

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Community Room
933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI**

**June 17, 2024
7:00 PM**

OR

Zoom Teleconferencing

1. Roll Call.

Present:

Ald. Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Lang, Buse, Morrow.

Others Present:

Mayor Wiza, Clerk Yenter, Executive Assistant Dowling, Assistant Chief Zvara, Director Lemke, Chief Kussow, C/T Ladick, Director Kremer, Attorney Beveridge, Director Kernosky.

2. Salute to the Flag and Mayor's opening remarks.

3. Persons who wish to address the Mayor and Council on specific agenda items other than a "Public Hearing" must register their request at this time. Those who wish to address the Common Council during a "Public Hearing" are not required to identify themselves until the "Public Hearing" is declared open by the Mayor.

4. Persons who wish to address the Mayor and Council for up to three (3) minutes regarding a non-agenda item.

Ryan and Hunter Carlisle, both 11 years old, expressed their desire to lower the age limit to 15 years old to drive with an adult. They spoke about their experience of traveling to another country and driving a dune buggy and that it was pretty easy.

Bob Gifford, 517 Fieldcrest Avenue, Portage County Supervisor, discussed various data and evidence to support the claim that there is a housing crisis within our communities and our state. He will be presenting a resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association and urged city council members to do the same.

Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:

5. Consent Agenda:

a. Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of May 20, 2024.

b. Actions of the Police and Fire Commission meeting of June 4, 2024:

3. Approval of Minutes.

4. Confirmation of Bills.

5. Discussion, with possible action, to approve a conditional offer of employment to Ryan Flowerette and Jarrett Lucht.

c. Actions of the Park Commission meeting of June 5, 2024:

2. Approval of May 1, 2024 meeting minutes.

3. Request by the Heart of Wisconsin Pickleball Association to donate one Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) to the City of Stevens Point for Mead Park.
 4. Master plan development for Georke and Zenoff Parks.
 5. Director's Report.
- d. Minutes and Actions of the Plan Commission meeting of June 3, 2024:
2. Report of the May 6, 2024 meeting of the City Plan Commission.
 6. A request from Mario Valentini, representing KB Stevens Point DST, for a site plan review to construct a building addition on the property located at 5590 United States Highway 10 East (Parcel ID 281240835110002), consistent with Ch. 23.02(2)(e)(5).
 9. Director's Report.
- e. Actions of the Transportation Commission of June 10, 2024:
3. Approval of the May 13, 2024 Minutes.
 4. Approval of the May 2024 Financial/Claims Reports.
 5. Election of the Chair of the Transportation Commission.
 6. Election of the Vice Chair of the Transportation Commission.
- f. Minutes and Actions of the Public Policy and General Government meeting of June 10, 2024:
2. License List.
 3. Request to Hold Event/Street Closing.
 4. Beekeeper Permits.
- g. Minutes and Actions of the Finance Committee meeting of June 10, 2024:
3. Requisitioning additional funding for a new Pierce Fire Apparatus for the Stevens Point Fire Department (2028 Capital Budget).
 4. Approval of the purchase of two garbage trucks (2025 Capital Budget).
 5. Approval of a capital reallocation to fund a traffic study for West River Drive.
 6. Authorization to apply for a Wisconsin DOT Predictive Analytics Crash Reduction Grant.
 8. Approval of Claims Paid.
- h. Statutory Monthly Financial Report by Comptroller/Treasurer.

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Shuda seconded, to approve the consent agenda with 5f2 and 5g5 pulled for further discussion.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Lang, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Shuda seconded, to approve the licenses list with conditions on Icon to include ID checkers and bouncers at the door during operating hours, properly working security video, wristbands with unique identifiers, ensuring that the ID photos match and enhanced staff on larger weekends such as homecoming, the first weekend students are back to school, and Halloween.

Attorney Beveridge discussed the ability to enforce the conditions on Icon and that Stevens Point law enforcement gave input on three of the conditions.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Morrow, Buse, Lang, Shuda, Kneebone, Steinmetz, Birr, Broderick, Keymer, Guthrie, Christianson.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Gil Kvatek, 216 West Pleasant Street, spoke in favor of the traffic study for West River Drive due to speeding and safety concerns. Mr. Kvatek met with his neighbors, and they listed the positives of converting West River Drive to a cul-de-sac as well as compiled a proposal.

Jess Sherman, 2048 West Zinda Drive, spoke in favor of the reallocation of funds for the traffic study on West River Drive due to traffic safety concerns. Ms. Sherman advocated for higher rates of ticketing for speeding violations as a short term solution.

Jackie Schimke, 440 West Trillium Court, thanked the finance committee for approving the funds for the study and asked that consideration be given to the proposal submitted by the neighborhood of West River Drive.

Theresa Collins, 417 West Mapleridge Drive, discussed the positives of the cul-de-sac proposal and the reasons for the proposal such as speeding, increased traffic, and reckless driving. Ms. Collins also addressed the proposal term "living end" and placing the cul-de-sac at Turtle pond.

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Morrow seconded, to approve the reallocation of funds for a traffic study for West River Drive.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Lang, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

6. Resolution - A request from the City of Stevens Point for a final subdivision plat review of a planned subdivision on the property located at 5498 Golla Road (Parcel ID 281240826400500), consistent with Ch. 20.05(2).

Dave Wilz, 1909 Mary's Drive, Town of Hull Chairperson, talked about being opposed to the request and thanked staff for listening as well as thanked the citizens for speaking out about their concerns.

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to approve the request.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Morrow, Buse, Lang, Kneebone, Steinmetz, Birr, Broderick, Keymer, Guthrie, Christianson.
Nays: Shuda. Motion carried.

7. Resolution - A request from the City of Stevens Point to rezone the property located at 5498 Golla Road (Parcel ID 281240826400500) from the "R-LD" Low Density Residence District to the "R-3" Single- and Two-Family Residence District.

Ald. Morrow moved, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to approve the request.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Lang, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: Shuda. Motion carried.

8. Ordinance - A request from the City of Stevens Point to annex an unaddressed parcel bounded by Old Highway 18 and Brilowski Road (Parcel ID 020240836-11.01), an

unaddressed parcel bounded by Brilowski Road (Parcel ID 020230801-06.01), an unaddressed parcel adjacent to the Canadian National Railway (Parcel ID 020230801-05.01), a portion of the unaddressed parcel adjacent to Old Highway 18 (Parcel ID 020240836-12) and Old Highway 18 Right-of-Way from the Town of Hull to the City of Stevens Point.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Christianson seconded, to approve the ordinance.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Morrow, Buse, Lang, Shuda, Kneebone, Steinmetz, Birr, Broderick, Keymer, Guthrie, Christianson.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

9. A request from the City of Stevens Point to acquire the property located at 1000 Maria Drive (Parcel ID 281240829240020).

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to approve the request.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Lang, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

10. Resolution - A request from the City of Stevens Point to approve a certified survey map and accept the dedication of land for right-of-way purposes for a planned extension of Badger Avenue from E.M. Copps Drive to County Road HH.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to approve the request.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Morrow, Buse, Lang, Shuda, Kneebone, Steinmetz, Birr, Broderick, Keymer, Guthrie, Christianson.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

11. Resolution - Reauthorization of Worker's Compensation Self-Insurance for the three-year period (2024-2027).

Ald. Birr moved, Ald. Morrow seconded, to approve the resolution.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Lang, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

12. Disallowance of Claim - Latitude Subrogation Service and Hastings Mutual Insurance Company - Claim related to a sewage backup at 2313 Jersey St. owned by Sharon Inman.

Ald. Broderick moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to disallow.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Morrow, Buse, Lang, Shuda, Kneebone, Steinmetz, Birr, Broderick, Keymer, Guthrie, Christianson.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

13. Resolution - Condemning Acts of Hostility.

Sara Manasreh-Decker, 400 Florence Drive, discussed her background of being Palestinian and asked that the resolution use language that is specific, actionable and meaningful. She advocated all citizens to be brave and firm in protecting human life, to call on our government to use funds here and not to bomb, and to join the call to end violence.

Steve Manasreh-Decker, 400 Florence Drive, expressed his sadness and anger at being involved in the original writing of the ceasefire and seeing the erasure of Palestinians within it.

Emily Phillips, 2760 Lindbergh Avenue, advocated for a permanent ceasefire as well as discussed atrocities endured.

Eric Wilson, 4423 Twin Oaks Court, Eau Claire, Third District Congressional Candidate, spoke in favor of the Resolution Condemning Acts of Hostility and thanked the leaders and community for stepping up.

Ald. Lang read aloud a newly submitted Resolution calling for a Ceasefire, Humanitarian Justice and Condemning Violence.

Mayor Wiza stated that the resolution about to be voted on was only submitted eight hours prior and asked to be given more time for staff to review.

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Christianson seconded, to amend the resolution to include the language that was read and submitted by Ald. Lang.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Lang, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Consideration of 100% Clean Energy and Carbon Neutrality Resolution and proposed amendments.

Trevor Roark, 601 Washington Avenue, expressed his happiness seeing the resolution come forward, yet disappointment in the memo and the watered down language of the resolution. He advocated rejecting the resolution put before the Common Council and instead voting in favor of the resolution put before the Public Policy and General Government Committee.

Gordon Cunningham, 159105 Zoromski Road, founding member of the Midwestern Energy Fair, discussed the collapsing climate and the opportunity for the City to address the issue. He also gave examples of renewable energy provisions.

Maxwell Johnson, 2345 Jersey Street, addressed the hard work, support, and petition signatures that have taken place within the last year. He encouraged Stevens Point to be a model for other communities, attend the energy fair for renewable energy ideas, develop a climate action plan, and utilize state and federal resources.

William John Coletta, 2209 Ellis Street, addressed his support of the use of 100% within the resolution because of the rhetoric of the term resolution referring to the will of doing something. Mr. Coletta also discussed his support of the resolution as an advocate for young people as well as how sustainability is prosperity.

Bob Gifford, 517 Fieldcrest Avenue, County Board representative, expressed a desire to be on the record for full support of the resolution and also urged city council members to think statewide by encouraging the league of municipalities to put forth a resolution to the state legislature.

Mary McComb, 2100 Elk Street, talked about her history as an advocate for clean energy through A Path to a Sustainable Stevens Point as well as Green Tier Legacy Communities. Ms. McComb expressed her happiness at seeing this resolution. She also shared research she had done on other communities that had committed to sustainability.

Kalli Mikkonen, 1800 Briggs Street, spoke in favor of the resolution, her history of being passionate about not harming the environment, as well as climate anxiety. She also discussed her hopes for the future and views the resolution as the start of climate action in Stevens Point.

Greg Knight, 424 Dearborn Avenue, discussed objections to the Resolution presented before the Common Council, discussed objections to the memo, advocated for a commission, as well as for the vote to be in favor of the resolution.

Ald. Broderick moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to amend the resolution to a target date of 2050.

Call for the vote: ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

Ald. Guthrie moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to approve the amended resolution.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Morrow, Buse, Lang, Shuda, Kneebone, Steinmetz, Birr, Broderick, Keymer, Guthrie, Christianson.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

- 15. Enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e) for deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, investing of public funds, or conducting other specified business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, relating to the following:**
- A. Negotiating the potential purchase of a property for the purpose of relocating City Hall.**
 - B. Negotiating the sale of the City's share of the current City Hall/Courthouse building.**

Ald. Shuda moved, Ald. Morrow seconded, to enter into closed session.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Buse, Morrow.
Nays: Lang. Motion carried.

16. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Resolution calling for a Ceasefire, Humanitarian Justice & Condemning Violence

WHEREAS, ALL human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians, no matter their faith or ethnicity, is in violation of international humanitarian laws; and

WHEREAS, diversity and inclusion have long been hallmarks of the Stevens Point community and Stevens Point is the home to a host of residents, students, and employees from around the world, across this nation and from diverse backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, since October 2023, over 35,000 Palestinians have been killed, the majority being women and children; as well as over 100,000 people have been injured; and

WHEREAS, the deliberate targeting of journalists and medical workers has been unprecedented and is in violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, acts of hate, violence, and intimidation dehumanizes and spreads fear of other members of the targeted group; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of lives are at eminent risk from starvation, exposure, dehydration, and disease if a CEASEFIRE is not achieved and humanitarian aid is not delivered without delay; and

WHEREAS, all members of our Wisconsin Federal Delegation must use the platform provided by their offices' to advocate for measures that will result in the least amount of suffering, violence and death.

WHEREAS, our federal government holds immense diplomatic power to save the lives of Palestinians and Israelis.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Stevens Point Common Council insist:

1. That all members of our community are able to feel safe and not subject to hate, bigotry, intimidation or violence in any form as they run contrary to the principles of respect, dignity and fairness, which are included in Stevens Point's community core values.

2. That our city maintain vigilance in defense of the rights of all our people, proactive in our striving to be a welcoming community for all,

3. That we remain steadfast and vigorous in condemning all forms of hate, bigotry, intimidation and violence; and

4. That the City of Stevens Point urges our President, Joseph R. Biden, to make every effort in seeking an end to this violence and direct his administration to immediately call for and facilitate:

- A. De-escalation of Hostilities
- B. An immediate Ceasefire
- C. Unhindered Humanitarian Aid entry to Gaza
- D. Investigations into any appearances and allegations of all crimes against humanity and peace

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage, a copy of this resolution be placed on the City's official letterhead and shall be sent to members of our Federal Delegation:

The Office of U.S. President Joe Biden,
The Office of U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin,
The Office of U.S. Senator Ron Johnson,
The Office of U.S. Representative Derrick Van Orden

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Whereas, ALL human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians, no matter their faith, ethnicity, is in violation of International humanitarian law; and

Whereas, between October 7th and October 27th alone, armed violence claimed over 7000 lives of Palestinians, over 1400 Israelis lives, wounded thousands more; and

Whereas, the reported death tally increases daily and now exceeds 34,000 lives lost, including Americans and humanitarian aid workers and,

Whereas, hundreds of thousands of lives are in eminent risk if a ceasefire is not achieved and humanitarian aid is not delivered without delay; and

Whereas, all members of our Wisconsin Federal Delegation must use the platform provided by their offices' to advocate for measures that will result in the least amount of death and violence.

Whereas, the federal government holds immense diplomatic power to save lives of Palestinians and Israelis.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that The City of Stevens Point urges our President, Joseph R. Biden, make every effort in seeking an end to this violence and direct his administration to immediately call for and facilitate:

- (1) De-escalation of hostilities
- (2) A ceasefire
- (3) Humanitarian Assistance entry to Gaza
- (4) Investigation into the appearances of crimes against humanity

Be it further resolved that upon passage, a copy of this resolution, on city letterhead, be mailed to the Office of U.S. President Joe Biden, the Office of U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, the Office of U.S. Senator Ron Johnson, the office of U.S. Representative Derrick Van Orden.