

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

**November 18, 2024
7:00 PM**

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

OR

Zoom Teleconferencing

Agenda

1. Roll Call.

Present:

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

Others Present:

Mayor Wiza, Clerk Yenter, C/T Ladick, H/R Manager Frasch, Executive Assistant Dowling, Assistant Chief Williams, Director Kremer, Chief Moody, Director Lemke, Attorney Beveridge, Director Kivela, Planner/Economic Development Specialist Klesmith, Assessor Shepro.

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.

Ald. Kneebone shared her recent experience addressing cub scouts about being a good citizen, the importance of community and gave accolades to scouting programs.

Mark Hemmrich, 1800 Main Street, spoke against the Business 51 corridor, the cost of bike lanes, and roundabouts. Mr. Hemmrich cited cost, public surveys, as well as studies and requested that a referendum be added to the ballot to determine public input.

Mark Hemmrich Jr., 2731 River Road, spoke against the proposed Business 51 project. Mr. Hemmrich cited roundabouts and bike lanes as concerns due to safety, lawsuits, business loss and traffic flow and requested that a referendum be added to the ballot to determine public input.

Stan Potocki, 3474 Sunset Drive, spoke against the proposed Business 51 project and his observations at the intersection of Franklin Street and Division Street.

Andrea Olson, 410 Franklin Street, spoke in favor of the roundabout and encouraged the Council to reach out to business owners. Ms. Olson also spoke against the fire training facility, the use of response vehicles, and hiring practices.

Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:

- 5. Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Minutes of the Common Council Meeting of October 21, 2024.**
 - b. Actions of the Police and Fire Commission meeting of November 7, 2024:**
 - 4. Approval of Minutes.**
 - 5. Confirmation of Bills.**
 - 8. Discussion, with possible action, to approve nine (9) new Firefighter/Paramedic positions to the department for a total of 57 approved positions and 55 funded positions for the Stevens Point Fire Department, effective January 1st, 2025.**
 - c. Actions of the Park Commission meeting of November 6, 2024:**
 - 2. Approval of October 2, 2024 meeting minutes.**
 - 3. Presentation on 2024 Donald Copps Municipal Pool usage and financials by Superintendent Hylla.**
 - 4. Review of preliminary condition report of Donald Copps Municipal Pool.**
 - 5. Presentation and preliminary draft concept drawings for Zenoff and Goerke Park Master Plans.**
 - 6. 2025 fees and charges for the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.**
 - 7. Director's Report - 2517 Prais Street and rent preparations - 41st Riverfront Rendezvous scheduled July 3, 4 and 5, 2025 - 2025 capital improvement budget update.**
 - d. Minutes and Actions of the Plan Commission meeting of November 4, 2024:**
 - 2. Report of the October 7, 2024 meeting of the City Plan Commission.**
 - 8. Director's Report.**
 - e. Actions of the Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners meeting of November 12, 2024:**
 - 2. Approval of minutes.**
 - 3. Approval of department claims.**
 - 5. Scope of services with Bartingale Mechanical for the procurement and installation of a new building management system for the utility garage at 1925 Cypress St.**
 - 6. Implementation of a lateral repair program and related rate adjustment.**
 - 9. Change order to the Forest Creek contract for the installation of conduit and fiber.**
 - 10. Adjustment of Stormwater Utility assistance for street tree efforts.**
 - f. Actions of the Airport Commission meeting of November 12, 2024:**
 - 2. Approval of minutes.**
 - 3. Approval of department claims.**
 - g. Minutes and Actions of the Personnel Committee meeting of November 12, 2024:**
 - 3. Updates to Administrative Policy 5.01 - Adoption and Amendments.**
 - 4. City Clerk Yenter request to reclassify Administrative Assistant - Clerk to Deputy City Clerk.**
 - 5. Updates to Administrative Policy 1.08 Hours of Work and Policy 2.08 Compensatory Time and Overtime Pay.**
 - h. Minutes and Actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of November 12, 2024.**
 - i. Minutes and Actions of the Public Policy and General Government meeting of November 12, 2024:**
 - 2. Request to Hold Event/Street Closing.**

- j. **Minutes of the Special Finance Committee meeting of October 28, 2024 and Minutes and Actions of the Finance Committee meeting of November 12, 2024:**
 - 3. **Approval of Adding 9 Additional Firefighter/Paramedic Positions to the Fire Department, and Incorporating the Relevant Changes in the 2025 Operating Budget.**
 - 9. **Approval of Additional Funding for the Facade Improvement Grant Program.**
 - 10. **Approval of the 4th Amendment to the Development Agreement with The Opera House, LLC.**
 - 11. **Approval of Proposal for Planning and Design Services for the Hoover Road Signalized Intersections.**
 - 12. **Approval of Claims Paid.**
- k. **Statutory Monthly Financial Report by Comptroller/Treasurer.**
- l. **Mayoral Appointments.**
 - Sustainability Commission: Alderperson Sam Lang, for a term expiring December 31, 2026.
 - Sustainability Commission: Alderperson Allison Burr, for a term expiring December 31, 2026.
 - Sustainability Commission: Heather Phelps, for a term expiring December 31, 2027.
 - Sustainability Commission: Gregory Knight, for a term expiring December 31, 2027.
 - Sustainability Commission: Robert Michitsch, for a term expiring December 31, 2027.
 - Sustainability Commission: Doug Stingle, Alternate for a term expiring December 31, 2027.

Nathan Sandwick, 633 Portage Street, addressed the memo regarding Sustainability Commission appointees and questioned how many applied.

Maxwell Johnson, 2345 Jersey Street, spoke in favor of the Sustainability Commission, the appointments, and encouraged the commission to start a baseline to determine energy consumption as well as carbon emissions.

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Burr seconded, to approve the consent agenda.

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

6. Public Hearing related to the petitioning of the Secretary of Transportation for airport improvement aid.

Director Lemke gave an overview of the petition.

Mayor Wiza declared the public hearing open.

As no one wished to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

7. Resolution petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for airport improvement aid.

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Buse seconded, to approve the petition.

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

8. Ordinance Amendment - to approve changes in Chapter 13, Section 13.28, Lateral Line Replacement & Utility Affordability Fee

Ald. Guthrie moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to approve the ordinance.

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

9. Ordinance Amendment - A request from the City of Stevens Point to amend the Official Street Map of the City of Stevens Point. Said request renames Lost Creek Road to Forest Creek Road within Lots 1-60 (Parcel ID 281240826400501-281240826400562) of Forest Creek Subdivision.

Mayor Wiza gave an overview of the request.

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Birr 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.

10. Ordinance Amendment - A request from the City of Stevens Point to amend Chapter 23, Zoning Ordinance, of the Revised Municipal Code of the City of Stevens Point. Said request amends Section 23.04(2) for the purposes of repealing the 'Household Entity Plus' definition and amending the definition of 'Household Entity'.

Teresa Timerman, 4009 Jay Court, read a letter from the congregation of Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church in favor of the request as a step for citizens to attain more affordable housing.

Andrea Olson, 410 Franklin Street, spoke against the request.

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

Ald. Lang opened up the discussion by citing the Housing Task Force recommendation of four unrelated occupants.

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to amend to four unrelated occupants overall.

Ald. Guthrie requested staff give feedback on the amendment.

Director Kivela gave a recommendation of taking an incremental step to provide a more accurate evaluation.

Ald. Christianson discussed being in agreement with Director Kivela regarding the incremental steps and expressed concerns about owner-occupied properties losing an advantage.

The following is the vote on the amendment:

Call for the vote: Ayes: Lang.

Nays: Christianson, Guthrie, Keymer, Broderick, Birr, Steinmetz, Kneebone, Shuda, Buse, Morrow. Motion failed.

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to amend by increasing both numbers by one from the present policy. Therefore, owner occupied would increase to four unrelated residents and non-owner occupied would increase to three unrelated residents.

Ald. Keymer questioned the ability to track and evaluate.

Attorney Beveridge addressed the question and highlighted the difficulty with enforcement.

Director Kivela further addressed the question.

Mayor Wiza asked Attorney Beveridge to clarify what constitutes an amendment going back to the Plan Commission for further consideration.

Ald. Christianson questioned if the motion were passed whether it could be reversible.

Attorney Beveridge stated that it could be reversible. However, he addressed the difficulty in housing occupants at a higher level and then reverting to a lower number. Attorney Beveridge also spoke to the question of legal parameters of when to send an amendment to a zoning code back to the Plan Commission. Attorney Beveridge spoke to the law, not giving perfect clarity. However, he gave his recommendation to take the conservative approach and present the exact thing the Common Council wishes to act on to the Plan commission.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Christianson, Keymer, Birr, Steinmetz, Lang, Buse.

Nays: Guthrie, Broderick, Kneebone, Shuda, Morrow. Motion carried.

Ald. Broderick requested a point of clarification.

Mayor Wiza addressed the question.

Ald. Broderick made the recommendation to withdraw the original motion.

Attorney Beveridge again gave his recommendation to send the amendment back to Plan Commission to insulate against potential lawsuit.

Andrea Olson, 410 Franklin Street, spoke against the motion on the floor and requested the council have a public hearing.

Ald. Lang withdrew his original motion.

Ald. Steinmetz withdrew his second.

Mayor Wiza stated that there is not currently a motion on the floor.

Ald. Morrow moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to send back to the Planning Commission to allow consideration for an owner-occupied increase to four unrelated residents and a non-owner increase to three unrelated residents.

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

11. A request from the City of Stevens Point to establish a Business Park Business Improvement District and its initial operating plan, consistent with Wis. Stats. 66.1109(2)(c).

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Broderick 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.

12. Discussion and possible action on a Clear Zone and Avigation Easement for an unaddressed parcel bounded by State Highway 66 (Parcel ID 281240823230002) and an unaddressed parcel closest to Wellfield Road North (Parcel ID 281240826210001).

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Christianson seconded, to approve.

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

13. A request to execute a Quit Claim Deed between the City of Stevens Point and the City of Stevens Point Airport for the property located at 4401 State Highway 66 (Parcel ID 281240823230001).

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Buse 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.

14. Ordinance Amendment - To approve the changes in Chapter 9, Section 9.05 as they relate to Parking.

Ald. Buse moved, Ald. Birr seconded, to approve the ordinance.

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

15. Ordinance Amendment - To approve the changes in Chapter 9, Section 9.02 and 9.06 as they relate to Speed Limits and Traffic Signs.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Lang 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.

16. Ordinance Amendment - To approve the changes in Chapter 9, Section 9.05 as they relate to Permitted Parking.

Ald. Birr moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to approve the ordinance.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

17. Setting Alderperson salary terms beginning in 2025 and 2026.

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Shuda seconded, to approve the salary terms.

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

Nays: Kneebone. Motion Carried.

18. *Preliminary Resolution for Forest Creek Subdivision Project.**

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to approve the preliminary resolution.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

19. Resolution on Ending Housing Insecurity and Homelessness.

Andrea Olson, 410 Franklin Street, spoke in favor of the resolution on ending housing insecurity and homelessness and requested that the zoning codes be re-examined.

Teresa Timerman, 4009 Jay Court, read a letter on behalf of the congregation of Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church in support of the resolution.

Ald. Lang moved, Ald. Broderick seconded, to approve the resolution.

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

Nays: Morrow. Shuda. Motion carried.

20. Consideration of Claim-USAA Casualty Insurance Company: Driver Collided with City-

Owned Vehicle.

Ald. Broderick moved, Ald. Christianson seconded, to deny the claim.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

21. Consideration of Claim-Lauren Lutz: Tripped and fell on curb.

Ald. Morrow moved, Ald. Birr seconded, to deny the claim.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

22. Consideration of Claim-Phyllis Carlson: Sewer backup in basement.

Ald. Morrow moved, Ald. Keymer seconded, to deny the claim.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

23. Consideration of Claim-Ray Cal and Mary Mortell-Ferrone: Sewer backup in basement.

Ald. Broderick moved, Ald. Buse seconded, to deny the claim.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

24. Public Hearing on the City Budget for 2025.

Comptroller/Treasurer Ladick gave an overview of the City budget for 2025.

Mayor Wiza declared the public hearing open.

As no one wished to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

25. Resolution Adopting the Budget (Capital and Operating) for the City of Stevens Point for the Year 2025.

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Birr seconded, to adopt the budget.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

26. Resolution Appropriating Necessary Funds for the City of Stevens Point for 2025 and Levying the Tax Rate for the Year 2024.

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

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

27. Resolution Providing for Writing Special Assessments and Special Charges into the Tax Roll for 2024.

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

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

28. 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. Discussion relating to the relocation of City Hall.

B. Negotiating a Development Agreement in Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) District 5.

Ald. Shuda moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to enter into closed session at 9:17 p.m.

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

Nays: Lang. Motion carried.

Ald. Keymer moved, Ald. Steinmetz seconded, to reconvene into open session.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

29. Reconvene for possible action on the above-referenced closed session items.

Item B:

Ald. Christianson moved, Ald. Lang seconded, to approve the agreement.

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

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Item A:

Ald. Kneebone moved, Ald. Keymer seconded, to approve up to \$25,000 for a study.

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

Guthrie, Christianson.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

30. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 10:25 p.m.