

Common Council Minutes
Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., May 21, 2025, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Mayor Lang is the chair.

Present: Aldermen Bruno, Erickson, Linski, Ellis, Steiner, Pollnow, Lendrum, and Weber. Council President Borchardt was excused. Staff present Director of Finance Rasmussen, Director of Community Development & Assessment Nieforth, City Engineer Kummerow (sitting in for Director Kaiser), City Attorney Rashid, and City Clerk Nagel.

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

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

- I. 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 May 7, 2025 regular session.](#)
 - B. **(UC)**
Seeing no objections, the Minutes and Proceedings were ordered approved.
- IV. Public Hearings
 - A. Consider Ordinance No. 2025-04, amending Chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances relating to residential development standards and permitted uses in commercial districts.
Mayor Lang opened the public hearing at 6:02PM. After three calls for comments, there were no appearances. Mayor Lang closed the public hearing at 6:03 PM.
- V. Plan Commission, Public Services & Safety Committee or Finance & Personnel Committee report pertaining to the Public Hearings
 - A. [Plan Commission meeting of May 13, 2025:](#) (Ald. Steiner) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Commission recommends Council approve Ordinance No. 2025-04, amending Chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances relating to residential development standards and permitted uses in commercial districts. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRIP Steiner/Pollnow to approve Ordinance 2025-04 as recommended by the Plan Commission, all voting aye.

Deputy Director of Community Development Schmidt gave an overview of the ordinance which included removing the 20-foot minimum dwelling width and reducing side setbacks in the R2 district and permitting single-family and two-family houses in commercial districts.

VI. 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 6:07PM. After three calls for comments, there were no appearances. Mayor Lang closed the public forum at 6:07PM.

VII. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues

- A. None.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- A. Preliminary Plat for Courtside Fields subdivision located at 600 Elm Street and 720 Elm Street subject to the conditions on the preliminary plat review letter. **(PC)**
- B. Final Plat for the 2nd Addition to Freedom Acres subdivision located west of Liberty Ave. and Founders St. **(PC)**
- C. Temporary Extension of License Premises Application to Lion's Tail Brewing Co. for Smoke on the Fox. **(PSSC)**
Seeing no objections, the Consent Agenda was ordered approved as presented.

IX. Reports of standing committees

- A. [Public Services and Safety Committee meeting of April 29, 2025](#): (Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chairman Weber)
1. Committee recommendations entering into a professional service agreement with GRAEF-USA, to perform a condition survey of the Church Street parking ramp at a cost not to exceed \$12,000.00, to be funded by Capital Facilities Program. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR P Lendrum/Weber to approve the agreement for the condition survey of the Church Street Parking Ramp as recommended by Committee, all voting aye.
- B. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee meeting of May 13, 2025](#): (Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chairman Weber) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
1. Committee recommends Council authorize the city to enter into a professional services agreement with MSA Professional Services, Inc., for the preparation of a roundabout feasibility analysis for the intersection of Nicolet Boulevard and Commercial Street not to exceed \$13,560. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR P Lendrum/Ellis to authorize the city to enter into an agreement for a feasibility study analysis of the intersection of Nicolet Boulevard and Commercial Street as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
- A. Alderman Lendrum explained the agreement is for a feasibility study of the intersection.
- B. Alderman Erickson clarified that item was discussed in the past, but the agreement itself has not been voted on.

- C. Alderman Pollnow advised that the Council approved the concept to go of the study to prepare bid documents; this is the agreement to do the actual study.
2. Committee recommends Council authorize staff to enter into a professional services agreement for design and permitting of the Courtside Fields Pond with Davel Engineering and Environmental, Inc., in the amount of \$17,650 subject to a letter of intent between the city and the property owner. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Weber to authorize staff to enter into the agreement per the letter of intent as recommended by Committee, all voting aye.
 - A. Alderman Pollnow stated that Director Kaiser thought this was for the greater good in order to meet stormwater management discharge requirements. This is an infill pond making a little different than the typical process of creating a pond.
 - B. Alderman Lendrum advised this is for the retention pond on the old Shattuck Middle School property. At this point the agreement is for design and permitting.
- C. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of May 12, 2025](#): (Chairman Steiner/Vice Chairman Erickson) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Committee recommends Council approve the 2nd Addition to Freedom Acres Subdivision Development and Fee agreement. **(Action on this item takes place under Board of Public Works)**
 2. Committee recommends Council approve the transition of Human Resources Recruitment and Retention Coordinator from part-time to full-time effective July 1, 2025. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Steiner/Eillis to approve the transition of the Human Resources Recruitment and Retention Coordinator as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 3. Committee recommends Council approve Ordinance No. 2025-03 Repealing Transportation Assessment Replacement Fee (TARF) and Replacing with Municipal Vehicle Registration Fee (Wheel Tax). **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Steiner/Eillis to approve Ordinance 2025-03 as recommended by Committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 7-1 with Pollnow dissenting.
 - A. Alderman Steiner clarified there are no changes from what was voted on at the previous meeting. Passing the ordinance is an official administrative vote to replace the TARF with a wheel tax.
 - B. Alderman Pollnow explained that he will be voting against the ordinance as he believes it is an aggressive way to collect the revenue, and doesn't see it as a viable solution. He feels the large commercial and industrial trucks are not paying their fair share to use city streets.
 - C. Alderman Lendrum disagrees with Alderman Pollnow regarding the large commercial and industrial trucks not paying their fair share. These vehicles are taxed in a different way, mainly through state programs which the city receives money from.

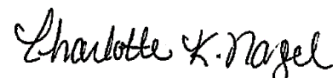
4. Committee recommends Council approve Resolution for Associated Bank Trust Agreement allowing Director Rasmussen as an authorized signatory on the Associated Bank accounts. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Steiner/Bruno to approve the resolution as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
5. Committee recommends Council approve the Police (Local 8) Union Tentative Agreement 2025-2027. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Steiner/Bruno to approve the Police (Local 8) Union Tentative Agreement as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
- D. Regular Plan Commission meeting of May 13, 2025: (Alderman Steiner) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Action was held under Public Hearings.
- B. [Board of Public Works meeting of May 8, 2025](#): (Vice Chairman Lendrum) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. The Board recommends Council award Contract 4-25, Concrete Pavement and Sidewalk Repairs to Al Dix Concrete, Kaukauna, in the amount of \$246,100.00 **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Linski to award Contract 4-25 as recommended by the Board, all voting aye.
- C. [Board of Public Works meeting of May 15, 2025](#): (Vice Chairman Lendrum) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. The Board recommends Council approve the 2nd Addition to Freedom Acres Subdivision Development and Fee Agreement. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP to approve the 2nd Addition to Freedom Acres Subdivision Development and Fee Agreement as recommended by both Finance & Personnel Committee and the Board of Public Works, all voting aye.
 - A. Deputy Director Schmidt addressed the Council on the success of this development. This is the final plat in the Homes at Freedom Meadows/Freedom Acres subdivisions finishing the project five years ahead of schedule. There were some concerns in 2020 when the city purchased 130 acres from the developer and then sold it back in phases. There was a small administrative fee that was added onto the by-back sale price so the city made a little profit on the project. In the end it was a win-win situation for all parties involved and finished five years ahead of schedule.
- D. Reports on neighborhood groups.
 1. [Business Improvement District Board \(BID Board\) meeting of May 20, 2025](#)
– Alderman Ellis
 - a. The Tiny Doors Project was a success lead by Alderman Erickson. This project ends March 31st.
 - b. Log Your Loops program is in full swing. Loops can be logged on the Future Neenah, Inc. website.
 - c. The Summer Kickoff Concert featuring the Glam Band will be held June 11th.
 - d. June 14th will be the Downtown gift certificate sale.
 - e. Farmer's Market also opens June 14th.
- E. Library Board

1. [Report from the Library Board meeting of May 21, 2025](#) – Alderman Erickson
 - a. The Summer Reading Program, Soar into Summer, is set to kick-off for both children and adults. The kick-off events held on June 10th at 1:30PM and again at 6:00PM with music, crafts, and the making of a personalized library tote. Visit the library website for more information.
 - b. Repair Café Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, June 28th. Visit the library website for more information.
- F. Neenah Arts Council
 1. [Report from the Neenah Arts Council meeting of May 14, 2025](#) – Alderman Erickson
 - a. Kicking off the summer calendar of events. The Arts Council will be at Community Fest, Farmer’s Market, National Night-Out, and a variety of others.
- G. Landmarks Commission
 1. [Report from the Landmarks Commission May 14, 2025](#) – Alderman Weber
 - a. The Commission continued working on the Historic Tourist Brochure re-write. The target completion date is July 1st.
- X. Presentation of petitions
 - A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk’s Office after distribution of the agenda.
 1. None.
- XI. Council Directives
 - A. MSC Ellis/Steiner should the City of Neenah provide an opinion to the State Legislature on ending spring elections in the State of Wisconsin.
 - B. MSC Ellis/Bruno should the Council consider having term limits for the local elected officials.

Council Directives are voted on at the next Council meeting, June 4, 2025.
- XII. Unfinished Business
 - A. Alderman Erickson would like an update on how grant opportunities are being pursued.
- XIII. New Business
 - A. None
- XIV. Adjournment

Motion by Pollnow/Bruno to adjourn. Motion carried in a voice vote 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:34PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Nagel, City Clerk

**CITY OF NEENAH – COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025
ATTENDANCE SHEET**

NAME	ADDRESS
1. Frank Cuthbert	1533 Fallow Drive, Neenah
2. ANTHONY L. MACH	773 YORKSHIRE RD "
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