

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

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, Aaron Brewster, Kate Felton, Charles Johnson, Roderick Jones, Larry Mboga, Joshua Miller, Jessica Schoen, Clara Serrano, and Andrew Werthmann.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on July 23, 2024:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
- Approving the Minutes of the Tuesday, July 9, 2024 Council Legislative Session.
- Granting new bartender licenses.
- Granting the renewal of bartender licenses for the 2024-2026 licensing period.
- Granting a temporary expansion of the Combination Class B Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage licensed premise of Big T's Saloon EC LLC, d/b/a Big T's Saloon, 2007 3rd Street, to include a fenced in area for a customer appreciation event, August 18, 2024.
- Granting a Combination Class B Intoxicating Liquor and Fermented Malt Beverage license to Seymour Swigs LLC, d/b/a Seymour Swigs, 999 Malden Avenue, Jennifer Anderson, agent.
- Granting a Temporary Class B Fermented Malt Beverage license to Immaculate Conception Parish, Father Francis Thadathil, 1722 Highland Avenue, on October 20, 2024, for the Immaculate Conception Parish Festival event.
- Granting a Temporary Class B Fermented Malt Beverage license to Chippewa Valley Museum, President Melissa Pederson, 1204 East Drive, between August 1, 2024 to August 4, 2024, for the US Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championship event.
- Authorizing the City of Eau Claire Police Department to apply for a PSAP (Public Service Answering Point) Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, Office of Emergency Communications.
- Approving a Certified Survey Map for public utility easements for Cove at Folsom located at 3536 Folsom Street.
- Authorizing the Chippewa Valley Museum to conduct the US Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championship from Thursday, August 1, 2024 through Sunday, August 4, 2024 at Carson Park.
- Approving the bus shelter at the Haas Fine Arts Center on Water St. to be beautified with a stained-glass mosaic design by the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.
- Approving a public art application for the Owen Park Pavilion.

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

PROCLAMATIONS

Council President Berge, on behalf of the City Council, read a proclamation declaring August 6, 2024, as National Night Out in the City of Eau Claire.

PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS

The City Council considered a resolution amending the City of Eau Claire Handbook for Public Officials concerning the length of time speakers are allotted during the public hearing process. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the resolution.”

A motion was offered by Council Member Brewster and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to amend the resolution” by changing the time limit placed upon speakers during the public hearing process to four minutes. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Brewster, Felton, Mboga, Serrano, and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Berge, Johnson, Jones, Miller, and Schoen.

A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolution” as amended. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Brewster, Felton, Johnson, Jones, Mboga, Schoen, Serrano, and Werthmann. Nay: Council Member Miller.

2025-2029 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City Council considered a resolution approving the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Eau Claire. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Brewster and seconded by Council Member Jones “to adopt the resolution.”

A motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Felton to “amend the resolution” by modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 434 Land, Buildings, & Equipment by adding \$1,000,000 annually to fund 434-036: Flexible Housing Initiative, Affordable Housing for the years 2025-2029. To accommodate funding this program, Project # 406-006: Downtown Parking Replacement is reduced by \$5,000,000 in 2028.

A motion was offered by Council Member Miller and seconded by Council Member Serrano to “amend the proposed amendment” to the resolution by modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 434 Land, Buildings, & Equipment by adding \$1,000,000 to fund 434-036: Flexible Housing Initiative, Affordable Housing for the year 2025. To accommodate funding this program, Project # 406-006: Downtown Parking Replacement is reduced by \$1,000,000 in 2028. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Johnson, Miller, Schoen, and Serrano. Nay: Council Members Brewster, Felton, Jones, Mboga, and Werthmann.

A vote was then taken on the amendment to the resolution modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 434 Land, Buildings, & Equipment by adding \$1,000,000 to fund 434-036: Flexible Housing Initiative, Affordable Housing for the year 2025. To accommodate funding this program, Project # 406-006: Downtown Parking Replacement is reduced by \$1,000,000 in 2028. Said amendment passed by unanimous vote.

Council Member Johnson left the meeting.

A motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Felton to “amend the resolution” by modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 434 Land, Building & Equipment by reducing Project # 434-036, Flexible Housing Initiatives by \$125,000 in its entirety, therefore reducing general fund usage within the plan and the expenditures. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Brewster, Felton, Jones, Mboga, Miller, Serrano, and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Berge and Schoen.

A motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Felton to “amend the resolution” by modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 434 Land, Buildings, & Equipment by adding \$250,000 in the year 2025 to fund Project # 434-037: Energy Efficiency Navigator. To accommodate funding this program, \$250,000 will be transferred from Project # 434-036: Flexible Housing Initiative. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Felton to “amend the resolution” by modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 450 Parks & Recreation by adding \$20,000 in the year 2025 to fund Public Arts Projects (Murals). To accommodate funding this program, Project # 406-003: Galloway Ramp Maintenance is reduced by \$20,000 in 2025. Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Brewster, Felton, Mboga, and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Berge, Jones, Miller, Schoen, and Serrano.

A motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Felton to “amend the resolution” by modifying the 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan for Fund 450 Parks & Recreation by adding \$5,000 in the year 2025 to fund lighting improvements at the Boyd Park Skatepark. To accommodate funding this program, Project # 406-005: Downtown Parking Ramp Demolition is reduced by \$5,000 in 2025. Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Brewster, Felton, Mboga and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Berge, Jones, Miller, Schoen, and Serrano.

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

PERMANENT ENCROACHMENT – SCULPTURE TOUR

The City Council considered a substitute resolution granting a permanent encroachment to Sculpture Tour of Eau Claire for the “Sculpture Tour” exhibit. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Mboga “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT – TENABLE HOMES

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a development agreement with Tenable Homes, LLC, for street and utility improvements within 3536 Folsom Street, Cove at Folsom site. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Miller and seconded by Council Member Serrano “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

TABLE IX – PARKING DURING SPECIFIED HOURS

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Table IX entitled “Parking During Specified Hours” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire.

CHAPTER 10.20 – PARKING METERS AND LOTS

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 10.20 entitled “Parking Meters and Lots” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire.

ZONING

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance to rezone property from R-3P to C-3P and to adopt the general development plan for an office building located at 4908 Bullis Farm Road (Z-1743-24).

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance to rezone property from R-1 to R-2 located at 4847, 4939, 4951 Bean Road (Z-1744-24).

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance to rezone property from R-1 to R-2P and to adopt the general development plan located at 644 Mathews Drive (Z-1745-24).

ANNEXING LAND – TOWN OF WASHINGTON

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance annexing land to the City of Eau Claire located in the Town of Washington, Eau Claire County, as shown on Planning Drawing No. 24-2A.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Time: 7:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Emily K. Berge
Council President

/s/ Kristina M. Kuzma
City Clerk