUBLIC HEARING

E. REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS/DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF/CONSULTANTS

1. Clerk Neuman – the following minutes and communications have been received and placed on file:

Minutes to receive:

- a. Board of Health, 6/9/23
- b. Board of Public Works, 8/7/23
- c. Committee on Aging, 7/14/23
- d. Library Board, 7/25/23 & 8/9/23
- e. NM Fire Rescue Joint Finance & Personnel, 6/27/23
- f. Personnel Committee, 8/7/23 & 8/14/23
- g. Redevelopment Authority, 8/1/23
- h. Water & Light Commission, 7/26/23

Communications:

- i. County Road Public Involvement Meeting

Moved by Ald. Sevenich, seconded by Ald. Ted Grade to approve minutes a. – h. and communication i.

Motion carried on voice vote.

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE CITY

(five (5) minute time limit for each person)

Sanda DaBill-Taylor; 545 Broad Street, Menasha; she commented on the CDC Salary study.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

(Prior to voting on the Consent Agenda, items on the Consent Agenda may be removed at the request of any Alderman and place immediately following action on the Consent Agenda. The procedures to follow for the Consent Agenda are: (a) removal of items from Consent Agenda; and (b) motion to approve the items from Consent Agenda.)

Minutes to approve:

1. Common Council, 8/7/23 & 8/14/23

Administration Committee, 8/7/23, Recommends Approval of:

2. CVMIC Renewal Policy for Policy Years 2025-2026
3. 2024 CVMIC Premium Projections
4. Approval of the updated Menasha Senior Center Reservation form to be effective for new rentals beginning 9/1/23

Board of Public Works, 8/7/23, Recommends Approval of:

5. Payment – Sommers Construction Co, Inc.; 2023-03; Street Reconstruction – Warsaw Street; \$15,352.00 (Payment No. 2)

Special Board of Public Works, 8/21/23, Recommends Approval of:

6. Change Order – Northeast Asphalt, Inc.; Contract Unit No. 2023-05; Street Construction and Rehabilitation; ADD \$60,000.00 (Change Order No. 2)

Personnel Committee, 8/7/23, Recommends Approval of:

7. Recommendation of Allowing the Employee Volunteer Opportunity – Rock the Block (Habitat for Humanity Fox Cities)

Special Personnel Committee, 8/14/23, Recommends Approval of:

8. Carlson Dettmann Consulting's (CDC) Classification & Compensation Study Recommended 2024 Hourly and Salary Wage Structures, Implementation of Option 2 (Step that provides at least 2% increase), and associated changes to Appendix A of Employee Handbook

Ald. Sevenich requested to vote on each item separately.

Mayor Merkes ruled the motion germane.

H. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes to approve:

1. Common Council, 8/7/23 & 8/14/23

Moved by Ald. Sevenich and seconded by Ald. Nichols approve the Common Council minutes from 8/7/23 and 8/14/23, with the understanding of correcting a clerical error in the minutes on 8/7/23.

Motion carried on voice vote.

Administration Committee, 8/7/23, Recommends Approval of:

2. CVMIC Renewal Policy for Policy Years 2025-2026

3. 2024 CVMIC Premium Projections

Mayor recommended to table items 3 and 4 on the consent agenda because they were not noticed correctly on the agenda.

Moved by Ald. Nichols and seconded by Ald. Hammond to Table CVMIC Renewal Policy for Policy Years 2025-2026 and 2024 CVMIC Premium Projections.

Motion carried on voice vote.

4. Approval of the updated Menasha Senior Center Reservation form to be effective for new rentals beginning 9/1/23

Moved by Ald. Nichols and seconded by Tom Grade to approve the use of the updated Menasha Senior Center Reservation for rentals beginning 9/1/23.

Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

Board of Public Works, 8/7/23, Recommends Approval of:

5. Payment – Sommers Construction Co, Inc.; 2023-03; Street Reconstruction – Warsaw Street; \$15,352.00 (Payment No. 2)

Moved by Ald. Sevenich and seconded by Ald. Ropella to approve the payment of Sommers Construction Co, Inc. for the 2023-03 Street Reconstruction of Warsaw Street; \$15,352.00 (Payment No. 2).

Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

Special Board of Public Works, 8/21/23, Recommends Approval of:

6. Change Order – Northeast Asphalt, Inc.; Contract Unit No. 2023-05; Street Construction and Rehabilitation; ADD \$60,000.00 (Change Order No. 2)  
Moved by Ald. Sevenich and seconded by Ald. Ropella to approve the Change Order for Northeast Asphalt, Inc.; Contract Unit No. 2023-05; Street Construction and Rehabilitation; ADD \$60,000.00 (Change Order No. 2).  
Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

Personnel Committee, 8/7/23, Recommends Approval of:

7. Recommendation of Allowing the Employee Volunteer Opportunity – Rock the Block (Habitat for Humanity Fox Cities)  
Moved by Ald. Ted Grade and seconded by Ald. Nichols for the approval of allowing the Employee Volunteer Opportunity of Rock the Bock (Habitat for Fox Cities).  
Motion carried 7-0; 1 Abstention.  
Ald. Hammond abstained from voting due to his previous connection with Habitat for Humanity.

Special Personnel Committee, 8/14/23, Recommends Approval of:

8. Carlson Dettmann Consulting's (CDC) Classification & Compensation Study Recommended 2024 Hourly and Salary Wage Structures, Implementation of Option 2 (Step that provides at least 2% increase), and associated changes to Appendix A of Employee Handbook  
Moved by Ald. Ted Grade and seconded by Ald. Nichols to approve the recommendation of the 2024 Hourly Salary Wage Structures, Implementation of Option 2 (Step that provides at least 2% increase), and associated changes to Appendix A of the Employee Handbook.  
Motion carried on roll call 5-3.  
Ald. Ropella, Eisenach, and Sevenich voted no.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accounts payable and payroll for the term of 8/4/23 – 8/17/23 in the amount of \$4,067,796.16.

Moved by Ald. Nichols and seconded by Ald. Ropella to approve the accounts payable and payroll for the term of 8/4/23 – 8/17/23 in the amount of \$4,067,796.16.  
Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

2. Accept PCB Contamination and Monsanto Class Action Settlement

Moved by Ald. Nichols and seconded by Ald. Tom Grade to accept the PCB Contamination and Monsanto Class Action Settlement.  
Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

General discussion ensued on reasoning behind settlement of lawsuit (harmful effects on resources and environmental affects), funding allocation once settlement funding is received, other municipalities from Wisconsin who are receiving said funds from settlement, and the opt-out of the lawsuit.

F. HELD OVER BUSINESS

G. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

1. R-20-23 – A Resolution to Accept and Spend the Winnebago County Spirit Funds (Introduced by Mayor Merkes)

Ald. Hammond and seconded by Ald. Sevenich to approve R-20-23 – A Resolution to Accept and Spend the Winnebago County Spirit Funds (Introduced by Mayor Merkes). Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

General discussion ensued on funding allocation (using spirit funds for Phase 2 of the solar power grid project at the Menasha Public Works Facility). As a sustainability project and initiative, the return on investment during its 25-year lifespan will provide a benefit for all city residents. This section will combine into the existing infrastructure of the solar power grid and will provide all power needed to run the facility, saving an estimated \$27,000 annually. After taking into consideration of setup costs to the City (after the spirit funds and other grants/tax credits) would be \$37,000; the projected savings is estimated to be \$700,000.00.

2. R-22-23 – A Resolution Pertaining to Sewer Charges and Surcharges (Introduced by Ald. Sevenich), as Recommended by Board of Public Works  
Moved by Ald. Sevenich and seconded by Ald. Ropella to approve R-22-23 – A Resolution Pertaining to Sewer Charges and Surcharges (Introduced by Ald. Sevenich), as Recommended by Board of Public Works.  
Motion carried on roll call 8-0.

#### H. APPOINTMENTS

1. Mayor's appointment of Helen Englebert to the Library Board for the term of 8/21/23 - 6/1/26  
Moved by Ald. Nichols and seconded by Ald. Ropella to approve Helen Englebert to the Library Board for the term of 8-21-23 – 6/1/26.  
Motion carried on voice vote.

2. Mayor's appointment of Walt Ulbricht to the Ad-hoc Menasha Sesquicentennial Committee

3. Mayor's appointment of Carol Sturm to the Ad-hoc Menasha Sesquicentennial Committee  
Moved by Ald. Sevenich and seconded by Ald. Tom Grade to approve Mayor's appointments of Walk Ulbricht and Carol Sturm to the Ad-hoc Menasha Sesquicentennial Committee.  
Motion carried on voice vote.

#### I. CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY

#### J. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY MATTER LISTED ON THE AGENDA (five (5) minute time limit for each person)

Sandra DaBill-Taylor, 545 Broad Street, Menasha; commented on the Monsanto PCB lawsuit, and commented on her request to review the reciprocity agreements with City of Neenah and Village of Fox Crossing.

#### K. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ald. Hammond and seconded by Ald. Tom Grade to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.  
Motion carried on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted by: Valerie Neuman, City Clerk