

CITY OF NEENAH
PUBLIC SERVICES AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Call to Order

Chairman Weber called to order the meeting of the Public Services and Safety Committee meeting at 5:00 PM.

Roll Call

Public Works Office Manager took roll. Alderperson Steiner was excused.

Also Present: Mayor Borchardt, City Attorney Rashid, Police Chief Olson, Assistant Police Chief Bernice, Interim Public Works Director Rohloff, Community Development Director Nieforth, Captain Wagner, CSA Officer Bedora, Gerald VanRyken, Alex Corrigan, Becky Heidke-Kwiatkowski, Frank Cuthbert, Alex LeFeber, Michelle Sturn, Scott Becher, Christian Blanton, Tara Brzezinski, and Lindsay Clark

Public Appearances

Chairperson Weber opened Public Appearances

Gerald VanRyken, 654 McKinley St., Neenah-Mr. VanRyken stated that the Healing Place has offered counseling, free of charge, to residents who may need emotional support regarding the storm. He also thanked the community for their response to the storm.

Scott Becher, 1061 Green Acres Ln., Neenah-Mr. Becher stated that he encourages residents to remember this is going to be a long healing process.

Christian Blanto, 709 E Cecil St., Neenah-Ms. Blanto is a member of the Neenah School Board. She asked if the outgoing crossing guards interviewed, why this topic was not shared with the school district, if there is grant funding, and if there is an opportunity for these intersections to be staffed by volunteers.

Tara Brzezinski, 2213 W Prairie Creek Dr, Village of Fox Crossing-Ms. Brzezinski asked if these are the same intersections that were proposed to be eliminated in the 2025 and does Safe Routes to School (SRTS) have to approve of these changes. She also questioned the consistency of data used for determining safe routes to school and the what the communication plan will be for families.

Lindsey Clark, 1078 Oxford Ct. Neenah-Ms. Clark urges the committee to prioritize the safety of children and consider other budget cuts instead of affecting the crossing guard program. She thanked the city for installing the pedestrian beacon at Gay and Tullar but emphasized the need for continued safety measures.

Chairperson Weber closed Public Appearances at 5:12 PM.

Approval of the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, meeting of Public Services and Safety Committee meeting.

Motion by Pollnow, Seconded by Defferding to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2026, meeting of the Public Services and Safety Committee meeting.

Call for vote by Chairperson Weber

Motion Vote 4/0

Motion Carried

New Business

Crossing Guard Program

Chief Olson stated that this is an information session only and is the first conversation about this to make the public aware of the plans for the crossing guard program. Chief Olson reviewed his memo of July 22, 2026. He stated this was brought up during 2026 budget planning. He stated that it is much more than just saving \$20,000, it is also about being efficient for the police department and using modern technology that we have that we didn't have in the past, to keep our kids safe. The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) organization was consulted and they agree that these locations are no longer needed. Chief Olson stated that the data is compiled a couple different ways. Crossing guards, every morning and every afternoon, tally the number of kids that cross their intersections. SRTS organization also go out and monitor intersections and track their own data. Chief Olson stated that it is very difficult for us to hire people who want to come in for 30 or 45 minutes in the morning, and 30 and 45 minutes in the afternoon. When we can't staff them, our staff is then filling in at those locations, and that could, on a day-to-day basis, be our entire policing staff.

Chief Olson stated we have the same number of staff as we did in 1971. In 1971, there were 7,000 calls for service; today we take over 25,000 calls for service. When we take our entire police department, or even one or two, out of the road to go cross kids for 45 minutes, the entire city is then not safe and that is problematic. The intersections that are being recommended for removal have five or fewer kids crossing and have pedestrian lights and push buttons that tells them when to cross. He stated if this is approved SRO officers and SRTS will work to educate the kids in the schools.

Chief Olson stated that this is an emotional issue, but decisions can't be made from emotions sometimes, we need to look at the internal facts and data and those from the SRTS organization.

Ms. Bedora stated that the main issue that we run into throughout the school year is staffing. It is hard to hire these people who have availability during the hours required

for this position. She stated that even when we do find people who have the availability to work the hours their life circumstances change and they leave.

Chief Olson noted that when the new volunteer program is up and running, we may be able to have volunteers staff these locations.

Alderman Pollnow asked who tabulated the data. Chief Olson stated that each crossing guard tracks the users with a pedestrian counter. Hew also stated that Neenah School District Superintendent Harrison is staffing crossing intersections evaluating the intersection.

Ms. Bedora stated that the SRTS organization does stop out at the intersections collecting their own data. That data is published in their report each year.

Chief Olson stated that when we get closer, SRTS will have a full PowerPoint presentation and provide all the data of why they believe that this is the way to go at a future meeting.

The Committee discussed in length the role of the school board and if they should be included in the decision and how the jobs are posted for this position.

2026 Second Quarter Police Statistics

The Committee discussed in length the traffic control changes that were made to First Street and Forest Avenue and that there may be a need to revisit in the future changes to the intersection in regard to traffic control due to the recent development in that area.

Motion by Pollnow, second by Defferding to Receive and Place on File the 2026 Second Quarter Police Statistics.

Call for vote by Chairperson Weber

Motion Vote 4/0

Motion Carried

Change Order for Stantec Agreement for Arrowhead Park Environmental Services

Director Nieforth reviewed her memo of August 6, 2026. She stated that the City requested services from Stantec Consulting Services Inc. in the fall of 2025 to assist the City with tasks required to implement the city's Arrowhead Park Master Plan, implement the Arrowhead Park methane plan, and oversee necessary soil borings to meet DNR requirements. The cost of these tasks approved by Council last fall were \$57,350. She stated that the geotechnical oversight for the dike borings, soil analysis, and methane monitoring, all required additional staff time from Stantec which has increased the original agreement costs from \$57,350 to \$124,200 which is an increase of \$66,850 and the reason for the change order.

Director stated that she did talk with our representative at Stantec and emphasized that in the future they need to keep the City informed of changes of scope of the original agreements.

Director Nieforth stated that the geotechnical work is completed. The methane monitoring is required by the DNR and will continue quarterly through 2027. She is going to meet with Stantec to enter into a standing agreement with them for annual monitoring starting in 2028.

Motion by Linski, seconded by Weber, to recommend the Common Council approve a change order for the Master Services Agreement with Stantec in the amount of \$66,850 for professional services for Arrowhead Park environmental services. Funding for the change order will be provided from Arrowhead Park carry forward funds included in the Capital Improvements Budget.

The Committee discussed in length the lack of approval for additional work and the need for clearer contract terms, working with the City Attorney's office to establish better payment terms and conditions, and the necessity of the work and the potential for future development.

Call for vote by Chairperson Weber

Motion Vote 2/2 (Nay vote Pollnow & Defferding)

Motion Fails

Licenses and Permits

Liquor Licenses

Approve the Temporary Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage License for Fox Valley Labor Council, AF-CIO for Labor Fest

Motion by Defferding, second by Pollnow to recommend the Common Council approve the Temporary Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage License for Fox Valley Labor Council, AF-CIO, 157 N Green Bay Rd., Neenah, for Labor Fest, to be held on September 7, 2026, from 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Call for vote by Chairperson Weber

Motion Vote 4/0

Motion Carried

Special Events

Informational only

Public Works General Construction and Department Activity Report

- 1) Contract 12-25 (Courtside Fields Pond): Work under the contract generally complete. Outside of the contract, prairie planting and sidewalk paving are being scheduled. This may be done in 2027.
- 2) Contract 1-26 (Elm, Reed, Laudan Utilities/Street):
 - a) Elm St: Sanitary sewer main is scheduled to be complete the week of 7/20. The remaining storm sewer work is scheduled for the week of 7/27.
 - b) Reed St: Sanitary sewer installation is complete. Storm sewer installation is being completed. Sewer lateral installation is ongoing.
1st proof roll was completed on this week.
- 3) Contract 2-26 (Henry, Sterling, Winneconne):
 - a) Sterling/Greenfield: Road work is scheduled to start the week of 7/27.
 - b) Henry: South of Winneconne, water main installation is complete and storm sewer installation is being completed. Utility work will then move north of Winneconne. That work is expected to be complete the week of 8/3.
- 4) Contract 4-26 (Misc. Concrete Pavement/Sidewalk Repair): A schedule has not been set.
- 5) Contract 5-26 (Misc. Asphalt Pavement Repair): About 30% of the work has been completed.
- 6) City Hall Master Plan: Staff is scheduled to meet with the consultant on 7/27 to review 2nd and 3rd floor layouts.

Interim Director Rohloff stated the initial concept plan is complete. Consultant will be setting up meetings with departments and staff.
- 7) Freedom Acres/Homes at Freedom Meadows: Reclaimed asphalt roads were patched the week of 7/6. City crews sprayed for dust control the week of 7/13.
- 8) Assistant PW Superintendent: Trevor Griesbach has been named as the new Assistant Public Works Superintendent. He has 11 years of experience with the department. He started work in his new role July 13.
- 9) Church St Ramp: Wells Sealants and Restoration will be scheduling work to make some ramp repairs this year. Work will focus on haunches and vector plates starting at the 8th level.
- 10) Nicolet Roundabout ICE Report: A draft Phase I report was received from the consultant. It discusses alternatives available and their level of service using existing traffic. We are awaiting traffic projections from WisDOT. When the report is ready, it

will be submitted to WisDOT for review and comment. That submission should be made next week.

- 11) Tullar/Gay Beacons: Concrete bases are scheduled for pouring the week of 7/27. The signal equipment has been received.

Interim Director Rohloff and Mayor Borchardt gave an update on the tornado damage cleanup.

Alderman Pollnow asked about erosion control in Freedom Acres. He asked who enforces the grade plans and site plans.

Mayor Borchardt explained that the enforcement usually falls either on public works or inspections. He agrees that it needs to be looked at and a formal process needs to be implemented. The public works staff is looking into establishing a better, more accountable process to make sure that the contractors are held accountable for following erosion and drainage plan measures.

Announcements and Future Agenda Items

Discuss the process for requesting agenda items.

Adjournment

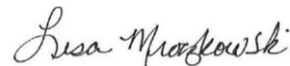
Motion by Pollnow, Seconded by Linski to adjourn at 6:28 PM.

Call for vote by Chairman Weber

Motion vote all voting aye. 4/0

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Mroczkowski
Public Works Office Manager