



CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON, OZAUKEE COUNTY, WI
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.
Port Washington City Hall, 100 W. Grand Avenue
Port Washington, WI 53074
Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL-** Mayor Ted Neitzke IV convened the meeting of the Common Council at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Alderpersons Deborah Postl, Paul Neumyer, Michael Gasper, Dan Benning, Jonathan Pleitner, and Pat Tearney. Alderperson Mary Lou Mueller was absent and excused. Also present was City Administrator Melissa Gossett, Director of Administration/City Clerk Susan Westerbeke, City Attorney Matt Nugent, Public Works Director Rob Vanden Noven, and Director of Planning and Development Bob Harris.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG-** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES-** Four residents and one non-resident provided comments expressing concerns related to either the data center, power line routes, or TID funding. One resident provided comments related to the positive community support received for data center construction employees.
4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting-**
MOTION MADE BY ALD. POSTL, SECONDED BY ALD. NEUMYER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **MAYOR'S BUSINESS**
 - A. **Mayor's Updates-** The Mayor provided correction and clarification to several comments made during the Public Comment portion of this meeting. The Mayor's proclamation and letter from 2025 in support of the alternate route for ATC power lines was sent to the Public Service Commission (PSC).
-Proclamation National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day- They Mayor read the proclamation and thanked the Port Washington Police Department. Chief Kevin Hingiss thanked his staff and the residents for their support of the Department's continued service to the City of Port Washington
 - B. **Acknowledgments and Donor Recognitions**
-Edison Bell Einstein Award for Innovative Programming-Diane Chilinski- The City Administrator recognized Director of Senior Life Enrichment and Outreach Diane Chilinski for receipt of this Wisconsin Association of Senior Center Award for innovations which benefit older adults.
-WMCA 25 Year Service Award as Municipal Clerk-Susan Westerbeke- The City Administrator recognized the Director of Administration/City Clerk for receipt of her 25-year service award presented by the Wisconsin Municipal Clerk's Association and her continued dedication and professionalism support to the City of Port Washington.
-Donation of Memorial Benches to Port Washington Marina- Assistant Harbormaster Lisa Rathke presented the recognition of donation of memorial benches at the marina to the family of Randall Rabehl, the friends and family of Jerry Baganz, and the family of Terry Nierode.
-Volunteers for their Efforts for the Parks and Recreation Department- Director of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Jon Crain honored Wendy Braam, Mike Goebel, Barbara Joose, JJ Winnemuller, and Mike Keller recognizing them for their volunteer efforts to support multiple Parks and Recreation projects and initiatives.
-Milwaukee Press Club Media Hall of Fame-Kris Halbig-Ziehm- The Mayor presented a proclamation to Ozaukee Press Reporter Kris Halbig-Ziehm for her recent induction into the Milwaukee Press Club Media Hall of Fame and her continued efforts and dedication to the City of Port Washington and its residents.
6. **OFFICERS/STAFF REPORT**
 - A. **City Administrator Report-** The City Administrator noted the availability of the January 2026 Newsletter and the 2026 Resident Information Guide. Annual reports will be available soon.
7. **FROM STANDING COUNCIL COMMITTEES-** None.
8. **FROM CITY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS-** None.
9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS-** None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration and Possible Action on an Agreement with Port Washington Main Street, Inc. to Paint a Mural on the E. Jackson St. Retaining Wall East of N. Wisconsin St.- The Director of Public Works presented the information related to the proposed mural under consideration. MOTION MADE BY ALD. BENNING, SECONDED BY ALD. GASPER TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH PORT WASHINGTON MAIN STREET, INC. TO PAINT A MURAL ON THE E. JACKSON ST. RETAINING WALL AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Presentation from Pier Street Development on Tax Incremental Financing (TIF)- The Director of Planning and Development provided an overview of the project and introduced Pier Street Development Owner Haley Dobre to provide information on her proposed project containing 51 rental units, two ground floor retail spaces, underground parking, and the project's need for funding as a PAYGO TIF within the currently established TID 2. Discussion was held.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES- None.

12. MOTION TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION per Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(e), i.e., deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, specifically for purposes of discussing police union collective bargaining strategies and negotiations- The Mayor read the closed session item. MOTION MADE BY ALD. NEUMYER, SECONDED BY ALD. POSTL TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION AT 7:42 P.M. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN, AYE: POSTL, NEUMYER, GASPER, BENNING, PLEITNER, TEARNEY. Motion carried unanimously.

13. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION to take action relating to the closed session discussions, if any, including, without limitation, discussion and possible ratification or final approval of the proposed 2026-2027 collective bargaining agreement between the City and the Wisconsin Professional Police Association and on Behalf of its Affiliate Local the Port Washington Professional Police Association- MOTION MADE BY ALD. NEUMYER, SECONDED BY ALD. PLEITNER TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:54 P.M. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN, AYE: POSTL, NEUMYER, GASPER, BENNING, PLEITNER, TEARNEY. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION MADE BY ALD. NEUMYER, SECONDED BY ALD. BENNING TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2026-2027 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION AND ON BEHALF OF ITS AFFILIATE LOCAL PORT WASHINGTON PROFESSIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION AS PRESENTED. Motion carried unanimously.

14. ADJOURNMENT- MOTION MADE BY ALD. POSTL, SECONDED BY ALD. NEUMYER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:55 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan L. Westerbeke, City Clerk