

**Common Council Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM**

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in regular session at 7:00 PM, January 15, 2025, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Mayor Lang is the chair.

Present: Aldermen Boyette, Erickson, Hillstrom, Lendrum, Weber, Pollnow, Steiner, Ellis, and Council President Borchardt. Staff present Director of Finance Rasmussen, Director of Community Development & Assessment Haese, Director of Public Works Kaiser, City Attorney Rashid, and City Clerk Nagel.

Also Present: Human Resources and Safety Director Fairchild, and those listed on the attached Attendance Sheets.

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 7: 00 PM.

The Mayor/Aldermen recorded their attendance on the RollCall-Pro System as the Clerk called the roll. Alderman Lendrum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Presentation

- A. Tax Increment District Presentation by Baird  
Baird Managing Director Viegut went through the Tax Increment District Presentation with the Council. Director Viegut answered any aldermen questions or concerns.

III. Introduction and Confirmation of Mayor's Appointment(s)

- A. None.

IV. Approval of Council Proceedings

- B. [Approval of the Council Minutes and Proceedings of December 18, 2024.](#) **(UC)**  
**There being no objections, the Council Minutes and Proceedings were ordered approved as written by unanimous consent.**

V. Public Forum

- A. Speakers should give their name and residential address (not mailing address) and are allowed five minutes to speak on any topic.  
a. None.

VI. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues

- a. None.

VII. Consent Agenda

- a. Original Class "A" Fermented Malt Retail License Convenience Store Application to Van Zeeland Oil Co., Inc., for Mobil West, 1350 Gillingham Road, Neenah WI subject to the conditions of the Special Use Approval Letter. **(PSSC)**
- b. Change of Agent application Ballroom at the Reserve, LLC., 116 S Commercial St, Neenah WI, agent Codie Emunson. **(PSSC)**
- c. Renewal of Pawnbroker/Secondhand Dealer Application to J. Anthony Jewelers, 220 S. Commercial St., Neenah WI, owner Benjamin Ziemba. **(PSSC)**

- d. Renewal of Pawnbroker/Secondhand Dealer Application to Blind Tiger Games, 675 S. Green Bay Rd., Neenah WI, owner Alexander Thompson. **(PSSC)**  
**There being no objections, the Consent Agenda was ordered approved as written by unanimous consent.**

VIII. Reports of standing committees

- a. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee meeting of January 7, 2025:](#)  
(Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chair Hillstrom) (Minutes can be found on the City web site)
  1. Meeting cancelled, no report.
- b. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of January 6, 2025:](#)  
(Chairman Erickson/Vice Chair Boyette) (Minutes can be found on the City web site)
  1. Committee recommends Council approve the 2025 Intermunicipal Agreement for the Dial-A-Ride Program as presented. **(RollCall-Pro)**  
**MSCRP Lendrum/Boyette to approve as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee, all voting aye.**
  2. Committee recommends Council approve the employment agreement for Director Haese as presented. **(RollCall-Pro)**  
**MSCRP Lendrum/Borchardt to approve as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-1 with Pollnow voting no.**

Mayor Lang recognized Community Development Director Haese for his 34-years of service to the city. Mayor Lang encouraged Director Haese to stay on as a part-time employee in order to continue his expertise and leadership on several current complex on-going projects. With the assistance of the Human Resources Department, the proposed agreement was reached.

There was discussion on the agreement being cost neutral. Director Fairchild advised with the rules with the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS), the proposed salary makes the agreement cost neutral for Director Haese to be a part-time employee without losing any WRS retirement benefits. The city will recoup employee benefit costs no longer being paid out on behalf of Director Haese, such as healthcare insurance, etc. Director Haese helps the city by staying on in a part-time capacity while city makes it worth his time by not losing any retirement benefits.

There was discussion on WRS rules where Director Haese could not contract as a consultant with the city other than through a third party. In this scenario, a third-party consultant contract would cost the city more than keeping Director Haese on as a part-time employee at the proposed salary. Time restrictions were also a concern as there is a 60-day waiting period for Director Haese to become eligible as a contracted consultant causing delays with current projects. Staying on as a part-time employee, Director

Haese could speak on behalf of the city, whereas, as a contracted consultant he could not. Director Haese will be involved with on-going projects, will attend council meetings as requested by the mayor, and will assist with the onboarding of the new Community Development Director. If there are any changes with the agreement, an amended agreement will come back to Finance and Personnel Committee as well as Council.

- IX. Reports of special committees and liaisons and various special projects committees  
[Regular Plan Commission meeting of December 10, 2024:](#) (Council Rep Steiner)  
(Minutes can be found on the City web site)
- A. Annexation #237 (Ordinance #2024-26) and the property also receive an R-1, Single-Family Residence District zoning classification. **(RollCall-Pro) MSCRP Steiner/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Plan Commission, all voting aye.**
- B. [Regular Plan Commission meeting of January 7, 2025:](#) (Council Rep Steiner)  
(Minutes can be found on the City web site)
1. No report.
- C. [Board of Public Works meeting of January 7, 2025:](#) (Vice Chair Hillstrom)  
(Minutes can be found on the City web site)
1. No report.
- D. Landmarks Commission
1. Report from the Landmarks Commission Meeting of January 8, 2025 – Alderman Weber
- a. Worked with Keepers Designs on the redesign of the Historical City Brochure proposal and plan.
- E. Library Board
1. Report from the Library Board Meeting of January 15, 2025 – Alderman Erickson
- a. Total circulation is up 6%.
- b. Programming attendance is up 23%.
- c. Total customer count is up 15%.
- d. Youth Department Programs upcoming events
- A. Stuffed Animal Clinic
- B. Read to Me Challenge
- e. Spead Puzzling Event in the month of February.
- X. Presentation of petitions
- A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk's Office after distribution of the agenda.
1. No petitions.
- XI. Council Directives
- A. None.
- XII. Unfinished Business

XIII. New Business

- A. Alderman Hillstrom made comments on this year's Winterfest 2025. Estimated over 400 participants. Fun was had by all.
- B. Alderman Boyette commented on the American Disability Act notice at the bottom of all agendas.

XIV. Adjournment

**Motion by Ellis/Pollnow to adjourn in closed session, all voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Nagel, City Clerk