

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 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 Berge, Aaron Brewster, Kate Felton, Roderick Jones, Larry Mboga, Joshua Miller, Jessica Schoen, Clara Serrano, and Andrew Werthmann. The following Council Members were absent: Emily Anderson and Charles Johnson.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on November 12, 2024:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
- Approving the Minutes of the Tuesday, October 22, 2024 Council Legislative Session.
- Granting new bartender licenses.
- Authorizing the Eau Claire Marathon to conduct the Ho H-EAU Ho 5K on Saturday, December 14, 2024 in Carson Park and along City streets, trails, and sidewalks.
- Accepting a Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) grant from the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, Office of Emergency Communications.

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.

Council Member Anderson joined the meeting.

COMMENDATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Council President Berge, on behalf of the City Council, read a proclamation declaring November 11, 2024 as Veterans Day in the City of Eau Claire and encouraging 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 City Council, read a commendation recognizing and expressing gratitude to all election workers and officials who contributed to the implementation of the November 2024 presidential election.

COUNTY PLAT APPROVAL

The City Council considered a resolution approving a County Plat within the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) in the Town of Wheaton, known as Wheaton Wildflowers located on 20th Street (File P-5-24). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Brewster and

seconded by Council Member Jones “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Council Member Johnson joined the meeting.

The City Council considered a resolution approving an Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement between Chippewa County, Eau Claire County, Town of Union, the Town of Wheaton, and the City of Eau Claire for CTH T Phase One Road Reconstruction. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Schoen and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance to amend the general development plan to reduce the required setback with a site plan for a commercial business located at 2832 Damon Street (Z-744-89 Amd).

TRUCK TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 10.48 entitled “Truck Traffic Regulations” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire limiting thru truck traffic on Sheridan Road.

STREET EXCAVATIONS AND OPENINGS

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 13.10 entitled “Street Excavations and Openings” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire adjusting guarantee amount.

DEFINITIONS

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 1.04 entitled “Definitions” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire adding to parking restrictions, June 19.

STOP INTERSECTIONS

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Table III entitled “Stop Intersections” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire at various downtown intersections.

2025 BUDGET ADOPTION

The City Council considered resolutions adopting the following proposed budgets and appropriations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025: General Fund, L.E. Phillips

Memorial Public Library, and City – County Health Department. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Mboga “to adopt the resolutions.”

A motion was offered by Council Member Brewster and seconded by Council Member Mboga to “amend the resolution” adopting the proposed General Fund Budget by modifying the 2025 Operating Budget to allocate \$30,000 to Downtown Eau Claire Inc. (DECI) from the General Fund, to be paid in February and August of 2025. This is additional to the amount of \$50,000 within the Economic Development Fund. This will be accomplished by a reduction of the payroll allocation for City Council members of \$30,000, and an increase in contribution and payments in Non-Departmental expenses of \$30,000. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Brewster, Felton, Johnson, Mboga, Miller, Schoen, Serrano, and Werthmann. Nay: Council Member Jones.

A motion was offered by Council Member Brewster and seconded by Council Member Miller to “amend the resolution” adopting the proposed General Fund Budget by modifying the 2025 Operating Budget to allocate \$3,000 to Neighborhood Services for Evolve software for use by the Health Department. This will be accomplished by a reduction of the payroll allocation for City Council members of \$3,000, and an increase in the software expenses in Neighborhood Services for Evolve software in the amount of \$3,000. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolutions,” including the resolution adopting the proposed General Fund Budget as amended. 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 2025:

- a. Economic Development
- b. Community Enhancement
- c. Cemetery Maintenance
- d. Hazardous Materials Response
- e. Landfill Remediation
- f. K-9 Fund
- g. American Rescue Plan Act
- h. Community Development Block Grant
- i. Seven Mile Creek Landfill
- j. Home Grant
- k. Debt Service - General Fund
- l. TID #8 (Downtown Development Area)
- m. TID #9 (Gateway Northwest Business Park Overlay)
- n. TID #10 (Confluence Project)
- o. TID #11 (Downtown)
- p. TID # 12 (Water Street)
- q. TID #13 (Cannery)
- r. TID #14 (Menomonie Street)
- s. TID #15 (Gateway Northwest)
- t. TID #16 (Shopko Plaza Development Area)

- u. TID #17 (The Sevens)
- 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 Miller “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

The City Council considered a resolution levying special assessment charges and extending annual installments of 2025 special assessments. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Serrano and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The City Council considered a resolution appropriating the 2025 capital projects identified in the 2025 - 2029 Adopted 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.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND OFFICIAL INTENT

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 Schoen and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGETS

The City Council considered a resolution approving the 2025 budgets for the Business Improvement Districts within the City of Eau Claire and authorization to levy special assessments. 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.

WATER UTILITY RATE

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

SCHEDULE OF FEES & LICENSES

The City Council considered a resolution amending the City of Eau Claire Schedule of Fees and Licenses effective January 1, 2025. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Serrano and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

The City Council considered a resolution amending City of Eau Claire Employment Policies. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Brewster and seconded by Council Member Jones “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PAY PLAN AND PRACTICES

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

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & LEAVES PLAN

The City Council Considered an ordinance amending the City of Eau Claire Employee Benefits & Leaves Plan. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Mboga “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

TAX LEVIES & TAX RATES

The City Council considered a resolution establishing the 2024 tax levies collectible in 2025 and setting the tax roll for all governmental units within the City of Eau Claire. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Johnson and seconded by Council Member Miller “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution levying tax rates for all taxable real and personal property in the 2024 tax roll of the City of Eau Claire located in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Serrano and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Time: 6:04 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Emily K. Berge
Council President

/s/ Kristina M. Kuzma
City Clerk