



**City of Neenah
Common Council Minutes
Organizational & Regular Meetings
Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Neenah City Hall
Council Chambers
211 Walnut Street, Neenah**

[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 organizational and regular session at 6:00 p.m., April 21, 2026, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Present: Alderman Bruno, Alderman Elect Erickson, Alderman Linski, Alderman Elect Defferding, Alderman Steiner, Alderman Pollnow, Alderman Ellis, Alderman Elect Weber, Mayor Elect Borchardt, Director of Finance Rasmussen, Director of Community Development & Assessment Nieforth, Director of Public Works Kaiser, City Attorney Rashid, and City Clerk Nagel.

Also Present: Director of Parks & Recreation Kading, Police Chief Olson, Fire Chief Teesch, Director of Human Resources Barber, Director of Water Utility Mach, Library Director Hardina-Wilhelm, and those listed on the sign-in sheet attached to the minutes.

Mayor Elect Borchardt 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 Open Meetings System followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Aldermen Elect Defferding.
- II. Invocation by Pastor Jeff Vanden Heuvel.
Invocation was given by Pastor Vanden Heuvel included a blessing and a hope for Mayor Elect Borchardt and all the Council Members.
- III. Swearing in Newly Elected Council Members.
 - A. Mayor – Four-year term expiring April 2030
 - a. Brian D. Borchardt
Mayor Borchardt was sworn in by Municipal Judge Gunz.
 - B. Aldermen – Three-year term expiring April 2029
 - a. Alderman District One – Brian D. Defferding
 - b. Alderman District Two – Tami Erickson
 - c. Alderman District Three – Scott C. Weber
Alderpersons elect were sworn in by Clerk Nagel.
 - C. Remarks from newly sworn Council Members
Remarks were given by the three newly elected Alderpersons and by Mayor Borchardt.

Organizational Meeting

- IV. Adopt Council Rules of Order
- A. Motion to adopt the Rules of Order of the previous Council as the governing rules of this Council. **(Roll Call Vote)**
MSCRIP Ellis/Weber to adopt the Rules of Order of the previous Council as the governing rules of this Council. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.
- B. Election of President of the Council.
1. Receive nominations for Council President.
 2. Vote for Council President. **(Secret Ballot)**
Motion by Ellis to nominate Alderman Steiner for Council President. Alderman Steiner accepted the nomination. After additional calls for nominations, none were received. Motion was carried unanimously in a voice vote, 8-0.
- V. Mayor Borchardt's appointments to the Standing Committees, one-year terms expiring April 2027.
- A. Finance & Personnel – (4) Aldermen and the Council President.
Mayor appoints Aldermen Erickson, Bruno, Ellis, Newly Appointed District 2 Alderman, and Council President.
- B. Public Services & Safety – (4) Aldermen and the Council President.
Mayor appoints Aldermen Weber, Linski, Pollnow, Defferding, and Council President.
- C. N-M Joint Fire Finance and Personnel Committee – the Council President, a member of the Finance and Personnel Committee and an at large Alderman.
Mayor appoints Aldermen Bruno, Pollnow, and Council President.
- D. **Motion to confirm the Mayor's appointments to the Standing Committees. (Roll Call Vote)**
Motion by Pollnow/Weber to confirm Mayor's appointment to the Standing Committees. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.
- VI. Mayor's appointments to the Special Council Committees, one-year terms expire April 2027.
- A. Committee on Rules – (3) Aldermen.
1. Mayor appoints Aldermen Weber, Ellis, and Defferding.
- B. Legislative Review
1. Mayor appoints himself, Council President, and Chair of the Finance & Personnel Committee.
- C. **Motion to confirm the Mayor's appointments to the Special Committees. (Roll Call Vote)**
Motion by Pollnow/Weber to confirm the Mayor's appointments to the Special Committees. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.
- VII. Short recess to permit organizational meetings of the Standing / Special Council Committees to elect Chair, Vice-Chair and set meeting date.
- A. Organizational report of the Standing / Special Council Committees
1. Finance and Personnel Committee
 - a. Report on elected Chair, Vice-Chair and meeting dates and times.
Alderman Erickson reported that she was appointed Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee and Alderman Ellis was appointed Vice Chairman. The Committee will meet on the second and last Mondays of the month at 5:00 p.m. This is a change from the previous year.

2. Public Services and Safety Committee
 - a. Report on elected Chair, Vice-Chair and meeting dates and times.
Alderman Weber reported that he was elected Chairman of the Public Services & Safety Committee and Alderman Pollnow was elected as Vice Chairman. The Committee will continue to meet on the second and last Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.
3. Committee on Rules
 - a. Report on elected Chair, Vice-Chair, Committee meets on call.
Alderman Weber reported that he was elected Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Alderman Ellis was elected Vice Chairman. The Committee will meet on call.
4. Legislative Review Committee
 - a. Report on elected Chair; Committee meets on call.
Mayor Borchardt reported that he was elected Chairman of the Legislative Review Committee and Alderman Erickson was elected Vice Chairman. The Committee will meet on call.

VIII. Mayor's appointment of:

- A. Alderman Ellis to the Appleton Redevelopment Authority (ARA) Exhibition Center Advisory Committee of the Appleton Redevelopment Authority to a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- B. Aldermen Ellis and Defferding to the Board of Public Works for a one-year term to expiring April 2027.
- C. Mayor Borchardt, Fire Chief Teesch, Police Chief Olson, City Attorney Rashid, Director of Community Development & Assessment Nieforth, Director of Finance Rasmussen, Director of Public Works Kaiser, Director of the Water Utility Mach, Director of Information Systems Schroeder, Director of Parks & Recreation Kading, Director of Library Services Hardina-Wilhelm, Director of Human Resources & Safety Barber, Clerk Nagel, Aldermen Linski and Bruno, Winnebago County Health Representative Gieryn, School Superintendent Harrison, and a Red Cross Representative to the Emergency Government Committee for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- D. Director of Community Development Nieforth and Mayor Borchardt to the Fox Cities Tourism and Convention Bureau for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- E. Alderman Bruno as Council representative to the Business Improvement District Board for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- F. Aldermen Erickson and Pollnow as a members of the Community Development Authority for a one-year term to expiring April 2027.
- G. Mayor Borchardt and Planner Kasimor as City representatives to Fox Cities Transit Commission for a three-year term that expires April 2027.
- H. Director of Finance Rasmussen and Director of Community Development Nieforth to Fox Cities Room Tax Commission for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- I. Alderman Erickson as Council representative to the Library Board for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- J. Aldermen Weber, Linski, and Pollnow to the Liquor Licensing Review Subcommittee for a one-year term expiring in April 2027.
- K. Alderman Bruno as representative on the Bergstrom Mahler Museum Board of Directors for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
- L. **Motion to confirm the Mayor's appointments. (Roll Call Vote)**
Motion by Pollnow/Erickson to confirm the Mayor's appointments. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.

- IX. Council appointment of:
- A. Alderman Ellis as Council representative to the Joint Review Board for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - B. Alderman Bruno as Council representative to the Landmarks Commission for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - C. Newly Appointed Alderman District 2 as Council representative to the Loan Assistance Board for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - D. Alderman Erickson as Council representative to the Neenah Arts Council for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - E. Alderman Weber as Council representative to Park & Recreation Commission for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - F. Alderman Erickson as Council representative to the Plan Commission for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - G. Alderman Pollnow as Council representative to the Water Works Commission for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - H. Newly Appointed Alderman District 2 as Council representative to the Sustainable Neenah Committee for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - I. Appoint Alderman Pollnow and Mayor Borchardt to the Fox Cities Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board for a one-year term expiring April 2027.
 - J. **Motion to confirm the Council appointments. (Roll Call Vote)**
Motion by Pollnow/Weber to confirm the Council's appointments. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 8-0.

Regular Meeting of the Neenah Common Council

- X. Introduction and Confirmation of Mayor's Appointment(s). **(Unanimous Consent)** (Attachments)
- A. Appoint Frank Cuthbert to the Library Board for a three-year term expiring May 2029.
 - B. ~~Appoint Shannon Moskal to the Neenah Arts Council for three year term expiring April 2029.~~ This item was stricken from this agenda.
There being no objections, the Mayor's appointments were order approved as presented.
- XI. Approval of Council Proceedings **(Unanimous Consent)**
- A. [Approve Council minutes and proceedings from the April 1, 2026 regular meeting.](#)
Alderman Pollnow pointed out a correction on the unapproved April 1, 2026 regular meeting minutes.
With that change, there being no objections, the Council Minutes and Proceedings were order approved as presented.
- XII. Proclamation
- A. Declaring April 24th, 2026 Arbor Day.
Mayor Borchardt advised the proclamation will be read at the tree planting in honor of former Mayor Lang on April 24th at Pendleton Park.
- XIII. Public Forum
- A. Speakers should give their name and residential address (not mailing address) and are allowed five minutes to speak on any topic.

1. Gerald VanRyken, 654 McKinley Street – Congratulated the new members of the Council and thanked Alderman Lendrum for her service. He shared a personal story about meeting Alderman Lendrum for the first time and how she inspired him to vote for her. He shares Aldermen Lendrum’s courage and dedication to the community, and thanked her for her 15 years of service.
- XIV. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues
- A. Council President Steiner echoed Mr. VanRyken’s sentiments praising Alderman Lendrum’s welcoming nature and dedication to the community. He shared his experience of working with Alderman Lendrum on a homeless count and her passion for community.
 - B. Mayor Borchardt thanked everyone for their kind words and expressed his own appreciation for Alderman Lendrum.
- XV. Consent Agenda
- A. None.
- XVI. Reports of standing committees
- A. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee Meeting of April 7, 2026](#): (Vice Chair Weber) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Meeting cancelled, no report.
 - B. [Special Public Services and Safety Committee Meeting of April 14, 2026](#): (Vice Chair Weber) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Informational items only, no report.
 - C. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of April 6, 2026](#): (Vice Chair Erickson) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Committee recommends Council approve Ordinance 2026-04 Amending Municipal Court Procedure Chapter 2 Administration, Article VIII Joint Municipal Court, Section 2-266 implementing the allowable change in increased court costs. **(Roll Call Vote)**
MSCRP Erickson/Pollnow to approve Ordinance 2026-04 as recommended by the Committee. Motion carried in a roll-call vote, 8-0.
 2. Committee recommends Council approve Resolution 2026-02 Approving Municipal Court Fee Increase by \$10.00 from \$38.00 to \$48.00 in Response to 2025 Wisconsin Act 113. **(Roll Call Vote)**
MSCRP Erickson/Bruno to approve Resolution 2026-02 as recommended by the Committee. Motion carried in a roll-call vote, 8-0.
- XVII. Reports of special committees and liaisons and various special projects committees
- A. [Regular Plan Commission meeting of April 7, 2026](#): (Council Rep Steiner) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Informational items only, no report.
 - B. [Board of Public Works meeting of April 9, 2026](#): (Alderman Ellis) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Board recommends Council approve Pay Request #3 and final from Vinton Construction Company, Two Rivers, WI, in the amount of \$118,690.83 for work completed through December 31, 2025, utilizing approved budgeted 2025 CIP Funds minus \$25,000 to be held until punch list items are satisfactorily complete **(Roll Call Vote)**

MSCRIP Ellis/Bruno to approve Pay Request #3 and Final Payment as recommended by the Board. Motion carried in a roll-call vote, 8-0.

Director Kading advised the Council the completed costs with change orders totaled \$1,510,571. The budget amount was \$3,000,000 of which the received bids were well in our favor. The \$3,000,000 in the Capital Improvement Program. A \$1,000,000 grant was received from DNR as well as a \$100,000 NRDA (National Resources Damage Assessment). Due to the funding exceeding expectations, the northeast section of the shoreline was added to the project for \$188,000. The remaining two change orders were unexpected project specific issues.

C. [Board of Public Works meeting of April 16, 2026:](#) (Alderman Ellis) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

1. Board recommends Council approve Final Pay Request, Contract 10-25, Window and Exterior Door Replacement, City Hall Administration Building, to Omni Glass & Paint, in the amount of \$40,427.00. **(Roll Call Vote)**
MSCRIP Ellis/Bruno to approve Final Pay Request, Contract 10-25 as recommended by the Board. Motion carried in a roll-call vote, 8-0.

Director Kaiser informed the Council that the budget was \$475,000, the original contract award was \$460,961, which was also the final overall project costs

2. Board recommends Council award Contract 4-26, Concrete Pavement and Sidewalk Repair, to Jim Fischer, Inc., in the amount of \$251,505.00. **(Roll Call Vote)**
MSCRIP Ellis/Bruno to approve award Contract 4-26, Concrete Pavement and Sidewalk Repair, to Jim Fischer, Inc., in the amount of \$251,505.00 as recommended by the Board. Motion carried in a roll-call vote, 7-1 with Defferding dissenting.

Alderman Defferding asked for clarification on the contract. Director Kaiser advised both concrete pavement and sidewalk repairs needed to restore the area back to its original condition. There's typically a targeted area of the city each year. The funding for the projects comes from five different line-item accounts.

3. Board recommends Council award Contract 5-26, HMA Pavement Repair, to MCC, Inc., in the amount of \$189,910.62. **(Roll Call Vote)**
MSCRIP Ellis/Weber to approve award Contract 5-26, HMA Pavement Repair, to MCC, Inc., in the amount of \$189,910.62. in the amount of \$251,505.00 as recommended by the Board. Motion carried in a roll-call vote, 7-1 with Defferding dissenting.

D. [Business Improvement District Board \(BID Board\) Report from April 21, 2026 Meeting](#) – Alderman Ellis

1. No report.

E. [Library Board Report from April 15, 2026 Meeting](#) – Alderman Erickson

1. Statistics were given.
2. Upcoming events were given and can be found on the library website.
3. May 16th is the K-Pop event.

- F. [Parks & Recreation Commission Report from April 16, 2026](#) – Alderman Weber
1. Frank Cuthbert and Gerry VanRyken for volunteering for the planting of trees in the Carpenter Preserve this past weekend.
 2. Upcoming events and volunteer opportunities are
 - a) Doty Park tree planting on May 9th
 - b) Sign installation at Carpenter Preserve on May 16th

XVIII. Presentation of petitions

- A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk's Office after distribution of the agenda.
1. No petition.

XIX. Council Directives

- A. Alderman Defferding explained with the announcement of the Director Kaiser's retirement, he would like to have a full audit of the Public Works Department to help the successor director come August with what works and what does not.

Motion by Defferding for a full audit of Public Works Department. After several calls for a second, the motion failed for a lack of a second.

- B. Alderman Defferding explained he would like to start a general obligation debt strategy for the next four years. The city desperately needs right now because of the direction of where the city is going with the finances. Each department needs to be looked at and some benchmarks need to be set to be a little bit more financially feasible, and start to work toward those benchmarks.

Motion by Defferding to start a general obligation debt strategy for the next four years. Motion was seconded by Pollnow.

Discussion: There was discussion by Director Rasmussen who has drafted a Debt Management Policy that is coming forward to Monday's Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. She has also been working the Mayor on a checklist for every project that comes forth in the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) and into the budget with a scoring method to justify the project.

No vote was taken at this meeting.

- C. Alderman Pollnow explained the process of council directives. The rules have been changed that before a council directive is brought forward to council a discussion is had with the mayor to see if something regarding the proposed council directive is currently being worked on.

XX. Unfinished Business

- A. Alderman Erickson brought up the electric bikes/scooters ordinance. Attorney Rashid will be on the next Public Services and Safety Committee agenda.

XXI. New Business

- A. Discuss the timeline for filling vacant Aldermanic District 2 seat.
Mayor Borchardt read the Council Rules on filling an aldermanic seat is filled. There is an application to be completed for those wishing to be a candidate. The applicant gives a presentation to council and a secret ballot vote taken. Once there is a majority vote, a motion and second to appoint the seat to the winner of the secret ballot. The

application is posted about a month. The presentation, vote, and appointment takes place the first meeting in June.

B. Any announcements/questions that may legally come before the Council.

XXII. Adjournment

Motion by Pollnow, seconded by Linski to adjourn. No further discussion. Motion carried in a voice vote 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:04PM.

[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

City of Neenah
 Organizational & Common Council Meeting
 Tuesday, April 21, 2026
 Attendance Sheet

NAME	ADDRESS
1. Frank Cuthbert	1533 Fallow Dr.
2. GERALD "GABE'S DAD" VANBYKON	654 MCKENZIE
3. Heather Barber	City Hall
4. Kay Horan	324 9th St N
5. ANTHONY L. MACH	773 YORKSHIRE RD.
6. Jane Lang	1541 Whitetail Dr
7. Eric Bendres	1447 Tuller Rd # 9
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City of Neenah
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Attendance Sheet

NAME	ADDRESS
1. Peter G. Adams	537 E. Wisco
2. Nicole Hardina-Welch	200103 Villa Dr Neenah
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NAME	ADDRESS
1. Lon Borchardt	1411 Rogers Ct
2. Dorothy Zivkovich	1582 Citation
3. Kristi Murray	210 Hojlett St apt 215
4. Austin Woldschmidt	↓ apt 126
5. Carine Clark	C
6. Dale Clark	
7. Jake Lamb	↘ 912 Bayview Rd
8. Tracy Lamb	
9. Marie Borchardt	
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