

**CITY OF OCONTO FALLS
COMMON COUNCIL
MEETING**

Council Chambers – Municipal Building
500 N. Chestnut Avenue - Oconto Falls, WI. 54154
TUESDAY MAY 13, 2025 – 6:00 pm
MINUTES

1. **Meeting called to order at 6:01pm by Mayor Clint Braun**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call Present:** Aldermen: Jeff McDonald, Mathew McDermid, Ashley Bahrke, Tim Holman

Absent: Marty Coopman, Devin Wirtz

Also Present: Mayor Clint Braun, Administrator Peter Wills, Deputy Clerk Jenny Friedman, Street Superintendent Wally Remic, Deputy Treasure Eve Wallace, Warren Bluhm with Time Herald, Fire Chief Tim Magnin, Beth Rank, Jason Valintine, Sophie Ford, Bart Schindel, Beth Schmidt, Ben Holtger.

4. **Approval of Minutes** - Common Council 04.08.25, 4.15.25

MOTION: Holman/ McDermid

Motion to approve the minutes as presented for the Common Council 04.08.25, 4.15.25.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

5. **Treasurer's Report-March**

MOTION: McDermid/ Holman

Motion to approve the Treasures Report.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

6. **Bills Payable –April**

MOTION: Bahrke/ Holman

Motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented for April and place on file.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

7. **Reports: Written reports submitted**

- ✓ Administrator Report
- ✓ Police Department Report
- ✓ Municipal Court Report
- ✓ Fire Department Report
- ✓ Street Department Report
- ✓ Street Superintendent
- ✓ Building Inspector Report

- ✓ Library Report

MOTION: McDermid/ Holman

Motion to place reports as presented on file.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

- 8. OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL** - Citizen in-put will be limited to 3 minutes.

A. Caldwell Square Sponsorship

Oconto Falls Betterment Corp is taking sponsorship to help the Caldwell Square area develop.

B. Chamber Music By the River Sponsorship

The Chamber is hosting their annual Music by the River Free Concert and are taking Sponsors to help fund this event.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

9. Committee Reports

Board of Review N/A

Emergency Management Committee Report-N/A

Finance Committee N/A

Joint Review Board N/A

Library Board- N/A

Main Street Committee Report 4.16.25

Park & Recreation Committee Report-N/A

Personnel Committee Report N/A

Planning Commission Report N/A

Ordinance Commission 04.08.25

Utility Commission Report 04.21.25, 05.05.25

MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald

Motion to place reports on file.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Old Business:

- 10. WI DOA NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT GRANT- FIRE STATION PROJECT UPDATE**

Fire Chief Tim Magnin has the grant paperwork all submitted and is waiting on the Department of Administration for final action.

No Action Taken

- 11. Columbia Street Reconstruction Project Updates**

The Columbia Street Reconstruction Project is going to be worked on from March 2025 through December 2025. On the Oconto Falls Municipal Utility website at <https://www.ofmu.org/> there is a detour map also for people to view before the construction starts. The school has also sent out

notifications to family about the upcoming construction and detour. Water has been pressure tested. There were some small issues but have been resolved. The Lift Station will be energized in mid-July. Storm sewer is expected to be started week of May 19, 2025.

NO ACTION TAKEN

12. Emergency Siren Repair Update

The Emergency Siren had failed last month and needed repair. The current siren was able to be repaired. Fire Chief Tim Magnin did present a couple quotes on what it would cost to purchase a new siren. The current siren is expected to make it another ten years unless something else were to happen unexpectedly.

NO ACTION TAKEN

13. Former Hardee's 782 N Main St Update

City Administrator at this time has not had any new updates.

NO ACTION TAKEN

14. 710 County B, Former Mobil Gas Station Update

Ben Holtger has bought the former Mobil Gas Station at 710 County B and has already started to clean it up. He plans on operating his business at this location.

NO ACTION TAKEN

15. Status of Surplus Assets Sale

A. 2020 Ford Explorer Police Squad

Police Chief Olson has placed 2020 Ford Explorer Police Squad up for surplus and sale ends on May 14, 2025. As of today, May 13, 2025, it has a price of thirteen thousand six hundred dollars.

MOTION: McDermid/Bahrke

Motion to place proceeds from sale of 2020 Ford Explorer Police Squad to go into PD reserves.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

16. Purchase of tools for Street Department from Hoist sale funds

The old hoist final sale for surplus was \$12,601.00. Street Department also sold some smaller items on Wisconsin Surplus total of everything sold was \$13,160.50. The Street Department would like to purchase the listed below with those funds

- Hand tools wrenches standard and metric, specialty tools, screwdrivers, pliers from Harbor Freight total \$2,850.00
- Milwaukee Power tools (Impacts 3/8" and 1/2", drill drivers, ratchets and trimmer/blower for lawnmower) total of \$2,300.00.
- Titan 9000 # 2 post lift \$3050.00
- 72" Toolbox with wooden workbench top \$1600.00
- Kenworth Frame Sandblast and Paint \$3,500.00

The total of items listed above are \$13,300.00.

MOTION: Bahrke/Holman

Motion to approve the presented list of tools from Street Superintendents for the Street Department.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

17. Homegrown Fitness Oconto Falls Dri-Tri Saturday, July 12, 2025

Beth Lorette owner of Homegrown Fitness presented application for her third annual Oconto Falls Dri-Tri.

MOTION: McDermid/ Holman

Motion to approve the Homegrown Fitness Oconto Falls Dri-Tri Saturday, July 12, 2025 Event Application and waive park rental fees.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

18. 2024 GO Borrowing Projects Original vs Actual

2024 GO Borrowing Projects Original Verse Actual was presented to council for review.

NO ACTION TAKEN

19. 2025 Budget to Actual Year to Date

2025 Budget to actual year to date was presented for review. There is 63.39% of General Fund Expenditures left. Total Capital Project Expenditures has 89.33% left in budget. The city is currently waiting for 44.37% of their General Fund Revenues to come in and 95.68% of Capital Project Revenue to come in.

NO ACTION TAKEN

20. Connecting updated Cameras for City Buildings

A. Astrea Internet agreement to Connect Cameras for City Properties

The new camera systems will need internet access or point to point radio link. Astrea has submitted a quote for all five locations the city would need. There would be a month-to-month charge of Product: 150Mbps X 15Mbps = \$89.95/Mo/Location, Static IP's = \$9.95/Mo/Location.

NO ACTION TAKEN

B. RCMF Point to Point Radio Link quote to connect 5 locations to City Hall

The new camera systems will need internet access or point to point radio link. Astrea has submitted a quote for all five locations the city would need. The RCMF Point to Point Radio Link quote to connect five locations to City Hall would cost eight thousand four hundred seventy-three dollars and fifty-one cents.

MOTION: McDermid/ McDonald

Motion to approve the RCMF Point to Point Radio Link quote to connect five locations to City Hall paid from the GO Borrowing.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS

21. Memorial Day Weekend Event Application-Fireworks & Show & Shine Car Show

Kurt Wolf-Sno-Jokers

Sno-Jokers presented an event application for Memorial Day Weekend. They provided also supporting documents needed.

MOTION: Holman/ McDermid

Motion to approve the Memorial Day Weekend Event Application-Fireworks & Show & Shine Car Show.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

22. Dash O.F. Color Event Application

Oconto Falls Lioness presented application and supporting documents for the Dash O.F. Color event.

MOTION: Holman/McDermid

Motion to approve the Dash O.F. Color Event Application.

Voice Vote: McDermid-aye, Holman-aye, McDonald-aye - MOTION CARRIED

Abstained -Bahrke

23. Memorial Day Parade Event Application

Memorial Day Parade Event Application presented and supporting documents.

MOTION: Bahrke/Holman

Motion to approve the Memorial Day Parade application.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

24. Music By the River Event Application

Application and supporting documents were submitted for Music by the River Event.

MOTION: McDermid/Holman

Motion to approve the Music by the River Event Application.

Voice Vote: McDermid-aye, Holman-aye, McDonald-aye - MOTION CARRIED

Abstained -Bahrke

25. Trent Maloney Memorial Inc. Event Application

Application and supporting documents were submitted for Trent Maloney Memorial Inc. Event Application.

MOTION: Holman/Bahrke

Motion to approve the Trent Maloney Memorial Inc. Event Application.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

26. Oconto County Farmers Market

Application and supporting documents were submitted for Oconto County Farmers Market.

MOTION: McDermid/Bahrke

Motion to approve Oconto County Farmers Market.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

27. OF Electric Utility 2026 Transformer Order

Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities is looking to purchase three hundred and eight transformers. This is a mixture of Single-Phase Overhead, Single Phase URD and Three Phase URD. The total cost of these would be \$1,480,563.00. Commissions approval is depending on Councils approval. The plan is to sell the old ones and transformers will not have to be paid for until second quarter of 2026. The funds to pay for them will come out of retained earnings.

MOTION: Bahrke/ McDonald

Motion to approve the OF Electric Utility 2026 Transformer Order as presented.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

28. ORD 25-004 Amend Ch 455 Utility Sewer Water Compulsory Connection to Sewer and Water

Public hearing was held on Tuesday May 13, 2025 at 5:30pm. There were concerns from the audience on having to connect to the City sewer and water when someone may already have a well and septic and the cost of this on the residents. This would be looked at a case-to-case basis.

MOTION: McDermid/McDonald

Motion to approve Ord 25-004 Amend Ch 455 Utility Sewer Water Compulsory Connection to Sewer and Water as amended.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

29. ORD 25-005 Amend Ch 465-13 Weight Limits and Heavy Traffic

Public hearing was held on Tuesday May 13, 2025 at 5:30pm. There were no concerns at the time.

MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald

Motion to approve ORD 25-005 Amend Ch 465-13 Weight Limits and Heavy Traffic.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

30. ORD 25-006 Amend Ch 382 Rental Property Article II Short Term Rentals

Public hearing was held on Tuesday May 13, 2025 at 5:30pm. There were no concerns at the time.

MOTION: McDermid/Holman

Motion to approve ORD 25-006 Amend Ch 382 Rental Property Article II Short Term Rentals

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

31. Beach Supervisor for Eastside Beach

There have been lifeguards applying but there still has been no one apply for beach supervisor position. Administrator Wills has checked with the city lawyer and the city has just as much liability with or without lifeguards. Lawyers advised to place more signs out at swim at your own risk.

MOTION: McDermid/Holman

Motion to place beach items out as normal with additional signage of swim at your own risk.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

32. Temporary Class B Alcohol Permit Music By the River

MOTION: Holman/McDonald

Motion to approve the Temporary Class B Alcohol Permit Music By the River.

Voice Vote: McDermid-aye, Holman-aye, McDonald-aye - MOTION CARRIED

Abstained -Bahrke

33. Two-year Operators License for Crystal Berg, Gail Coopman

MOTION: McDonald/ Holman

Motion to approve Two-year Operators License for Crystal Berg, Gail Coopman, Debi Arndt.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

34. Temporary Class B Alcohol Permit Trent Maloney Memorial Inc. Baseball Tournament

MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald

Motion to approve the Temporary Class B Alcohol Permit Trent Maloney Memorial Inc. Baseball Tournament.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

35. One-year Operators License for Amanda Sekey, Julie Nielsen, Justin Hooker

MOTION: Bahrke/Holman

Motion to approve the One-year Operators License for Amanda Sekey, Julie Nielsen, Justin Hooker.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

36. The Committee may go into closed session to discuss matters of employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of public employees pursuant to 19.85 (1)(C) Wis. Stats.

A. Employee Evaluation

MOTION: Holman/ McDonald

Motion to enter into closed session at 7:05pm.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - **MOTION CARRIED**

Those remaining in closed session Holman, McDonald, Bahrke, McDermid and Mayor Braun.

37. The Committee will return to open session and may take action on matters discussed in closed session.

B. Employee Evaluation

MOTION: Holman/McDonald

Motion to go into open session at 7:53pm.

Voice Vote: All present voting aye - MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Holman/ Bahrke

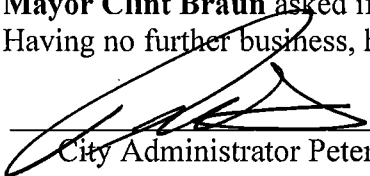
Motion to implement annual review process of City Administrator performed by City Council.

Roll Call Vote: Bahrke-yes, Holman-yes, McDonald-yes, McDermid-yes

MOTION CARRIED

38. Adjournment

Mayor Clint Braun asked if there was any further business before the meeting is adjourned. Having no further business, he declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.



City Administrator Peter Wills