

**COMMISSION ON PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES
COUNCIL ROOM, CITY HALL
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025
6:45 P.M.**

The Commission on Public Works/Utilities met in regular session, Mayor Poeschel presiding. On roll call: Council Member Clough absent, all other members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared approved.

Director of Public Works Friemoth reported on three burials at the Cemetery, cleaning out brush and trees and general cleanup of the Listeman Arboretum, mowing, weed trimming, general maintenance of parks and cemetery grounds, working on adding three new holes for the Frisbee Golf Course near Mt. Moldy, street sweeping, ditching along Moonlite Road, equipment maintenance, hauling brush, cleaning catch basins, Water Department-daily testing and well rounds, meter change outs, cleaning shop, wells, filter plant, etc., installed new chlorine scales, repaired water main break by Melvin Ready-Mix plant, Sewer Department-daily testing and lift station rounds, lift station maintenance and inspections, grounds maintenance, brush mowing along transmission line on O’Neill Creek, locating and raising manholes, WI DOT pavement ratings are completed, working on the 2026 budget and five-year street plan update, attended an Airport 101 class, WI DOT is working on securing funding to mill and pave the Hewett Street and Division Street intersection.

Motion Neville, second Rochester, that Water Bills Nos. 260 to 290 in the amount of \$154,257.99 and Sewer Bills Nos. 158 to 179 in the amount of \$54,788.80 be paid. All Aye.

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

Duane G. Poeschel, Mayor

Rex R. Roehl, Clerk

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**COMMON COUNCIL
COUNCIL ROOM
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

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

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared approved.

Council Member Neville reported on the September 9, 2025 meeting of the Library Board regarding: 1) Librarians’ reports, 2) work on and referral of the 2026 Library budget to the Finance Committee, 3) discussion on the WLA Conference, 4) accepted a \$100 donation, 5) updates on donation and carryover funds and 6) upcoming community events.

Mayor Poeschel reported on the September 9, 2025 meeting of the Finance Committee regarding: 1) discussion on the budget process and directions to department heads and committees, 2) received and filed the Personnel Committee’s recommendation for 2026 non-union wages and 3) discussion on and setting the budget meeting schedule.

Council Member Neville reported on the September 11, 2025 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board regarding: 1) current activities of the Recreation Department, 2) current activities of the Parks Department, 3) work on and referral of the 2026 Recreation

Department budget to the Finance Committee, 4) work on and referral of the Parks Department budget to the Finance Committee and 5) discussion on the possible addition of a pavilion at Cliff's Park.

Mayor Poeschel presented on the September 16, 2025 meeting of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners regarding: 1) current activities, 2) discussion on and recommendation to the Finance Committee to allocate funding for a columbarium in the future whether by budget funding or borrowing, 3) work on and referral of the 2026 Cemetery budget to the Finance Committee and 4) discussion on replacing the gravel area in front of the new Cemetery shop with concrete.

Mayor Poeschel presented on the September 17, 2025 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission regarding: 1) discussion on the vacant Commission position and recommendation to the Mayor, 2) update on the 1897 Clark County Jail building, 3) update on the Murals project and 4) work on and referral of the 2026 Historic Preservation budget to the Finance Committee.

Council Member Rochester reported on the September 17 and 22, 2025 meetings of the Heritage Days Committee regarding: 1) financial report, 2) discussion on moving some events, 3) discussion on 2026 entertainment and events, 4) discussion on 2026 Grand Marshal candidates, 5) discussion on set up for Autumn Harvest celebration on Saturday, October 11, 2025, 6) discussion on the 2026 Heritage Days budget; 7) discussion on and referral of the 2026 Heritage Days budget to the Finance Committee and 8) discussion on and approved working with Natalie Erpenbach for grants for Heritage Days.

Council Member Petkovsek reported on the September 22, 2025 meeting of the Personnel Committee regarding: 1) a closed session on Heavy Equipment Operator/Water and Wastewater Maintenance position and City Clerk-Treasurer vacancy, 2) reconvening into open session, 3) the recommendation to transfer Logan Marshall from Water and Wastewater Maintenance position to Heavy Equipment Operator when the Water and Wastewater position is filled and 4) the recommendation on a split vote that with the upcoming City Clerk-Treasurer retirement/vacancy that an organization change be considered to move to an Administrator/Public Works Director; City Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.

Mayor Poeschel reported on the September 23, 2025 meeting of the Commission on Public Works/Utilities regarding: 1) current activities and 2) payment of bills.

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

Mayor Poeschel asked if there were any questions on the Personnel Committee item (3).

Motion Neville, second Rochester, to accept the recommendation to transfer Logan Marshall from Water and Wastewater Maintenance position to Heavy Equipment Operator when the Water and Wastewater position is filled. All Aye.

Mayor Poeschel presented the School District of Neillsville request to use and temporarily close City Streets for a Homecoming "Welcoming Parade" scheduled for October 4, 2025 from Court Street line up to E. Fourth Street to the School.

Motion Petkovsek, second Rochester, to grant the request. All Aye.

Mayor Poeschel read the following resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 643

RECOGNIZING AND ENDORSING THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLAN FOR THE CITY OF NEILLSVILLE

WHEREAS, the City of Neillsville joined a West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) regional initiative and applied for a State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant on October 12, 2023 for a city-wide Safe Routes To School Plan (SRTS) plan; and

WHEREAS, the grant for the SRTS plans was awarded on August 6, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City of Neillsville formed a SRTS Task Force made up of several people from the School District, City, and other members of the community; and

WHEREAS, working with the WCWRPC, the SRTS Task Force held four SRTS Task Force meetings, facilitated one parent survey and one classroom mode of transportation tally, and organized two walk and bike audits over a six-month period; and

WHEREAS, the SRTS Task Force finalized the SRTS Plan, which included dozens of action item recommendations, on August 30, 2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Neillsville that the City of Neillsville and the School District of Neillsville SRTS plan shall be formally recognized and endorsed as a document that shall be implemented.

Duane Poeschel, Mayor

Rex R. Roehl, City Clerk-Treasurer

Motion Neville, second Petkovsek, that Resolution No. 643 be adopted. All Aye.

City Clerk Roehl stated that the Beautification Committee has collected \$400.00 in donations for hanging baskets/decorations from area businesses and individuals.

Motion Rochester, second Gelhaus, to accept and appropriate \$400.00 in donations for hanging baskets/decorations to Account No. 55340 Celebrations and to thank the businesses and individuals for helping beautify our City. All Aye.

City Clerk Roehl presented a letter from Statewide Services, Inc. administrator for the League of Wisconsin Mutual Insurance Company, which provides the City's insurance coverages. They have denied Summit Fire Protection auto damage claim from a collision with a City Truck on March 28, 2025. There are conflicting stories and no independent witnesses.

Motion Petkovsek, second Rochester, to disallow the claim. All Aye.

Taxicab License Application:

William J. Kohlwey, Five Dollar Bar Hopper, LLC, N5387 Central Avenue

Chief of Police Mankowski asked who did the background check.

Mayor Poeschel stated our City ordinance does not require one.

Motion Neville, second Rochester, to grant. All Aye.

Hotel/Motel Room Tax Permit Application:

Two Keys, LLC, Tammy Bowe, Agent, 409 W. Division Street

Motion Rochester, second Petkovsek, to grant. Council Member Neville – abstained. All other Members – Aye. 3-Aye, 0-Nay, 1-Absent, 1-Abstained. Motion carried.

Tavern Operator's License Application:

Bobbie J. Wolf

Motion Rochester, second Neville, to grant. All Aye.

Motion Rochester, second Neville, that City Bills Nos. 829 to 872 in the amount of \$163,073.86 be paid. All Aye.

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

Duane G. Poeschel, Mayor

Rex R. Roehl, Clerk

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