

**CITY OF OCONTO FALLS
COMMON COUNCIL
MEETING
Council Chambers – Municipal Building
500 N. Chestnut Avenue - Oconto Falls, WI. 54154
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 09, 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, Mathew McDermid, Marty Coopman

Also Present: Mayor Clint Braun, Administrator Peter Wills, Deputy Clerk Jenny Friedman, Street Superintendent Wally Remic, Fire Chief Tim Magnin, Police Chief Brad Olsen, Utility Manager Beth Rank, Utility Manager Jason Valintine, Michelle Tester, Bart Schindel, Aaron Trempe

Absent: Devin Wirtz

4. **Approval of Minutes** - Common Council 08.12.2025, Special Common Council 08.26.2025

MOTION: Bahrke/Holman

Motion to approve the minutes for the - Common Council 08.12.2025, Special Common Council 08.26.2025.

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

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

MOTION: McDermid/Holman

Motion to approve the Treasures Report.

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

6. **Bills Payable –August**

MOTION: McDermid/ McDonald

Motion to approve the Bills Payable as presented for August 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 Fire Chief Magnin informed the council that at this current time the emergency siren is not functioning and in need of repair. The public was notified of this. It will take approximately twelve days to fix.

- ✓ Street Department Report
- ✓ 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.

Aaron Trempe spoke of concerns with the speed limit being high on County I and needing to be lowered but proceeding with the annexation to lower the speed limit will create an island of two properties one of these properties being his. The cities only option for the speed limit to be lowered at the time was to do the annexation and City Administrator Wills and Police Chief Olsen have been working together with the state and county to get it lowered with no success. So the annexation was the only option. Police Chief Olsen explained that he has been on the Traffic Safety Commission for twelve years and has tried to get the speed limit lowered for about ten years with no success. The state did do an engineering study in the past ten years and it did not give enough evidence that the speed limit at that time needed to be lowered. In order for the speed limit to be lowered there needs to be eighty five percent of the traffic to go the speed limit or lower. There is a speed study going to be happening the week of September 8,2025.

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 N/A
 Park & Recreation Committee Report-N/A
 Personnel Committee Report N/A
 Planning Commission Report 08.12.25
 Ordinance Commission N/A
 Utility Commission Report 08.18.25

MOTION: Bahrke/Holman

Motion to place reports on file.

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

Old Business:

10. Columbia Street Reconstruction Project Updates

The final walk through is scheduled for September 15, 2025. The lift station still needs to do phase three before it is complete. There were two new pumps for the lift station ordered to replace the current pumps that are not functioning correctly. There was no charge for these pumps due to the original pumps had malfunctioned.

NO ACTION TAKEN

11. New Middle School Items

There is a speed study going on County Road I. When the results come in this will hopefully lower the speed limit. The school zone signs from the old middle school will be moved to the new school location within the next couple weeks.

NO ACTION TAKEN

12. Status of Annexation portion of County I from Town of Stiles.

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. This has been talked about with the state and county and they have now started to do an engineer study to help provide information if the speed limit should be lowered. If the study goes through then there might be possibility of might not needing the annexation. City Administrator Wills has reached out to the Department of Administration about this creating an island. They were made aware and note that this is not one of the reasons they stop an annexation. If speed study is completed and the study shows the speed limit can be lowered through the county and state then the annexation might not have to go through.

NO ACTION TAKEN

NEW BUSINESS

13. Amending the City of Oconto Falls Comprehensive Plan Map Page 62, changing parcel future use from industrial to residential.

A. ORD 25-008 An Ordinance to Adopt an Amendment to The City of Oconto Falls 2008 Comprehensive Plan

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. Administrator Peter Wills went over the process of how this would be done.

MOTION: McDermid/Holman

Motion to approve ORD 25-008 An Ordinance to Adopt an Amendment one (1) to The City of Oconto Falls 2008 Comprehensive Plan.

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

14. Application for 1-year Operators license Torrence Fowler

MOTION: Holman/McDermid

Motion to approve the Application for 1-year Operators license Torrence Fowler.

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

- 15.** Application for 2-year Operators License Alexandria McHugh, Jill Genette, Steven Genette

MOTION: McDonald/Holman

Motion to approve the Application for 2-year Operators License Alexandria McHugh, Jill Genette, Steven Genette.

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

- 16.** 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**

- 17.** The Committee may go into closed session regarding legal consultation under Wis. Stat. § 19.85(g). Conferring with legal counsel who is giving written or oral advice about strategy to be adopted in litigation in which the governmental body is or is likely to be involved.

A. Re: Legal Negotiations

MOTION: Bahrke/Holman

Motion to enter into closed session at 6:37pm.

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

Those remaining in closed session Alderman Bahrke, Holman, Coopman, McDonald, McDermid, Mayor Braun, Administrator Wills, Deputy Clerk Friedman.

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

A. Re: Legal Negotiations

MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald

Motion to return to open session at 6:50pm.

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

MOTION: McDonald/Holman

Motion to have Administrator Wills get a certified survey map on landfill access off Gallas Road and work with City Attorney for property transfer to the city.

Roll Call: McDonald-aye, Holman-aye, McDermid-aye, Bahrke-aye, Coopman-aye, Wirtz-absent – **MOTION CARRIED**

19. 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 6:51pm.

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

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

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

Re: Employee Evaluation

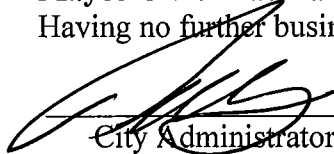
MOTION: Bahrke/McDonald

Motion to go into open session at 7:38pm.

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

21. 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 7:39pm.



City Administrator Peter Wills