

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Berge called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present: Emily Anderson, Emily Berge, Jill Christopherson, Kate Felton, Jeremy Gragert, Charles Johnson, Roderick Jones, Larry Mboga, Joshua Miller, and Jessica Schoen. The following Council Member was absent: Andrew Werthmann.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on Tuesday, November 14, 2023:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
 - Approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, October 24, 2023.
 - Granting new bartender licenses.
 - Granting a Change of Licensed Premises for the Class B Fermented Malt Beverage and Class C Wine license, removing the Gallery, for Sweet Driver LLC, d/b/a Sweet Driver Chocolates and Cafe, 1106 Mondovi Road Suite 115, Rebecca Flynn, agent.
 - Granting a Change of Agent for the Reserve Class B Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage license of Coffee Grounds Inc., d/b/a The Coffee Grounds, 4212 Southtowne Drive, from Eric Nelson to Megan Kremer be approved.
 - Granting a Change of Agent for the Reserve Class B Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage license of Bear Creek Grille Inc., d/b/a Grizzly's Woodfired Grill & Steaks, 4890 Golf Road, from Suzanne Chopper to Matthew Cooney be approved.
 - Granting a Class B Fermented Malt Beverage license to Bodega Convenience LLC, d/b/a Oh Claire Improv, 515 Wisconsin Street, Alyssa Rivera, agent.
 - Awarding a contract for Procurement No. 2023-53, purchase of one spray patching truck.
- Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Miller and seconded by Council Member Johnson "to adopt the consent resolution." Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATIONS

Council President Berge, on behalf of the entire City Council, proclaimed November 11, 2023 as Veterans Day in the City of Eau Claire and encouraged all people to acknowledge and honor the contributions of our veterans to the principles of democracy, individual freedom, and human rights.

Council President Berge, on behalf of the entire City Council proclaimed Saturday, November 25, 2023, as Small Business Saturday in the City of Eau Claire, and encouraged everyone to support their community's small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

BUSINESS AGENDA

The City Council considered a resolution canceling the City Council meetings scheduled for December 25 and 26, 2023. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Jones and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution approving the Xcel Energy’s Renewable Energy Rider Service Agreement. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution approving appointments and reappointments to various Boards, Commissions and Committees. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Schoen and seconded by Council Member Mboga “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION

The Council had the first reading of an ordinance amending the City of Eau Claire Employee Benefits and Leaves Plan.

BUDGET ADOPTION

The City Council considered a resolution adopting the following proposed budgets and appropriations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024:

- a. General Fund
- b. L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library
- c. City - County Health Department

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Felton and seconded by Council Member Miller “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution adopting the following proposed budgets for various agencies and utilities of the City of Eau Claire for Fiscal Year 2024:

- a. Economic Development
- b. Community Enhancement
- c. Downtown Fund
- d. Cemetery Maintenance
- e. Hazardous Materials Response
- f. Landfill Remediation
- g. K-9 Fund
- h. American Rescue Plan Act
- i. Community Development Block Grant
- j. Seven Mile Creek Landfill
- k. Home Grant
- l. Debt Service - General Fund

- m. TID #8 (Downtown Development Area)
- n. TID #9 (Gateway Northwest Business Park Overlay)
- o. TID #10 (Confluence Project)
- p. TID #11 (Downtown)
- q. TID # 12 (Water Street)
- r. TID #13 (Cannery)
- s. TID #14 (Menomonie Street)
- t. TID #15 (Gateway Northwest)
- u. TID #16 (Shopko Plaza Development Area)
- v. Water Utility
- w. Sewer Utility
- x. Storm Water Utility
- y. Parking Fund
- z. Public Transit
- aa. Hobbs Municipal Ice Center
- bb. Fairfax Municipal Pool
- cc. Risk Management
- dd. Central Equipment
- ee. Redevelopment Authority

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Johnson and seconded by Council Member Jones “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution levying special assessment charges and extending annual installments of 2024 special assessments. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution appropriating the 2024 capital projects identified in the 2024 - 2028 Adopted Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Eau Claire. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Jones “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and authorizing an officer to declare official intent for federal income tax purposes. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Mboga and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution approving the 2024 budgets for the Business Improvement Districts within the City of Eau Claire and authorization to levy special assessments:

- a) South Barstow Business Improvement District
- b) West Grand Avenue Business Improvement District
- c) Water Street Business Improvement District
- d) N. Barstow/Medical Business Improvement District

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Miller and seconded by Council Member Johnson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing an application to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission for a Water Utility rate increase. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Jones and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution amending the City of Eau Claire Schedule of Fees and Licenses effective January 1, 2024. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Schoen “to adopt the resolution. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Mboga and seconded by Council Member Jones “to amend the Schedule of Fees and Licenses” by:

- ST-103 (Pawnbroker Business Quarterly Transaction Fee) from the proposed amount of \$1,450 quarterly to be adopted at the amount of \$1,375 quarterly.

Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Jones and Mboga. Nay: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Christopherson, Felton, Gragert, Johnson, Miller, and Schoen. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Miller “to amend the Schedule of Fees and Licenses” by:

- D-111 (Community Park Shelter Rental or Reservation of Park Area - Monday through Friday - Per Hour (Charge applies up to eight [8] hours)), from the proposed amount of \$20/hour to remain at the 2023 adopted fee of \$17/hour.
- D-112 (Community Park Shelter Rental or Reservation of Park Area - Saturday & Sunday - Per Hour (Charge applies up to eight [8] hours)), from the proposed amount of \$25/hour to remain at the 2023 adopted fee of \$22/hour.
- D-113 (Neighborhood Shelter/Pavilion (Except for Neighborhood Association meetings/events) Monday through Sunday - Per Hour (Charge applies up to eight [8] hours)), from the proposed amount of \$20/hour to remain at the 2023 adopted fee of \$17/hour.

Said motion passed by unanimous vote. A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolution as amended.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered an ordinance amending the City of Eau Claire Pay Plan Practices. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Mboga and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council Member Jones left the meeting.

The City Council considered a resolution establishing the 2023 tax levies collectible in 2024 and setting the tax roll for all governmental units within the City of Eau Claire. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council member Jones returned to the meeting.

The City Council considered a resolution levying tax rates for all taxable real and personal property in the 2023 tax roll of the City of Eau Claire located in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Schoen “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Time: 5:53 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Emily K. Berge
Council President

/s/ Nicholas L. Koerner
City Clerk