

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE WAUSAU COMMON COUNCIL**  
held on Tuesday, November 22, 2016, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.  
Mayor Mielke presiding.

**Roll Call**

11/22/2016 7:00:30 PM

Roll call indicated 11 members present.

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Present</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Wagner, Romey	YES
3	Nutting, David E.	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Gisselman, Gary	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Kellbach, Karen	YES
9	Gehin, Joe	YES
10	Abitz, Sherry	YES
11	Smith, Dennis	YES

**Recognition:**

Mayor Mielke stated the City of Wausau has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellent Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association, presented to Finance Director, Maryanne Groat.

Mayor Mielke stated two weeks ago he recognized the Council members that were veterans, but missed one and wanted to acknowledge Joe Gehin and thank him for his service.

**Public Comment for Pre-registered citizens for matters appearing on the agenda and other public comment.**

None

**Communications/Reports**

Nutting read the proclamation of George Washington establishing the Thanksgiving holiday in the United States.

**Consent Agenda**

11/22/2016 7:09:33 PM

Motion by Kellbach, second by Gisselman to approve all items on the consent agenda as follows:

**16-1101** Minutes of previous meeting(s). (11/09/16)

**16-1114** Ordinance of the Capital Improvements and Street Maintenance designating no parking on the north and south sides of the 100 block of West Randolph Street.

**14-0111** Resolution of the Economic Development waiving City's right to purchase property in the Wausau Business Campus in order to allow the title transfer of 7333 Stewart Avenue from Westside Warehousing of Wausau, LLC to Westside Realstate, LLC.

**15-1109** Resolution of the Finance Committee approving Modification of the 2016 Budget for the purchase of hand guns, rifles and optics (Police Department).

Yes Votes: 11    No Votes: 0    Result: PASS

**16-1109 Amendment**

11/22/2016 7:23:58 PM

Motion by Gehin, second by Nutting to amend Resolution of the Finance Committee adopting the 2017 City of Wausau Budget and general property tax to support same - to change proposed levy from \$0.24 to \$0.27.

Gehin stated when the budget came out of Finance Committee it was projected to be a \$0.27 increase and the manufacturing sector reduced it down to \$0.24. He indicated he wanted to put it back to \$0.27 and use that additional \$0.03 for roads and maintenance. He commented he understood there is never a good time to raise taxes, but the roads need the support because the wheel tax failed.

Rasmussen commented the Finance Committee worked hard on the budget to accomplish the goals of the city, as well as preserve core services through a process of reasonable cuts, deferrals and phased implementation to get the work done and reduce the amount of

impact on the levy. She stated the 2017 budget devotes more to infrastructure and roads than the last five budgets have. Residents told us by votes of 2 to 1 that they did not want wheel tax. She indicated people she talked to felt we would tax them if the referendum didn't pass and she could not support another \$0.03 increase. Wagner agreed it gave the perception that we are taking the wheel tax anyway and would not support it. *Discussion followed.*

Yes Votes: 1      No Votes: 10      Abstain: 0      Not Voting: 0      Result: FAIL

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	NO
2	Wagner, Romey	NO
3	Nutting, David E.	NO
4	Neal, Tom	NO
5	Gisselman, Gary	NO
6	McElhaney, Becky	NO
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	NO
8	Kellbach, Karen	NO
9	Gehin, Joe	YES
10	Abitz, Sherry	NO
11	Smith, Dennis	NO

**16-1109** 11/22/2016 7:24:38 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Nutting to adopt a Resolution of the Finance Committee adopting the 2017 City of Wausau Budget and general property tax to support same.

Yes Votes: 11      No Votes: 0      Result: PASS

**16-1109** 11/22/2016 7:25:23 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Gehin to adopt a Resolution of the Finance Committee authorizing the modification of fees to the City of Wausau Fees and Licenses Schedule adopted pursuant to Wausau Municipal Code § 3.40.010(a).

Yes Votes: 11      No Votes: 0      Result: PASS

**03-1111** 11/22/2016 7:26:07 PM

Motion by Wagner, second by Neal to adopt a Resolution of the Human Resources Committee authorizing a 2% general wage adjustment for non-represented employees effective 12/31/2016.

*Gehin indicated he would abstain from voting (his son works for the city).*

Yes Votes: 10      No Votes: 0      Abstain: 1      Not Voting: 0      Result: PASS

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Wagner, Romey	YES
3	Nutting, David E.	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Gisselman, Gary	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Kellbach, Karen	YES
9	Gehin, Joe	ABS
10	Abitz, Sherry	YES
11	Smith, Dennis	YES

**12-0219** 11/22/2016 7:30:54 PM

Motion by Gisselman, second by Wagner to adopt a Resolution of the Human Resources Committee approving the City of Wausau Employee Handbook.

Rasmussen commented the employees came forward and voiced their concerns regarding the handbook when we were last considering approving revisions to the handbook a few months ago. Listening sessions were held with the employees and we were able to consider their concerns and through compromise she felt we have yielded a better product.

Wagner, HR Chair, agreed and thanked employees, committee members and staff who worked on this handbook. He pointed out we have built into the handbook a review process every year which consists of department heads holding sessions to have their employees review and give input.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**16-1115** 11/22/2016 7:31:42 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Gisselman to adopt a Resolution of the Human Resources Committee approving reclassifications of exempt and non-exempt employees to comply with Fair Labor Standards Act overtime rule changes.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**16-1111** 11/22/2016 7:32:40 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Gisselman to adopt a Joint Resolution of the Human Resources and the Finance Committees approving creation of two (2) Administrative Assistant II Positions in the Police Department (at .50 FTE each).

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**16-1112** 11/22/2016 7:34:15 PM

Motion by Kellbach, second by Gehin to adopt a Joint Resolution of the Human Resource and the Finance Committees approving creation of Youth Safety Coordinator Position (civilian) in the Police Department (1 position at .25 FTE).

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**16-1113** 11/22/2016 7:38:34 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Peckham to adopt an Ordinance of the Plan Commission approving the General Development Plan at 916/918/924/940 South 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue to allow for a physical therapy center.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**16-1113** 11/22/2016 7:41:18 PM

Motion by Abitz, second by Neal to adopt a Resolution of the Plan Commission approving the Precise Implementation Plan at 916/918/924/940 South 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue to allow for a physical therapy center.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**Suspend the Rules** 11/22/2016 7:41:44 PM

Motion by Neal, second by Gehin to Suspend the Rule 1(D) Transmission of Committee Business to Council (2/3 Vote required).

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**15-1109** 11/22/2016 7:42:32 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Nutting to adopt a Resolution of the Finance Committee authorizing a 2016 Budget Modification to finance the Amendment Number 1 to the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Design contract with Ayres.

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Result: PASS

**Closed Session** 11/22/2016 7:43:41 PM

Motion by Rasmussen, second by Neal to move into CLOSED SESSION: pursuant to 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes for deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session:

- Discussion and Possible Action on the Potential Acquisition of Property at 411 Washington Street
- Discussion and Possible Action on Strategies Related to Potential Tax Increment Finance Plan Changes and/or Plan Creation for the Property at 411 Washington Street
- Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposals Received for the Property at 411 Washington Street
- Discussion and Possible Action on the Amendment to the Parking Agreement for the Wausau Center Mall

Roll Call Vote:

Yes Votes: 11 No Votes: 0 Abstain: 0 Not Voting: 0 Result: PASS

<u>District</u>	<u>Aldersperson</u>	<u>Vote</u>
1	Peckham, Patrick	YES
2	Wagner, Romey	YES
3	Nutting, David E.	YES
4	Neal, Tom	YES
5	Gisselman, Gary	YES
6	McElhaney, Becky	YES
7	Rasmussen, Lisa	YES
8	Kellbach, Karen	YES
9	Gehin, Joe	YES
10	Abitz, Sherry	YES
11	Smith, Dennis	YES

**15-0614**

11/22/2016 8:55:04 PM

Motion by Wagner, second by Neal to approve a Resolution of the Finance Committee approving the purchase of the leasehold and associated structure at 411 Washington Street and related financing and budget modification.

Chris Schock stated the city has been in discussion with Sears for many months on the potential acquisition of the existing store in order to have a say in its reuse and to facilitate the process faster. He was confident that we are repositioning the Sears location quicker than it would have been in a regular property disposition process. He indicated we have been able to engage very powerful and interested brands that would bring a benefit to downtown. Either proposal accomplishes the goal of diversifying the retail uses at the mall, bringing new users that aren't customarily downtown or at the mall at the moment to the area, and building momentum and positive energy for Wausau Center.

Yes Votes: 11    No Votes: 0    Result: PASS

**Public Comment or Suggestions:**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion by McElhaney, second by Peckham to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Robert B. Mielke, Mayor  
Toni Rayala, City Clerk