



City of Neenah
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Neenah City Hall – 211 Walnut Street
Council Chambers

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., January 7, 2026, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Mayor Lang is the chair.

Present: Aldermen Bruno, Erickson, Linski, Ellis, Pollnow, Lendrum, Weber, and Council President Borchardt. Alderman Steiner appeared by phone. Staff present Director of Finance Rasmussen, Director of Community Development & Assessment Nieforth, Public Works Director Kaiser, City Attorney Rashid, and City Clerk Nagel.

Also Present: Fire Chief Teesch, Director Kading, Police Chief Olson, and those noted on the attached Meeting Sign-In Sheets.

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

The City Clerk called a voice roll call as the Mayor/Aldermen recorded their attendance in the RollCall-Pro System followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Pollnow.

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

A. None.

III. Approval of Council Proceedings

A. [Approval of the Council Minutes and Proceedings of December 17, 2025 regular session.](#)

Seeing no objections, the above Minutes and Proceedings were ordered approved as written.

IV. Public Forum

A. Speakers should give their name and residential address (not mailing address) and are allowed five minutes to speak on any topic.

The Public Forum was opened by Mayor Lang at 6:02PM

1. Scott Becher, 1061 Green Acres Lane – Mr. Becher would the Arrowhead Park consultant to provide a cost estimate on the project and the proposed buildings.

After additional calls for comments, there were no other appearances. Mayor Lang closed the Public Forum at 6:03PM.

V. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues

- A. Alderman Pollnow asked for clarification on the Arrowhead Park Project. As he recalled the consultant did not give costs for the plan and there are no costs at this time.
- B. Mayor Lang confirmed, that is correct. There are no costs estimates associated with the Arrowhead Park Project at this time. The Arrowhead Park plan is a concept plan.

VI. Consent Agenda (**Unanimous Consent**)

- A. None.

VII. Reports of standing committees

- A. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee meeting of December 30, 2025:](#) (Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chairman Weber) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

- 1. Committee recommends Council approve the Original "Class B" Combination Alcohol Beverage Retail License Application for GLUMF Events, LLC, d/b/a Ballroom at the Reserve, 116 S. Commercial Street, Neenah, Matthew Gloede, Agent. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRП Lendrum/Borchardt to approve the Original "Class B" Combination Alcohol Beverage Retail License Application for GLUMF Events, LLC, all voting aye.

- 2. Committee recommends Council approve the agreement with Edgewater Resources to complete the design, engineering, and permitting requirements for the Kimberly Point Shoreline Stabilization and Improvements Project in the amount of \$168,800.00 (including reimbursable expenses) utilizing 2026 CIP Budgeted funds. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRП Lendrum/Weber to approve the agreement with Edgewater Resources as recommended by Committee, all voting aye.

Director Kading explained the main impetus of the Doty Park Shoreland Stabilization and Improvements Project was the wood seawall had failed. There are gaps in the walls causing erosion. At Kimberly Point the boardwalk was crushed three times in the past, leaving the underside of the boardwalk open to water and nothing to stabilize the shoreline. The concrete is washing out and failing. Director Kading and the Commission Members were uncomfortable leaving the shoreline the way it was.

- 3. Committee recommends Council approve the agreement with ECS to perform subsurface exploration and geotechnical engineering for the lake edge embankment stability evaluation at Arrowhead Park in the amount of \$53,168. Funding for the Agreement to be provided from Arrowhead Park carry forward funds included in the 2025 Capital Improvements Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRП Lendrum/Bruno to approve the agreement with ECS as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call voter, 8-1 with Pollnow dissenting.

Alderman Pollnow will be voting no on this item as he has concerns about the spending, and he believes the Council does not have all the information about the item to make decisions on it.

Alderman Ellis will be voting yes on this item has been on the docket since 2017 when the Council unanimously voted to borrow money to support this project as part of the growth plan.

Director Nieforth confirmed that she is transparent with Council with any information and is following the appropriate approval process. The DNR requires this work, and the appropriate committee and council approvals are obtained for the work. This project is very complex. At times it may not look like any activity is taking place but there is. There are several different approvals that are mandatory for this project to be successful as it is former lakebed and a former landfill with contamination on the site. Given that, staff is working with five different divisions within the DNR and the federal government.

Mayor Lang added that the City of Neenah owns this property in which there are obligations to the property, many of which are mandated by the DNR. Regardless of what is built on this property, the DNR will require certain elements on this property, i.e. positive drainage plan, a storm water plan. This is property that the city is in charge of and is in charge of maintaining. Therefore, when there is an order from the DNR to do something on this property, it is important to comply with that order.

4. Committee recommends Council approve the Agreement with Stantec for Implementation of Gas Migration Prevention Action Plan at Arrowhead Park in the amount of \$32,350. Funding for the Agreement to be provided from Arrowhead Park carry forward funds included in the 2025 Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Bruno to approve the Agreement with Stantec as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-1 with Pollnow dissenting.

Alderman Pollnow will be voting no because he believes these are monitoring wells required by the DNR in response to the installation of the Douglas Park dirt at Arrowhead Park.

Director Nieforth clarified that these are vents, not wells. This is a standard DNR practice in which Director Nieforth has past experience with. All the City can do is react to the requirements of the DNR. This is preventative action to ensure the site is safe for future use.

Mayor Lang added that fill has been brought to the site to provide positive drainage to meet DNR requirements.

Alderman Lendrum commented that she remembers former Director Haese instilled in the Council that it is important to have a positive working relationship with the DNR.

- B. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of December 29, 2025](#): (Chairman Steiner/Vice Chairman Erickson) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Committee recommends Council approve the 2026 Intermunicipal Agreement with the City of Appleton for the Dial-A-Ride cost sharing. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRP Erickson/Bruno to approve the 2026 Dial-A-Ride cost sharing agreement with the City of Appleton, all voting aye.

- I. Reports of special committees and liaisons and various special projects committees
- A. [Regular Plan Commission meeting of December 30, 2025](#): (Alderman Steiner) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
1. No report.
- B. [Committee on Rules meeting of December 15, 2025](#): (Chairman Lendrum) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
1. Committee recommend Council approve the updated Standing Rules of the City of Neenah Common Council. (Attached) **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Ellis to approve the updated Standing Rules of the City of Neenah Common Council as recommended by the Committee.

Alderman Pollnow wanted a change to be made the proposed rules. He would like a reference to be made to Council President appointments as part of the Annual Organizational Meeting.

Clerk Nagel advised the Committee appointment language is located in the ordinances.

Alderman Weber thought it would be a simple fix to be done with this document. Being at the Committee on Rules, perhaps there was a misunderstanding on what Alderman Pollnow was asking.

Amended motion: Motion by Pollnow/Weber to include in section 4, item b of the Organizational Meeting the Council President appointments. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-1 with Ellis dissenting.

Discussion continued with Alderman Pollnow requesting another change. He wants to change the 24-hour open meeting agenda notice to 48 hours. He is requesting this change because it is very difficult to prepare for the meeting if an alderman works a full-time job.

Alderman Lendrum, Chair of the Rules Committee, advised that the Rules Committee discussed the 48 or 24-hours at length. The 24-hours was chosen because it complied with state statutes. The ideal time would be 48-hours or more. Sometimes the additional time just can't be done. She recalled the Committee discussion was that the minimum is 24-hours but staff has always provided the agendas as soon as they can.

Amended motion: Motion by Pollnow/Steiner to change, in all places in the existing rules where it indicates 24-hours prior to the meeting to 48-hours.

Alderman Ellis addressed Alderman Pollnow directly indicating that this conversation has been had multiple times in which Alderman Pollnow was privy

to. The City Attorney advised 24-hours is appropriate. Another issue is that sometimes things are going to happen within 48 hours. This is a disrespect to department heads. There is a reason why the law states 24-hours, so he will be voting against this amendment.

Alderman Lendrum agrees with Alderman Ellis. The 24-hour requirement aligns with state statute and we don't want to rush agenda items through.

Alderman Bruno would like to hear from department heads before we make a discussion on this issue.

Alderman Steiner would like to see putting out a first agenda understanding that there make be last minute changes or adjustment prior to 24-hours before a meeting. Alderman Steiner doesn't see it as disrespectful to department heads getting the information to the alderman 48-hours prior to the start of the meeting. He also has a full-time job and finds it difficult to be prepared for the meeting. Alderman Steiner doesn't believe 48-hours is an undue burden on staff with the understanding that sometimes there are last minute changes.

Mayor Lang advised that almost all items coming to Council have already been through committee, so alderman have already seen the material at the committee level. Mayor Lang could see some variation between committee and council.

Alderman Borchardt asked to hear Clerk Nagel's thoughts on this item. Clerk Nagel agreed with Mayor Lang that most of the agenda material is received through committee ahead of the posting of the council agenda. If adjustments come out of committee, the information is added to the Council agenda as an attachment. Previous administrations did not want the public image of an amended agendas and spoke about imposing a monetary penalty if agendas were amended. Speaking for Department Heads, we understand and respect that fact that elected officials have a full-time jobs outside of the work they do for the city, and do their best to get the information to them as soon as possible without any unnecessary delays. Publishing the agendas early could lead to potential amendments.

Alderman Weber stated that he has a full-time job outside of being an alderman, and he has no problem being prepared for the meeting regardless of when the agenda is posted.

Alderman Bruno reiterated that she would like to have Department Heads weigh in on the item before a decision is made.

Amended motion restated: Motion by Pollnow/Steiner to change, in all places in the existing rules where it indicates 24-hours prior to the meeting to 48-hours. Motion failed in a roll call vote, 3-6 with Pollnow, Bruno, and Steiner voting in the affirmative.

Original motion restated: MSCRP Lendrum/Ellis to approve the updated Standing Rules of the City of Neenah Common Council as recommended by the Committee, and as amended to include in section 4, item b of the Organizational Meeting the Council President appointments. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 9-0.

II. Presentation of petitions

- A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk's Office after distribution of the agenda.
1. None.

III. Council Directives

- A. None.

IV. Unfinished Business

- A. None.

V. New Business

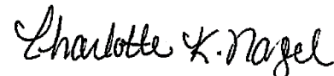
- A. Any announcements/questions that may legally come before the Council.
1. None.

VI. Adjournment

Motion by Alderman Pollnow, seconded by Alderman Linski to adjourn. Motion carried in a voice vote 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

[A broadcast of this meeting can be viewed and heard through this link on the City's YouTube channel](#)

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Nagel, City Clerk