

NEENAH COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
Organizational and Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in organizational and regular session at 7:00 p.m., April 15, 2025, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Present: Aldermen Bruno, Erickson, Linski, Ellis, Steiner, Pollnow, Lendrum, Weber, Borchardt, Director of Finance Rasmussen, Deputy Director of Community Development & Assessment Schmidt, Director of Public Works Kaiser, City Attorney Rashid, and City Clerk Nagel.

Also Present: Director of Parks & Recreation Kading, Police Chief Olson, Police Captain Van Sambeek, Fire Chief Teesch, Assistant Fire Chief Mavroff, Director of Human Resources Fairchild, Director of Water Utility Mach, and those listed on the sign-in sheet attached to the minutes.

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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 Aldermen Ellis.

Mayor Lang thanked both the returning and newly elected Aldermen for their dedication to the City of Neenah. She also thanked the Department Heads and staff for their commitment to the city. Mayor Lang stated that together we will continue to focus on the City's Mission Statement, and to move our community forward in a positive, productive manner. She thanked both the Council and the staff for their willingness to put service to the city above their own self-interests and to work together to make Neenah a great place to call home.

Swearing in Ceremony

The City Clerk administered the oath of office to newly elected First District Alderman Flo Bruno, Second District Alderman Dan Steiner, and Third District Alderman Jeff Linski for 3-year terms, all to expire April 2028.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

MSCRP Ellis/Borchardt Motion to adopt the Rules of Order of the previous Council as the governing rules of this Council with the modification of the Council meeting start time changing to 6:00 pm, all voting aye.

Election of Council President

Motion by Ellis, seconded by Lendrum to nominate Alderman Borchardt for Council President. After additional calls for nominations, none were received. Motion was carried unanimously in a voice vote, 9-0.

Mayor Lang's appointments to the Standing Committees, one-year terms expire April 2026

- Finance & Personnel – (4) Aldermen and the Council President.
Mayor appoints Aldermen Erickson, Steiner, Bruno, Ellis, and Council President.
- Public Services & Safety – (4) Aldermen and the Council President.
Mayor appoints Lendrum, Weber, Pollnow, Linski, and Council President.
- 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.
- **MSCRP Lendrum/Weber to confirm the Mayor's appointments to the Standing Committees, all voting aye.**

Mayor Lang's appointments to the Special Council Committees, one-year terms expire April 2026

- Committee on Rules – (3) Aldermen.
Mayor appoints Aldermen Lendrum, Weber, and Ellis.

- Legislative Review – Mayor appoints herself, the Council President, and the Chair of the Finance & Personnel Committee.

MSCRP Borchardt/Ellis to confirm the Mayor's appointments, pending the appointment of Alderman Erickson as Chairman of the Finance & Personnel Committee, all voting aye.

Mayor Lang recessed the meeting at 7:10 p.m. to permit organizational meetings of the Standing / Special Committees.

Mayor Lang reconvened the Council at 7:18 p.m.

Organizational Reports of the Standing / Special Committees

- Alderman Steiner reported that he was appointed Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee and Alderman Erickson was appointed Vice Chairman. The Committee will meet on the Monday of the week prior to each Council meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Hauser Room.
- Alderman Lendrum reported that she was re-elected Chairman of the Public Services & Safety Committee and Alderman Weber was elected as Vice Chairman. The Committee will continue to meet on Tuesday of the week prior to each Council meeting at 5:00 p.m.
- Alderman Lendrum reported that she was re-elected Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Alderman Weber was elected Vice Chairman. The Committee will meet on call.
- Mayor Lang reported that she was elected Chairman of the Legislative Review Committee and Council President was elected Vice Chairman. The Committee will meet on call.

Mayor Lang's Appointments

- Alderman Ellis to the Appleton Redevelopment Authority (ARA) Exhibition Center Advisory Committee of the Appleton Redevelopment Authority. Term to expire April 2026.
- Aldermen Lendrum and Ellis to the Board of Public Works for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Mayor Lang, Fire Chief Teesch, Police Chief Olson, City Attorney Rashid, the Director of Community Development & Assessment, 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 Fairchild, Clerk Nagel, Aldermen Linski and Bruno, Winnebago County Health Representative Doug Gieryn, School Superintendent Harrison, and a Red Cross Representative to the Emergency Government Committee for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- The Director of Community Development to the Fox Cities Tourism and Convention Bureau for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Ellis as Council representative to the Business Improvement District Board for a one-year term expires April 2026.
- Aldermen Erickson and Steiner as a members of the Community Development Authority for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Director of Finance Rasmussen and the Director of Community Development and Assessment to Fox Cities Room Tax Commission for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Erickson as Council representative to the Library Board for a one-year term expires April 2026.
- Aldermen Weber, Borchardt, and Pollnow to the Liquor Licensing Review Subcommittee for a one-year term to expire in April 2026.
- Alderman Bruno as representative on the Bergstrom Mahler Museum Board of Directors for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- **MSCRP Pollnow/Weber to confirm the Mayor's appointments, all voting aye.**

Council Appointments (Council President Borchardt)

- Alderman Ellis as Council representative to the Joint Review Board for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Weber as Council representative to the Landmarks Commission for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Lendrum as Council representative to the Loan Assistance Board for a one-year term to expire April 2026.

- Alderman Tami Erickson as Council representative to the Neenah Arts Council for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Weber as Council representative to Park & Recreation Commission for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Steiner as Council representative to the Plan Commission for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Steiner as Council representative to the Water Works Commission for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Alderman Linski as Council representative to the Sustainable Neenah Committee for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- Appoint Alderman Lendrum to the Fox Cities Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board for a one-year term to expire April 2026.
- representative to the Sustainable Neenah Committee for a one-year term to expire April 2025.
- **MSCRP Borchardt/Ellis to confirm the Council appointments, all voting aye.**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEENAH COMMON COUNCIL

II. Mayor's Introduction of recommended Community Development Director.

Mayor Lang introduced Kelly Nieforth as the recommended candidate for appointment as Neenah's new Community Development Director. Mayor Lang reminded the Council that they had met previously in a closed session to discuss extending an employment offer to Ms. Nieforth. Currently, Ms. Nieforth is the Community Development Director for the City of Oshkosh.

Ms. Nieforth was in attendance to introduce herself and address the Council.

III. Council appointment of Mayor's recommended candidate for Director of Community Development and Assessment contingent upon successful completion of conditions of the employment offer.
MSCRP Ellis/Erickson to appoint Kelly Nieforth as Director of Community Development and Assessment contingent upon successful completion of conditions of the employment offer, all voting aye

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

- A. Re-appoint Kate Hancock-Cooke, Peter Kelly, and Gary Lawell to the Park and Recreation Commission for a three-year term expiring April 2028.
- B. Appoint John Rather to the Board of Review for the remainder of Lynn Altenburg's term expiring June 2026.
- C. **(UC)**
There being no objections, the Mayor's appointments were order approved as presented.

V. Approval of Council Proceedings

- A. [Approval of the Council Minutes and Proceedings of March 19, 2025 regular session.](#)
- B. [Approval of the Council Minutes and Proceedings from April 2, 2025 regular session.](#)
- C. **(UC)**
There being no objections, the Council Minutes and Proceedings were order approved as presented.

VI. Proclamation

- A. Declaring April 25th, 2025 Arbor Day.
Mayor Lang referred to the Council packet for the actual proclamation and declared April 25, 2025 Arbor Day in the City of Neenah.

VII. 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. Scott Becher, 1061 Green Acres Lane. Mr. Becher spoke on pathways to school including pedestrian routes, pedestrian crossings and bus routes, as well as a program called Precious Cargo which he worked on about twenty years ago. This was in reference to a middle school student that was hit by a car earlier this week.

VIII. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues

IX. Consent Agenda

- A. None.

X. Reports of standing committees


- A. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee Meeting of April 8, 2025](#): (Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chair Hillstrom) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
1. Committee recommends Council approve the purchase of the Case 580 Backhoe from Service Motor Company in the amount of \$106,275.66. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR Lendrum/Weber to approve as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 2. Committee recommends Council approve the Neenah Police Department to install new carpeting in the administrative offices at a cost not to exceed \$61,009.37 to be funded from the Facilities Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR Lendrum/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 3. Committee recommends Council approve the Neenah Police Department to upgrade the administrative offices at a cost not to exceed \$36,000.00 to be funded from the Facilities Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR Lendrum/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 4. Committee recommends Council approve the Neenah Police Department to upgrade the front desk offices at a cost not to exceed \$6,500.00 to be funded from the Facilities Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR Lendrum/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 5. Committee recommends Council approve the Neenah Police Department to upgrade the records room at a cost not to exceed \$48,000.00 to be funded from the Facilities Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR Lendrum/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 6. Committee recommends Council approve the Neenah Police Department to replace the Investigative Services Unit furniture at a cost not to exceed \$8,500.00 to be funded from the Facilities Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCR Lendrum/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Committee, all voting aye.
 7. Informational item only, receive approved Special Event Permits. **(No action)**
- B. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of April 7, 2025](#): (Chair Steiner/Vice Chair Erickson) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
1. Meeting was cancelled, no report.

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

- A. [Regular Plan Commission meeting of April 8, 2025](#): (Council Rep Steiner) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

1. Report on Neenah Housing Study and Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy. **(No action)**
Alderman Steiner gave brief synopsis of the Plan Commission focus on finding housing opportunities to make building affordable housing across Neenah easier and more accessible through the zoning code. It appears that there were unintended consequences with some of the zoning codes when individually might not see to make a difference but accumulatively makes it more inhibiting in terms of allowing individuals to build affordable homes.
 - B. [Board of Public Works meeting of April 10, 2025](#): (Alderman Lendrum) (Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Board recommends Council award Contract 5-25, Hot Mix Asphalt Street Repairs to MCC, Inc. in the amount of \$89,559.50. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Pollnow to approve as recommended by the Board, all voting aye.
 2. Board recommends Council award Contract 11-25, Intersection Improvements, Church Street and Wisconsin Avenue to Vinton Construction Company, in the amount of \$74,147.10. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Weber to approve as recommended by the Board, all voting aye.
 - C. [Business Improvement District Board \(BID Board\) Report from April 15, 2025 Meeting](#) – Alderman Ellis
 1. Preparing for the Annual Downtown Walk.
 2. Occupancy is doing terrific, when one tenant moves out another moves in.
 3. Alderman Ellis gave accolades to the Police Department for their handling of motorcycle noise in the downtown area. The Police Department has an action plan to address motorcycle noise.
 4. First Friday in December is the Very Neenah Christmas Event. This year Future Neenah will be adding on a Saturday and Sunday event as well. Stay tuned for more information.
 - D. [Landmarks Commission Report from the April 9, 2025 Meeting](#) – Alderman Weber
 1. Reviewed the status of the Landmarks Brochure Redesign project and assigning tasks to members. Timewise, the redesign is on track.
- XII. Presentation of petitions
- A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk's Office after distribution of the agenda.
 1. No petitions.
- XIII. Council Directives
- A. No Council Directives
- XIV. Unfinished Business
- A. No Unfinished Business.
- XV. New Business
- A. Any announcements/questions that may legally come before the Council.
 1. None.
- XVI. Adjournment
- MSCRP Pollnow/Bruno to adjourn, all voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte K. Nagel, City Clerk