



**City of Neenah
Common Council Minutes
Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Neenah City Hall
211 Walnut Street
Council Chambers**

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

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in regular session at 6:00 PM, April 1, 2026, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Mayor Lang is the chair.

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

Also Present: Fred Lang, Gerald VanRyken (Gaberial's Dad), State Representative Dean Kaufert, Lee Hillstrom, Frank Cuthbert, John Skyrms, and members of the Boy Scouts.

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 6:02 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 Mayor Lang.

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 March 18, 2026 regular session.](#)

B. **(Unanimous Consent)**

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.

Mayor Lang opened the public forum at 6:02 PM.

Gerald VanRyken, 654 McKinley Street. Thanked Mayor Lang for her service and mentioned his son Gabriel, who is nonverbal. He expresses gratitude for the information on the candidates for the upcoming election. He highlights the importance of public safety, and especially school safety. He commented on keeping people safe and his efforts to prevent tragedies like the one involving a homeless man. He

concludes by expressing his intention to continue speaking at council meetings to practice and ensure his son's voice is heard.

State Representative, Former Mayor, Dean Kaufert, 1360 Alpine Drive. Extends his appreciation and gratitude to Mayor Lang for her dedication and service to community. He acknowledges the long hours she has put in her role and the positive impact she has had on the city. He reminisced about the past community leaders and the progress made under Mayor Lang's leadership. He wished Mayor Lang well in her retirement and thanked her for her contributions.

Lee Hillstrom, 1021 Sterling Avenue. Discussed the need for water main repairs on Sterling Avenue and the importance of infrastructure improvements. He highlighted the success of local cancer support groups and the need for better lighting and modern equipment in Council Chambers. He shared his vision for future development, including Arrowhead Park, and expresses gratitude to the council and department heads for their hard work. He concluded by thanking Mayor Lang and the council for their dedication and acknowledging the challenges of political discourse in the current climate.

John S kyrms, 116 ½ Wisconsin Avenue. Expressed his gratitude to the council for their efforts and dedication over the past year. He acknowledged the challenges and frustration of their roles and praises the professionalism and concern for the community shown by department heads and staff. Mr. S kyrms specifically thanked Mayor Lang for her leadership and positive impact she has had on the city. He also expresses respect and appreciation for Alderman Lendrum and President Borchardt noting their contributions and future potential.

After additional calls for public comments, none were heard. Mayor Lang closed the Public Forum at 6:18 PM.

- V. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues
 - A. Alderman Lendrum commented on Mr. VanRyken's (Gaberial's Dad) positive impact on the community and his dedication to helping others.
 - B. Alderman Ellis mirrors the appreciation for Mayor Lang and her contributions to the city.
 - C. Alderman Erickson thanked Mayor Lang for her long-term friendship and collaboration on various community projects.
 - D. Alderman Bruno thanked Mayor Lang for her leadership, the way she managed the city, her love of history, and her dedication to the city.

- VI. Consent Agenda - None

- VII. Reports of standing committees
 - A. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee Meeting of March 24, 2026](#): (Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chairman Weber) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 - 1. Committee recommends Council approve the staff entering into a contract with Vandewalle and Associates, Inc., for the services related to the preparation of a new Zoning and Sign Code at a not to exceed cost of \$130,000, with funding

from the 2026 Community Development Outside Services budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRP Lendrum/Pollnow to approve entering into a contract with Vandewalle and Associates, Inc. as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.

2. Committee recommends Council approve the “Class A” Combination Liquor License for Union Star Corp d/b/a The Cheese Table, 125 W Wisconsin Avenue, Neenah WI. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRP Lendrum/Weber to approve the “Class A” Combination Liquor License for Union Star Corp. as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.

3. Committee recommends Council approve staff to enter into a professional services agreement with SEH, Inc., for the preparation of a City Administration Building Master Plan in an amount not to exceed \$21,555. **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRP Lendrum/Borchardt to approve entering into a professional services agreement with SEH, Inc. for preparation for a City Administration Building Master Plan as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 7-1 with Pollnow dissenting.

- B. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting of March 23, 2026](#): (Chairman Steiner/Vice Chairman Erickson) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

1. Committee recommends Council approve the Development Agreement and Offer to Purchase with Horseshoe Beverage Company, LLC to support the company’s future expansion plans in the city’s Southpark Industrial Center **(RollCall-Pro)**

MSCRP Erickson/Ellis to approve the Development Agreement and Offer to Purchase with Horseshoe Beverage Company, LLC as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.

VIII. Reports of special committees and liaisons and various special projects committees

- A. [Regular Plan Commission Meeting of March 24, 2026](#): (Council Rep Steiner) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

1. Meeting cancelled, no report.

- B. [Report from the March 19, 2026 Business Improvement District Board Meeting](#) (BID Board) – Alderman Ellis

1. No report.

- C. [Report from the March 25, 2026 Sustainable Neenah Committee Meeting](#)– Alderman Linski

1. No report

- D. [Report from the March 19, 2026 Park & Recreation Commission Meeting](#) – Alderman Weber

1. No report.

IX. Presentation of petitions

- A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk’s Office after distribution of the agenda.

1. None.

X. Council Directives

- A. None.

XI. Unfinished Business

- A. ~~Accept~~ Receive and place on file the City of Neenah Strategic Plan 2026-2029. (Attachment) **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR P Pollnow/Borchardt to accept and place on file the City of Neenah Strategic Plan 2026-2029. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.

XII. New Business

- A. Any announcements/questions that may legally come before the Council.
1. Alderman Lendrum read an email from Alderman Steiner expressing his appreciation for Mayor Lang's leadership and contributions to the city.
 2. Alderman Lendrum then told a funny story about an interaction between her and Mayor Lang.
 3. Council President Borchardt thanked Mayor Lang for her leadership and respectful mayoral race four years ago. He highlighted the Mayor's contributions to the city, including strategic planning, housing studies and cultural studies. He emphasized the mayor's lifelong commitment to the community and their impact on Neenah.
 4. Alderman Erickson spoken on her concerns about electric scooters and bikes zipping through intersections and causing potential accidents. Attorney Rashid responded with good news about an ordinance being written with neighboring attorneys and police chiefs. It is anticipated that a draft ordinance will be forthcoming in about a month. There was discussion on public education and social media campaigns to inform the public about the new ordinance.
 5. Alderman Weber thanked Mayor Lang for the opportunity to apply for her vacated alderman position when she was elected Mayor. He was grateful for the opportunity and the opportunity to learn from Mayor Lang. He now looks forward to the opportunity to represent her as her alderman.
 6. Alderman Linski thanked Mayor Lang for her leadership and dedication to the city, and to keep smiling. He never knew her to be without a smile.
 7. Mayor Lang reflected on her 12 years of service as Third District Alderman, emphasizing the importance of working together for the community's future. She shared some insights on the role of mayor, highlighting the role as a manager, listener, visionary, and advocate. Mayor Lang expressed her pride in the city's team and gratitude to community partners. She mentions looking forward to a new chapter with her grandchildren.

Mayor Lang quoted her great-grandfather's inaugural speech, emphasizing the importance of thorough action and public interest. She thanked the community for the honor of serving as mayor and expressed hope for continued collaboration.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Alderman Pollnow, seconded by Alderman Weber to adjourn. Motion carried in a voice vote 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

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Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Nagel, City Clerk