



Watertown City Council
Regular Meeting

Mayor Michael Walters
Deborah Everson
Jim Kasheimer
Fred McGuire
Kay Thul

12/9/2025 - Minutes

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Watertown City Council was called to order in the Council Chambers of City Hall at 6:33 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, by Mayor Mike Walters.

Councilmembers present: Mike Walters, Jim Kasheimer, Kay Thul, Fred McGuire and Deborah Everson

City staff present: City Administrator Dan Tolsma and Public Services Director Michael Sommerfeld

Others present: Watertown Chamber President, Kyle Jarvis

2. Adopt Agenda

City Administrator Dan Tolsma asked to remove item 5C. discussion with the CDA representative, due to inclement weather.

COUNCILMEMBER JIM KASHEIMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

COUNCILMEMBER DEBORAH EVERSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

3. Consent Agenda Discussion And Approval

COUNCILMEMBER KAY THUL MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

COUNCILMEMBER FRED MCGUIRE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

3.A. 3.A. Approve November 25, 2025 City Council Work Session Minutes

- 3.B. 3.B. Approve November 25, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
- 3.C. 3.C. Approve Liquid Waste Haulers Licenses (Resolution 2025-57)
- 3.D. 3.D. Approve Downtown Parking Lot Mill And Overlay Project Pay App No. 2
- 3.E. 3.E. Approve 2025 End Of Year Payments

4. Open Forum

Kyle Jarvis, President of the Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce gave an update on Watertown Christmas that was held on Saturday. He thanked public works staff, the Watertown Fire Department, Chief Hanson and all the volunteers.

5. New/Old Business

- 5.A. 5.A. RFA - 2026 Truth In Taxation Public Hearing, Budget, And Levy (Resolution 2025-58, 2025-59, 2025-60)

Administrative Services Director Michael Sommerfeld presented a summary on the Truth in Taxation.

COUNCILMEMBER WALTERS MOVED TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:55PM.

COUNCILMEMBER THUL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Kyle Jarvis of 1175 Landings Lane, spoke wanting to say this seems to be very thoughtful. You have done your due diligence. I just want to thank you for all the hard work to the city staff for making this happen, and I am very pleasantly surprised to see my tax statement in the mail.

No further residents were in attendance.

COUNCILMEMBER WALTERS CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:56PM.

COUNCILMEMBER KASHEIMER SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

COUNCILMEMBER THUL MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-58 APPROVING THE 2026 CIP.

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-59 APPROVING THE 2026 CITY BUDGET.

COUNCILMEMBER KASHEIMER SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

COUNCILMEMBER THUL MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-60 APPROVING THE 2026 FINAL LEVIES.

COUNCILMEMBER MCGUIRE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

- 5.B. 5.B. RFA - Recognition Of Denny Butcher (Resolution 2025-61)

Honoring the life and service of Dennis Denny Eugene Butcher and proclaiming December 19, 2025, to be Denny Butcher Day in the City of Watertown.

Whereas, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Watertown, Minnesota wish to acknowledge and express their appreciation of longtime resident Dennis Denny Eugene Butcher on this occasion of his retirement.

Whereas, Mr. Butcher has been a resident of Watertown since 1972 and has served with distinction as Town Barber for 52 plus years.

Whereas, Mr. Butcher During this time in Watertown, Mr. Butcher served the Watertown community as a volunteer firefighter from 1973 to 75, as an EMT for the Watertown Hospital from 1974 to 79.

Whereas, Mr. Butcher also brought joy to countless residents through music, as a member of two polka bands, and through his 25 -year career as Town Santa, And whereas Mr. Butcher is known by the community for his kindness, sense of humor, willingness to serve and his love of Watertown.

Whereas, Mr. Butcher's legacy will serve as an inspiration to all who live and work in the city of Watertown for generations to come.

Now, therefore be it resolved that the city council of the City of Watertown, Minnesota hereby approves Resolution 2025-61.

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-61 IN RECOGNITION OF DENNY BUTCHER.

COUNCILMEMBER THUL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

5.C. 5.C. Carver CDA Update From Allison Streich

Removed

5.D. 5.D. RFA - 2026 Carver County Sheriff Policing Contract

Dan Tolsma presented the proposed contract for 2026.

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE ATTACHED 2026 POLICE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WATERTOWN AND THE CARVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

COUNCILMEMBER THUL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

5.E. 5.E. RFA - 2026 Carver County Attorney Prosecution Contract

COUNCILMEMBER WALTERS MOVED TO ATHORIZE THE 2026 PROSECUTION CONTRACT WITH THE CARVER COUNTYATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

5.F. 5.F. RFA - Crow River Liquors Temporary Short-Term Signage Request

COUNCILMEMBER WALTERS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TEMPORARY SIGN PERMIT REQUESTS WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: THE APPLICANT IS APPROVED TO DISPLY ONE 10 MIINUTE PARKING SIGN FOR THE 2ND AND 3RD PARKING STALLS IN FROM THE ROUNDABOUT FORTHE DATES OF AS REQUESTED IN THE PERMIT APPLICATIONS. THE PROVIDED SIGNAGE WILL BE DESIGNED, FABRICATED, AND OWNED BY THE CITY OF

WATERTOWN. THE SIGNAGE MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE SIDEWALK DURING NON-BUSINESS HOURS BY THE PROPERTY OWNER.

COUNCILMEMBER THUL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

5.G. 5.G. RFA - City Hall Closure For Staff Holiday Event December 18

COUNCILMEMBER WALTERS MOVED TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF CITY HALL AT 12:00PM ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH.

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

5.H. 5.H. RFA - Establish January 13, 2026 As First City Council Work Session And Regular Meeting In 2026

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON MOVED TO ESTABLISH THAT THE FIRST CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION FOR 2026, WILL BE ON JANUARY 13, 2026 AT 5:30PM AND THAT THE FIRST CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING FOR 2026 WILL BE ON JANUARY 13, 2025 AT 6:30PM.

COUNCILMEMBER MCGUIRE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

6. Other Reports

City Administrator Tolsma reported they will be advertising for the public works superintendent next week with Matt VanLith's last day is December 18.

Council discussed closing the compost site over the winter and until a policy review and cameras are in place.

Councilmember McGuire reported on the Senior Dinner with about 138 in attendance. Kay added that everyone was happy to come and it was a very good event.

Councilmember Everson reported on the Watertown Festival of Lights that goes until this Saturday, Dec. 13th. Everson also mentioned that talking with businesses in town, they had a very successful Saturday and grateful for all the events that were happening.

Councilmember Walters wanted to recognize a few people and give thanks who are very important. He thanked the council who cares immensely about the community, work diligently advocating for the citizens. He thanked city staff, a steady group that does a great job. I appreciate all the volunteers and organizations and the commission who work really hard all year long to just make Watertown great. They're the backbone of our community, so please support them. I would also express a heartfelt gratitude to our police officers, firefighters, and first responders for their dedication to keeping our community safe. And finally, I'd like to thank the people of Watertown that make this city remarkable.

7. Claims

COUNCILMEMBER THUL MOVED TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS ROSTER AS PRESENTED.

COUNCILMEMBER KASHEIMER SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

7.A. 7.A. December 9, 2025 Claims

8. Adjournment

COUNCILMEMBER WALTERS MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:34PM.

COUNCILMEMBER EVERSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0

309 Lewis Avenue South; P.O. Box 279, Watertown, MN 55388

Michael Walters, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Dan Tolsma, City Administrator

DRAFT