



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025 – 7:00 PM
CITY HALL – SECOND FLOOR**

MINUTES

1. Call meeting to order

President Jaeckel called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Roll call

Present: Council representatives: Huckabee, Lescohier, Schultz and President Jaeckel. Also present: City Manager, City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director, City Attorney, Director of Public Works, Park & Recreation Director, Public Works Superintendent and Fire Chief.

Excused absence: Cm. Johnson.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

President Jaeckel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Consent Agenda

Schultz moved, seconded by Huckabee to approve the Consent Agenda items 4.a through 4.e. Motion carried.

- a. *Review and possible action relating to the **minutes of the August 18, 2025, Joint Review Board meeting** (Ebbert, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director)*
- b. *Review and possible action relating to the **minutes of the August 19, 2025, Ordinance Committee Meeting** (Ebbert, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director)*
- c. *Review and possible action relating to the **minutes of the August 19, 2025 City Council meeting** (Ebbert, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director)*
- d. *Review and possible action relating to the **minutes of the August 26, 2025 Plan Commission meeting** (Ebbert, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director)*
- e. *Review and possible action on a **Special Event: HFH Rural Rally Tailgate, Thursday, October 30, 2025 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm** (Ebbert, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director)*

5. Public Hearings

None.

6. Public Comment for Matters on the Agenda

John Hausz, 104 Jefferson Street - spoke on the agenda item regarding the improvement of Kiwanis fields in Rock River park. He supports the improvements that are not funded by tax payers.

7. Petitions, Requests, and Communications

None.

8. Resolutions and Ordinances

- a. *First reading of an Ordinance to create Section 98-59 of the City of Fort Atkinson Code of General Ordinances relating to **Lead Lateral Service Line Replacement** (Navin, Director of Public Works)*

Director Navin began, as presented on July 1, 2025 the City of Fort Atkinson is required to complete a WIDNR approved Lead Service Line Replacement Plan. A requirement of that plan is a lead service replacement ordinance. The intent and purpose of the ordinance is to create legal authority for full replacement of lead service lines on the public and private side to ensure full compliance with state and federal requirements for this program. This will ensure that the water quality at every tap of each utility customer meets the quality standards specified under federal and state law, to ideally reduce the lead contaminant level to zero, and to eliminate the constriction of water flow caused by mineral deposits inside lead pipes. Property owners who fail to replace a customer-side Lead Water Service Line, as required by this ordinance, may in accordance with PSC Chapter 185.37 have their water service discontinued, to such property, until the customer-side Lead Water Service Line is replaced. The addition of this ordinance will allow the City to apply for funding to help offset some of the costs associated with Lead Service Laterals as well as provide an opportunity for low-interest loans for private side replacements. There will be no costs associated until the City's Lead Service Line Program is approved and construction begins. The Ordinance Committee reviewed and recommended approval at their August 19, 2025 meeting.

Huckabee moved, seconded by Lescohier to direct the City Manager to prepare the ordinance for a second and possible third and final reading at the meeting on September 16, 2025. Motion carried.

9. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees

- a. *City Manager's Report (Houseman, City Manager)*
No action was taken.

10. Unfinished Business

None.

11. New Business

a. *Review and possible action relating to the **2026 Recycling Grant Application** to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Navin, Director of Public Works)*

Director Navin stated the 2026 Recycling Grant Application has been completed and is attached for reference. This is an annual grant program through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The grant award supplements the cost of both recycling and composting for the City. The City's estimated recycling expenditure in 2026 is \$287,423.40, as outlined in the attachment. The total represents an increase over the estimated 2025 recycling expenditures due to the new contract with John's Disposal. Per the agreement with John's, the City will pay \$6.05 per unit per month for recycling. There are an estimated 3,959 units in the city. The WDNR has provided around \$35,000 in grant funds over the last several years. In 2026, WDNR is expected to provide a similar amount. If the application is approved, staff will budget a similar amount of revenue in the State Recycling revenue account (01-42-0042-6600) in the 2026 budget.

Huckabee moved, seconded by Schultz to approve the 2026 Recycling Grant and authorize staff to sign and submit the application to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Motion carried.

b. *Review and possible action on a **Public Monument Review for the Kiwanis Field Facility Improvements Project** at Rock River Park (Dayton, Director Parks and Recreation)*

Director Dayton stated that the Parks and Recreation Department staff have been collaborating with the Fort Atkinson Kiwanis Club, the Fort Youth Tackle Football Club (FYTF), and the Jefferson County United Soccer Club (JC United), to develop a plan aimed at improving accessibility for players and spectators, as well as enhancing spectator seating, field lighting, and the multipurpose use of the fields at the Rock River Park. Phase One involves the installation of a permanent path that will connect the parking lot to the concessions stand and the spectator seating area, the replacement of bleachers, and the addition of new soccer goals. Phase Two of the project includes the addition of new field lighting fixtures. Currently, there are 32 light fixtures on the south field and 24 on the north field. The proposed replacement will feature energy-efficient LED lights and more durable metal poles. Future phases will address the replacement of fencing, parking needs, and other site improvements. The Kiwanis Club has been fundraising for the project along with a grant from the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation. Phase one is approximately \$40,000 of improvements with phase two rounding out at approximately \$70,000 of improvements.

Schultz moved, seconded by Huckabee to approve the request for a Public Monument/Building Review for the Kiwanis Field Improvements Project, including the installation of an accessibility path, bleacher pads, new aluminum bleachers, a concrete concessions patio, and field lighting (phase 2). Motion carried.

12. **Public Comment for Matters Not on the Agenda**

John Hausz, 104 Jefferson Street - stated a get-well card is circulating for signatures of the City Council and Staff. He also asked about a sand grading machine that was purchased in prior years.

13. Claims, Appropriations and Contract Payments

- a. *Review and possible action relating to the **Verified Claims** presented by the Director of Finance and authorization of payment (Ebbert, Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director)*
Schultz moved, seconded by Huckabee to approve the list of Verified Claims as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote.

14. Miscellaneous

- a. *The City Council will adjourn into closed session pursuant to State Stat. §19.85(1)(e) to **conduct other specified business**, where competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session [City Fire/EMS Agreements with Town Partners and Fire/EMS Union Contract] (Houseman, City Manager)*
Lescohier moved, seconded by Huckabee to convene in closed session pursuant State Stat. §19.85(1)(e) to conduct other specified business, where competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session [City Fire/EMS Agreements with Town Partners and Fire/EMS Union Contract]. Motion carried on a voice vote.

15. Adjournment

Schultz moved, seconded by Huckabee to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Michelle Ebbert
City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director