

**CITY OF OCONTO FALLS  
COMMON COUNCIL  
MEETING**

Council Chambers – Municipal Building  
500 N. Chestnut Avenue - Oconto Falls, WI. 54154  
**TUESDAY AUGUST 12, 2025 – 6:00 pm**  
**MINUTES**

1. **Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Clint Braun**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call Present:** Aldermen: Ashley Bahrke, Jeff McDonald, Tim Holman, Marty Coopman and Devin Wirtz

Absent: Mathew McDermid

Also Present: Mayor Clint Braun, Administrator Peter Wills, Deputy Clerk Jenny Friedman, Street Superintendent Wally Remic, Fire Chief Tim Magnin, Police Chief Brad Olsen, Beth Rank, Jason Valintine, Michelle Tester, Joel Lavarda, Steve Genett, Jill Genett, Terry Radke, Alyssa Radke, Jayne Radke, Alane Roberts, Anna Roberts, Mason Wagner

4. **Approval of Minutes - Common Council 07.08.25**

**MOTION: Holman/ Wirtz**

*Motion to approve the minutes for the Common Council 07.08.25.*

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

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

**MOTION: Wirtz/Holman**

*Motion to approve the Treasures Report.*

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

6. **Bills Payable –July**

**MOTION: Bahrke/ Coopman**

*Motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented for July 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 Superintendent Remic added that the Street Department had a full-time employee resign and will need to replace that employee.
- ✓ Building Inspector Report

- ✓ Library Report

**MOTION: Holman /Wirtz**

*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.** In The Rough golf simulator business. Steve and Jill Genett  
Steve Genett and Jill Genett presented a business plan for his future business In The Rough. This will be a golf and game simulator business located at 323 E. Highland. Hopeful to open business in mid-October. Steve and Jill Genett will also be applying for a liquor license when the time comes closer to opening. There are license available for the City of Oconto Falls.
- B.** Crossing Guard recognition Alane Roberts for 21 years and Jayne Radke for 22 years  
Police Chief Olsen thanked Alane Roberts and Jayne Radke for their many years of service and presented them with a plaque and gift certificate.
- C.** New Police Officers Sam Lemens & Mason Wagner  
Police Chief Olsen introduced and welcomed on board Officer Wagner to the council and citizens to the City of Oconto Falls. Officer Lemens was unable to make it to the Council meeting.

**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- 06.25.25,07.25.25,08.05.25
- Main Street Committee Report N/A
- Park & Recreation Committee Report-07.29.25
- Personnel Committee Report N/A
- Planning Commission Report 08.05.25
- Ordinance Commission N/A
- Utility Commission Report 07.21.25

**MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald**

*Motion to place reports on file.*

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

**Old Business:**

**10. Columbia Street Reconstruction Project Updates**

The final grad is scheduled for the week of August 25<sup>th</sup>,2025. Paving is scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. There has been an issue with one of lift station pump. This has had a slight

delay but will be looking into this again on Friday August 15,2025 to hopefully resolve the issue.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

11. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-PF 24-17) Fair Housing Actions
  - A. City of Oconto Falls CDBG-PF 24-17 Fair Housing Actions #3  
The CDBG-PF 24-17 Fair Housing Actions #3 was addressed when the City of Oconto Falls CDBG-PF 24-17 Fair Housing Action #3 was adopted.
  - B. City of Oconto Falls CDBG-PF 24-17 Fair Housing Proclamation Resolution 25-006

**MOTION: Bahrke/Coopman**

*Motion to accept City of Oconto Falls CDBG-PF 24-17 Fair Housing Proclamation Resolution 25-006.*

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

12. New Middle School Items
  - A. Traffic Flow for New Middle School  
The school has had the new middle school drop off routine listed on the website for parents to see. The school traffic speed board sign by the old middle school will be taken down and placed by the new middle school. There will be extra police patrol the first couple weeks of school to help cut down on speeding.  
**NO ACTION TAKEN**
  - B. Crossing Guards update  
Police Chief has applicant for the crossing guard position background check was good and plan on hiring.  
**NO ACTION TAKEN**

13. East Side Beach Roof Storm Damage  
Steffens Roofing will be doing roof replacement with in the next week. The insurance will cover all cost but the deductible.  
**NO ACTION TAKEN**

14. Parks Project Update-Memorial Field & Beaches
  - A. Memorial Field Playground Equipment  
The curbing will be installed on Friday, August 15,2025. The following week mulch will be placed.  
**NO ACTION TAKEN**
  - B. Westside Beach & Eastside Beach  
Construction on Westside Beach will start at end of September.  
Eastside Beach is waiting on price quote from HJ Martin for the enclosures.  
**NO ACTION TAKEN**

15. Annex portion of County I from Town of Stiles. City boundary south of South Main Street north to the north side of Columbia Street
  - A. Ordinance 25-007 Annexation of portion County I from Town of Stiles.  
City boundary south of South Main Street north to the north side of Columbia Street  
South Main Street north to the northside of Columbia Street

Town of Stiles presented a Petition to Annex portion of County I from City boundary south of South Main Street north to the northside of Columbia Street. The annexation would be the road itself and the fifteen feet of right away. This annexation would help with getting the speed limit down for the school zone.

**MOTION: Wirtz/McDonald**

*Motion to Ordinance 25-007 Annexation of portion County I from Town of Stiles from South Main St. north to the north side of Columbia St.*

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

**16. WI DNR URBAN FORESTRY CATASTROPHIC STORM GRANT Approved**

Street Superintendent Remic worked with the fire department and utilities after the ice storm in March 2025 to clean up the city and gather information on how much damage was cause and the cost of it. Street Superintendent Remic then applied all the data to the grant and submitted it. The 2025 WI DNR Urban Forestry Catastrophic Storm Grant was granted to the City of Oconto Falls for a total of fourteen thousand three hundred and twenty-two dollars and seventy-four cents.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**17. Fire Department Capital Equipment**

**A. Fire Trucks refurbishment vs replacement**

The 1995 and 2005 firetrucks are going to need work/repairs done on them. Fire Chief Tim Magnin has started to look into the comparison of replacing these trucks or refurbishing them to find the better option.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**B. Toughbooks for Fire Trucks Require Windows 11 accessible by Oct 2025**

The current Toughbook the fire department has is not able to support Windows 11. There is currently one Toughbook that has to be replaced.

**MOTION: Coopman/Holman**

*Motion to approve Toughbook purchase for \$4,035.00.*

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**18. 2025 WI DNR Urban Forestry Plan**

Eocene Environmental group and WI DNR did the tree inventory and urban forestry operations plan was conducted during the summer of 2025. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WIDNR) Urban Forestry & Community Forestry (U&CF) Program provided funding to complete a GIS-based-computerized tree inventory. Trees growing in maintained public locations (e.g., street trees, parks, and other public green spaces) were inventoried. In brief, this involved collecting tree and site information, which was then assessed for tree management needs. The identified actions were then compiled into an operations plan for proposed tree actions over a five-year period. Eocene Environmental Group was contracted to complete the inventory and operations plan for the City of Oconto

Falls. This includes but is not limited to recommended field maintenance operations over a five-year time duration. Trees requiring pruning or removal were identified as primary and secondary maintenance operations for each individual inventoried tree throughout the community. A total of 1145 trees were inventoried. By location there were 859 trees along streets, 263 trees within parks, and 22 on facilities. Public safety is important and as such trees were identified for tree removal based on potential risk from dead trees, those with unacceptable structural weakness, or those likely to die in the immediate future. A total of 146 trees were identified for removal and these were prioritized for removal as either a priority 1 (46 trees) to remove first, and then remove trees identified as priority 2 (100 trees). Trees that require pruning for public safety (e.g., dead branches > 2 inches, clearance issues) or to benefit tree stability (e.g., pruning for branching structure) were identified and prioritized. A total 209 trees were identified. These were also ranked according to priority 1 or 2 status. Small trees were also identified for structural tree pruning which would benefit their future stability and resistance to damage from storms. Planting sites along streets, in terrace areas, and parks were individually identified. An estimated 2,605 trees could be planted along streets and within parks. This potential could be considered for a full-stocking goal for the community at the present level of development. A total of 73 trees are identified as ash trees (green and white). Nearly all showed signs of EAB and removal is noted as a priority 1 or 2 as presented above. Ideally, the tree population should be comprised of not more than 5% of any one species, 10% of any one genus, and 20% within a plant family. This is important to minimize the risk of an aggressive pest of decimating a tree population. Currently 5 tree species exceed the species threshold and these account for 53.8 percent of the total tree population. These species are: Norway maple (15.5%), silver maple (8.7%), honeylocust (6.6%), red pine (6.5%), Eastern white pine (5.9%), white spruce (5.5%), and Northern white cedar (5.2%). Specific details on tree diversity are presented in the plan. The total estimated replacement value of all trees inventoried is \$3,794,302 or a mean \$3,314 per tree estimate. This was determined by using the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers Guide for Plant Appraisal (10th Edition) to determine valuation. An annual \$45,327 estimated cost is proposed to implement immediate management needs and to develop a proposed longer-term set of management priorities.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**19. WI DNR Wisconsin Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI)**

Wally Remic has been selected to participate in Wisconsin's Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI). This innovative program offers municipal employees the opportunity to develop high-level leadership and management skills in urban forestry. Wally Remic has been selected to participate in Wisconsin's Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI). This innovative program offers municipal employees the opportunity to develop high-level leadership and management skills in urban forestry. This training and experience he will gain will help with the maintaining of the city trees.

**NO ACTION TAKEN**

**20. Resolution 25-008 Public Participation Plan Comprehensive Plan Update**

The City of Oconto Falls is growing and with the growth of the city the Comprehensive Plan and maps will need to be updated. The state statues have now changed as well that a Comprehensive Plan needs to be updated every ten years instead of twenty. To amend the 2008 Comprehensive Plan, it will need to have public hearing on September 9,2025. This will give the chance for public to discuss any concerns.

**MOTION: Bahrke/ Coopman**

*Motion to accept the Resolution 25-008 Public Participation Plan Comprehensive Plan Update.*

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

**21. Community Event application Trick or Treat Trail**

This event is open to the public and will be held on October 25,2025 from 10am until 1:00pm.

**MOTION: Coopman/Holman**

*Motion to approve the Community Event application Trick or Treat Trail with contingent of proof of insurance.*

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

**22. Community Event application Fire Department 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary September 6, 2025. Car show/bike ride from 11-4pm.**

The Fire Department will be holding a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on September 6,2025. There will be no car show. The event will run from 11am until 4pm. There is a link on line to buy t-shirts.

**MOTION: Holman/Wirtz**

*Motion to approve the Community Event application Fire Department 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary September 6, 2025. Car show/bike ride from 11-4pm.*

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

**23. Application for Temporary Class B License St. Anthony's Food Truck Event**

**MOTION: Bahrke/Wirtz**

*Motion to approve Application for Temporary Class B License St. Anthony's Food Truck Event.*

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

**24. Oconto County Recycling Agreement Renewal 2026-2028**

The city is due to renew their recycling agreement.

**MOTION: Bahrke/Holman**

*Motion to approve the Oconto County Recycling Agreement Renewal 2026-2028.*

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

25. Two-year Operators License for Tess Maggio

**MOTION: McDermid/Wirtz**

*Motion to approve Two-year Operators License for Tess Maggio.*

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

26. 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/Bahrke**

*Motion to enter into closed session at 6:48pm.*

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

Those remaining in closed session Alderman Holman, Bahrke, Coopman, Wirtz, McDonald, Mayor Braun,

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

Re: Employee Evaluation

**MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald**

*Motion to go into open session at 7:00pm.*

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

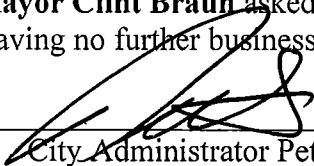
**MOTION: Bahrke/Holman**

*Motion to set a City Council meeting for Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.*

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

28. 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 7:01pm.

  
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City Administrator Peter Wills