

**COMMISSION ON PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES
COUNCIL ROOM, CITY HALL
DECEMBER 9, 2025
6:45 P.M.**

The Commission on Public Works/Utilities met in regular session, Chair Clough presiding.
On roll call: all members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared approved.

Director of Public Works Friemoth reported on two burials at the Cemetery, snow removal-plowing, hauling and clearing sidewalks, winterizing equipment for storage, moving disc golf baskets at Mt. Moldy for the Winter season, assisted with the tree lighting, finished up Christmas decorations and lights, hauling brush and compost, Water Department-daily testing and well rounds, utility locates, meter change outs, snow removal from office, well treatment plant and towers, exercising water main valves, sent out 1,000 lead and copper service letters and handling telephone calls, Sewer Department-daily testing and treatment plant rounds, lift station maintenance and inspections, snow removal from treatment plant and lift stations, sewer main lining along U.S. Hwy. 10 and Hill Street is finishing up, assisted with two private side sewer back-ups, the new VFD is getting installed on the RAW pump #2, the City will be receiving a Local Road Improvement Grant (LRIP) of \$16,780 in 2027 to help with pulverizing and paving W. Nineteenth Street and W. Twentieth Street, the fall cleanup bulk dumpster collected 8.5 tons (17,000 lbs.) of bulky items costing \$1,405.15 and two applications have been received for the open public works position.

Motion Poeschel, second Rochester, to adjourn. All Aye.

Daniel M. Clough, Chair

Rex R. Roehl, Clerk

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**COMMON COUNCIL
COUNCIL ROOM
DECEMBER 9, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

The Common Council met in regular session, Mayor Poeschel presiding. On roll call: all members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared approved.

Council Member Rochester reported on the December 3, 2025 meeting of the Airport Commission regarding: 1) discussion and recommendation to lease the Airport agricultural land at \$100 per acre with a 2% increase every year, to be revisited in five years and to remove the language in Section 4.(c) “Waste grain and other crop residue which may attract wildlife shall be tilled under the soil within 48 hours of harvest” and 2) discussion and recommendation to raise the Airport hangar lease to \$250 per year and review yearly.

Council Member Rochester reported on the December 4, 2025 meeting of the Neillsville Community Fire Hall Board regarding: 1) payment of bills, 2) current activities and 3) approved payment of the 2026 operating and capital budget support payment by March 31, 2026.

Council Member Clough reported on the December 9, 2025 meeting of the Commission on Public Works/Utilities regarding current activities.

Mayor Poeschel declared all reports filed as presented with the City Clerk.

Lynda Lisenby, Lisenby Properties and Just Love Coffee Shop, stated the project was completed in July 2025. They currently have five units open or a 93% occupancy rate. They are in the process of converting from a construction loan to a regular mortgage loan. Thirty percent of Just Love's business comes from building residents. Just Love hosts events like mug painting and will be doing bingo.

Lisenby stated that there have been conversations and accusations about drug dealers and users residing in the building and garbage bags flying all over. One of our neighbors also told an FHA inspector we are a nuisance.

Lisenby stated she wanted to set the record straight. Additional dumpsters have been added and she thanked Police Chief Mankowski for being there and he found no problem.

Chief Mankowski stated that he goes there for coffee or visits every day, you are a valued community member, if there were a problem we would be having a talk. Thank you for what you do.

Mayor Poeschel asked if there were any questions on the Airport Commission items (1 and 2)

Discussion followed on the Clark County average of \$120 per acre, State restrictions, last time it was raised was \$80 January 1, 2016 and five-year review versus three years.

Motion Rochester, second Petkovsek, to accept the recommendation to lease the Airport agricultural land at \$100 per acre with a 2% increase every year to be revisited in five years and to remove the language in Section 4.(c) "Waste grain and other crop residue which may attract wildlife shall be tilled under the soil within 48 hours of harvest". All Aye.

Discussion on Statewide hangar leases running from \$6 to \$2,001 most around the \$200 to \$350 range depending on available services. The City does not have fuel available onsite.

Motion Neville, second Clough, to accept the recommendation to raise the Airport hangar lease fee to \$250 per year and review yearly. All Aye.

Mayor Poeschel presented a request from Police Chief James Mankowski for carryover of 2025 unused vacation time due to Police staffing and scheduling challenges until July 1, 2026.

Motion Rochester, second Clough, to allow Chief of Police James Mankowski to carryover unused 2025 vacation hours to 2026 to be used by July 1, 2026. All Aye.

City Clerk Roehl presented the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs Division of Emergency Management-Cybersecurity Grant-(Cycle 1-2nd Quarter, 2025) in the amount of \$12,013.96.

Motion Clough, second Rochester, to accept and appropriate \$6,445.13 to Account No. 51600 City Hall and \$5,568.83 to Account No. 52100 Police Department Administration. All Aye.

City Clerk Roehl presented the Neillsville Firemen's donation of \$20,624 towards the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs). The total cost for 20 SCBAs is \$223,124. The City's Capital projects borrowing will cover \$202,500 of the cost and the Firemen are covering the balance.

Motion Rochester, second Gelhaus, to accept and appropriate the \$20,624 donation for SCBAs to Account No. 57220 Public Safety-Fire Department Outlay and thank the Neillsville Firemen for their donation. All Aye.

City Clerk Roehl reported that Citizens State Bank loan has been closed and Draw Down #1 for Capital projects will be received on December 10, 2025.

Motion Neville, second Clough, to accept and appropriate \$280,000 to Account No. 49100 Proceeds from Long Term Debt (revenue account) and to (expense accounts) Account No. 57140 Public Buildings Outlay-\$62,500, Account No. 57220 Public Safety-Fire Department Outlay-\$202,500 and Account No. 57620 Parks Outlay of \$15,000. All Aye.

Mayor Poeschel presented the following nomination list of polling place officials and voting registration deputies:

- Ward I – Karen Gaier, Janice Mayer, Linda Stalsberg
- Ward II – Kathy Brugger, Denise Clough, Greg Glisczinski
- Ward III – Kay Anason, Mary Hartung, Brent Shoup
- Ward IV – Sharon Bjerke, Natalie Erpenbach, Mary Nauertz
- Ward V – Margaret Gelhaus, Lynda Hilliard, Gayle Kronberger

This represents eight Republicans and seven Democrat representatives in the polling place. Their terms of office will be two years, from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2027.

Voter Registration Deputies – Donna Pavlac and Debbie Tlusty

This represents one Republican and one Democrat voter registration deputy. Their terms of office will be for two years, from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2027.

Motion Petkovsek, second Rochester, to accept the Mayor’s recommendation as presented for polling place officials and voter registration deputies and appoint them to two-year terms 2026-2027. Council Members Clough and Gelhaus abstained. 3-Aye, 0-Nay, 2-Abstained. Motion carried.

Chief of Police Mankowski reported on training, squad car maintenance, November parking enforcement, citations, warnings, office activities, officer activities, officer assists, business patrols and contract policing.

City Clerk Roehl reported that the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for the Neillsville Market Place, 541 Hewett Street, will be Saturday, December 20, 2025.

Tavern Operator’s License Applications:
Calliandra K. Blum, Nancy L. Curtin and Tabettha K. Spencer

Motion Neville, second Petkovsek, to grant all the listed licenses. All Aye.

Motion Neville, second Rochester, that City Bills Nos. 1053 to 1094 in the amount of \$377,024.56 be paid. All Aye.

Motion Rochester, second Gelhaus, to adjourn. All Aye.

Duane G. Poeschel, Mayor

Rex R. Roehl, Clerk

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