

May 13, 2025

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the City of Eagle River was called to order at 5:15PM by Mayor Deb Brown.

Roll Call: Dan Dumas, Kim Schaffer, Vic Washelesky and Jerry Burkett. Also in attendance: Becky Bolte, Cory Hoffmann and Robin Ginner.

Treasurer confirmation that all bank accounts are reconciled: Hoffmann confirmed accounts are balanced through April.

Treasurer report of any and all late payments and penalties. Hoffman stated she provided documents in her Treasurers report for City Council, reporting issues with not receiving invoices from departments.

April Financial Review: Hoffmann provided a revenue and expenses report for the City and Golf Course through April 30, 2025 including documents with account balances in all bank accounts.

Review and approval of Accounts Payable for City and Golf Course: *Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Washelesky, to recommend payment of presented City and Golf Course payables to City Council. Carried on a roll call vote, all..*

Motion by Schaeffer, 2nd by Washelesky to adjourn at 5:47 PM. Carried, all.

Becky Bolte - Clerk

May 13, 2025

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Eagle River was called to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Deb Brown.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Robin Ginner and was recited by all present.

Roll Call: Dan Dumas, Kim Schaffer, Vic Washelesky and Jerry Burkett. Also in attendance: Robin Ginner, Becky Bolte, Cory Hoffmann, Chris Dobbs, Adam Ross, Mike Adamovich, Mike Sanborn, Tony Sable, and Kyle Anderson.

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve the agenda in any order. Carried, all.

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Washelesky to approve the minutes of the 4/8/25 Finance Committee and Common Council meeting and 4/15/25 Organizational meeting. Carried, all.

a) Department Heads at City Council meetings: Mayor Brown presented to Council that she would like to move staff reports towards the beginning of the agenda, saving money by allowing Department heads to leave once they have reported to Council. The council reported no aversion to this stating the mayor sets the agenda.

b) Electoral term staggering for Council and Mayor: Mayor Brown presented the potential pitfalls to city staff with all Alderpersons and the Mayor all being on the same electoral term and asked for input from Council on the desire to adjust terms. Burkett stated he would be open to staggering but would want to see the adjustment made by having two Alderpersons re-run after a one-year term as voters only elected the officials for a two-year term, no longer, and volunteered to be one of officials to have re-run after one year. Schaffer felt it was a good idea. Mayor Brown and city staff to contact the League of WI Municipalities for procedural direction on how to navigate this process.

c) Vilas County Boat Patrol Agreement for Dock Space and Annual Payment: Mayor Brown presented Vilas County Sherriff Joe Fath had approached her regarding boat patrol annual payments being delinquent. Minutes of the Nov 9, 2022, budget workshop, were provided showing Kressin reported: due to changes that were made, the expense was no longer required. No motion was made at 2022 budget workshop not to pay. Vilas County Chief Deputy Patrick Schmidt presented for the Vilas County Sheriff's department stating that the addition of the dock on the river was a great asset to them, but the installation of the dock was not tied to

the boat patrol payment. Mayor Brown reminded that the dock agreement with Vilas County should be reviewed and needed to be signed. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to pay delinquent boat patrol charges due to Vilas County and have February 27, 2020, dock agreement signed. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

d) Request by Landover ATV/UTV Club to extend ATV/UTV trail on City property from Tracksides north: Gary Lagueux Jr., Trail Boss for the Landover ATV/UTV Club was present and presented the request. Burkett supported the request but asked if Club had gotten Eagle River Airport/FAA permission, stating any extension would be conditional on approval from the Airport Commission. Ginner reminded the Council of a lease signed with Tracksides for an area along the highway side of the Tracksides property. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve the extension of the ATV/UTV trail north from Tracksides to Highway G with the condition that the club get approval from the Airport Commission/FAA and that the lease with Tracksides is addressed. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

e) MSA Monthly updates: Phil Kriesel of MSA presented a written report stating a pre-construction meeting will be held late July for the no earlier than August 11, 2025 start on Silver Lake Road. MSA has worked with Ginner on bid packages and McFaul Lane is being looked at for repairs.

f) Eagle River Light and Water: Sanborn presented that the water tower rehab, sandblasting and painting, will be beginning soon. The water tower will be offline for approximately 8-12 weeks and the project is running behind schedule as Vilas County antennas on the tower were not removed by the April deadline. The delay has added expense to the project with Sanborn stating that ERLW would not be absorbing that cost due to the delay. Burkett stated he would make sure it gets done and that additional costs associated with the delay will be pushed to Vilas County. Sanborn presented a request from the water tower contractor to park a construction trailer on the water tower property for security, one-person overnight stays. *Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Washelesky to permit a construction trailer/RV to be parked at the water tower with one person staying overnight for site security. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

g) Golf Course:

Golf Pro Sable provided a written report. Sable presented that revenues from the opening of the 2025 season are comparable to opening of the 2024 season. Burkett verified the restaurant was open.

Grounds Superintendent's Report and request for further assistance regarding the ongoing yard debris issue along the 12th fairway: Grounds Superintendent Kyle Anderson reported he is working with Mayor Brown on conflict resolution going forward to address continued concerns with some residents of Aquila Court and the golf course owned property that abuts to Aquila Court. Schaffer felt it was a good start to try to start a conversation with the residents. Schaffer requested that the item be placed back on the June Council meeting agenda for an update. Anderson reported spring cleanup at the course has been completed.

Discussion on the creation of Golf Course Committee: The history of a previous golf committee was presented with all agreeing the current structure was working. Schaffer added she would like to have an update each July from the Course department heads with budgetary requests and course concerns.

h) Street Closing/temporary sign/amplification/display of goods permits:

City of Eagle River National Night Out – Aug 5, 2025, 3PM – 6PM, City Hall back parking lot and field, cones to close parking lot during event, Mike Sanborn. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve National Night Out permit as presented. Carried, all.*

Praise in the Pines Inc: Food Trucks/Amplifying Device/Temp Signs – July 19, 2025, 1PM to 10PM, Northland Pines High School Fieldhouse, Mike Bishop. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to approve Praise in the Pines permit as presented. Carried, all.*

Eagle River Rotary 64th Annual Antique Show – Temporary Signs/DOT Banner Permit, Aug 1, 2025, 9AM – 5PM, and Aug 2, 2025, 9AM – 4PM, Northland Pines High School, Jim Mulleady. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Burkett to approve the Eagle River Rotary permit as presented. Carried, all.*

No Kings Rally and Protest: Amplifying Device – June 14, 2025, 11AM – 1PM, The Square – Kathryn Craffey and Quita Sheehan. Applicant Kathryn Craffey was present via Zoom. Burkett stated he has nothing against the rally and protest but had concerns about the Community Square location, the potential for negative economic impact on the downtown businesses on a Saturday in June and concerns the precedent would force the city to have to open up the Square to all, no matter how awful. Burkett stressed his belief in free speech, appreciates the right for anyone to apply for this permit, and appreciates the use of public property. Burkett respectfully requested the applicant move the location to Riverview Park with Craffey responding the Square location engages the community and sidewalk passerby's, adding the public park is owned by the public. Schaffer asked if conflict arises at the rally and protest and damage is done to the Square, where does that leave the city? Police Chief Dobbs stated they have added staff for the scheduled event and reminded the applicant that there can be no impeding of the road or sidewalk traffic, stressing safety is the PD concern. Washelesky asked Chief Dobbs if there were any problems at the April 2025 protest that was held at the Square location with Dobbs responding that one vehicle was blocked from parking and the sidewalk was blocked. Dobbs also expressed concerns with amplification near Travelers Inn. Karen Margelofsky from Eagle River Revitalization, via zoom, presented her concerns on the additional maintenance and cleaning expense at the Square as the non-profit Eagle River Revitalization Program pays that expense. Craffey asked if the City Attorney had weighed in on the permit. Clerk Bolte read into record a letter received from City Attorney Garbowicz stating he did not recommend denying an amplification permit. Discussion on amplification requirements and city regulations with Craffey stating they would stay within allowable decibels. Burkett again asked the applicant to consider holding the event elsewhere, with Craffey stating this location engages the passersby traffic. Schaffer stated she would want the sidewalks and crosswalk kept clear for safety and allow available parking for business patrons. Burkett asked Craffey if she would be personally responsible for the attendees or damage at the Square with Craffey responding that this was an unreasonable request. Schaffer asked about the expected participant numbers, asking if 1000 people attended, where would they go/park? Craffey did not expect that large of a turnout as this is a national event with neighboring communities of Rhinelander and Minocqua hosting their own rallies. *Motion by Burkett to deny the amplification permit request. Motion died for lack of second. Motion by Washelesky to approve the amplification permit application as recommended by City and League of WI Municipalities legal counsel. Motion dies for lack of second.* Dumas, while expressing support of the First Amendment, expressed safety concerns, reiterated the Police Chiefs concern for amplification, and problem with location stating the stakeholders have funded the Community Square project. Craffey stated she would forego the amplification permit request, Burkett asked Craffey to confirm they are removing the request with Craffey agreeing yes, she is removing the permit request. Permit request withdrawn by applicant, there was no action taken by Council.

i) Liquor Licenses: Original Class B Beer/Class B Liquor, Mary Kate's Wine Bar LLC, 205 E Wall St, Mary Kate Hayes Agent, Term 5/14/25 – 6/30/25: *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve Class B Beer, Class B Liquor license to Mary Kate's Wine Bar LLC as presented. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

j) Operator's licenses: Jessica Allen, Michael Amber, Linda Bellman, Bruce Britt, Marie Champeny, Dustin Ehster, Kim Emerson, JoAnn Errington, Roxanne Fortin, Sandra Franciskovich, John Gabriel, Margaret Gerdes, Dawn Giese, Jessica Goulet, Jeri Harbensi-Plese, Brian Hartwig, Mary Kate Hayes, Meg Hayes, Deborah Hock, Cheyenne Johnson, William Krueger, Diane Kuntz, Carly McGovern, Kelsy Mohr, Elizabeth Phillipich, Joseph Romdenne, Michelle Rubo, Kyla Schneider, Terri Schenck, Jesse Schoonover, Vicki Schuerr, Christopher Seyfert, Kimberly Smith, Brielle Tauer, Ashley Tessmer, Mackenzie Truttmann, Melissa Upchurch, Sara Valiga, Debra Vermoch, Wendy Walker, Peter Walls, Carrie Zachow. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to approve operators licenses listed as presented. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

k) Direct Sellers Permit:

- i. Scott D. Brandenburg, Three Lakes Cheese Haus – Todd Brandenburg Seller, Nelsons Ace Parking Lot – May 14 – Nov 13, 2025
- ii. Pine Cone Café – DBA Pine Cone Express, Food Truck, Donna Barth Seller, SELLER/AGENT update only
- iii. Dana Valeria, DBA Sloppy D's, Food Truck, Dana Valeria Seller, authorization for multiple private property locations received – May 14 – Nov 13, 2025

Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Schaffer to approve direct sellers permits (3) as presented. Carried all.

l) Garbage Haulers Permit: AKAR Disposal: *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve the garbage haulers permit as presented. Carried, all.*

m) Gary's Garbage and Recycling LLC, Gary Baumetz, request to rent City property to park a trash trailer: Gary and Amy Baumetz were present. Gary Baumetz presented the trash trailer was an asset to the community providing an accessible and convenient solution for disposing of waste. Baumetz reported the trailer at Seyfert's has been a success and would like to add additional location. Burkett asked Baumetz what kind of rent he was proposing with Baumetz offering \$600/year to park the trailer on city owned property behind Leif's Café. Adamovich informed Baumetz that a portion of the gravel road is not owned by the City in the area being requested. Mayor Brown stated the city property is not traditionally used for business. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to allow Gary/Amy Baumetz, DBA Gary's Garbage and Recycling, to rent a space on city property behind Leifs Café, area as approved by DPW Foreman, to park a trash trailer for \$600/year, renewable with a phone call for a term of three years. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

n) Planning Commission:

Ordinance #593 - Amending the City of Eagle River Sign Ordinance to Exclude Public Art Murals from Permitting Fee Requirements and Allow Limited Sponsor Recognition. Ginner presented murals would require permission through the City Administrator. Schaffer presented the Planning Commission recommendation to adopt, asking Ginner for confirmation that the Champion Signage behind the Square is not a part of the historical district with Ginner confirming it is not. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to adopt Ordinance #593 amending the City of Eagle River sign ordinance to exclude public art murals from permitting fee requirements and allow limited sponsor recognition. Carried on roll call vote, all.*

o) Request by Taryn Britt to have 10 chickens at 1290 White Pine Dr, Eagle River: Burkett confirmed size of the lot at 1290 White Pine Dr with size being comparable to four city lots. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to allow Taryn Britt to keep 10 chickens, no roosters, at 1290 White Pine Drive. Carried, all.*

p) The Vilas County Sheriff's Department and Vilas County Mapping Department request re-naming a private driveway off Silver Lake Road serving 1427 and 1429 Silver Lake Road to improve emergency response and addressing. Proposed Name: Madison Hill: Adam Grassl, Vilas County Land Information Director was available for questions. Discussion on how road names are chosen. *Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to approve the re-naming of a private road serving access to 1427 and 1429 Silver Lake Road to Madison Hill. Carried, all.*

q) Approve payment of the bills for the City and the Golf Course: *Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Schaffer to approve payment of the bills for the city and the golf course as recommended by the Finance Committee. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

r) Treasurer's monthly update: Hoffman provided a written report. Council congratulated Cory on a \$250 scholarship awarded to her to offset the cost of the Treasurers Institute.

s) Police Department:

Chief Dobbs provided a current activity report and monthly reports were provided by Assistant Chief Ross and Chief Dobbs.

t) Administrator's monthly update on activities of all departments: Ginner provided a written report adding she and Mike Adamovich had narrowed down the applicants for the DPW Foreman and Operator 1 position to three for each position. Interviews with the Public Works Committee will begin Wednesday May 21, 2025.

u) Clerk's monthly update: Bolte provided a written report.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to Adjourn to Closed Session at 7:50pm according to Wisconsin State Statute

19.85(1)(b) Considering dismissal, demotion, licensing or discipline of any public employee or person licensed by a board or commission or the investigation of charges against such person, or considering the grant or denial of tenure for a university faculty member, and the taking of formal action on any such matter;

- *Operators License*

AND 19.85 (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

- *Considering an offer to purchase parcel #221-457 on Bond Street. Sale approved by the City Council on March 11, 2025.*

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to Reconvene in Open Session at 8:04pm according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (2) with possible action on closed session agenda items.

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to deny issuance of operators license to Nathan Olkonen. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to accept the Cascade Investment Group LLC offer to purchase parcel 221-457 off Bond Street for \$24,000. Parcel has less than 100' of frontage on less than a quarter acre. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to adjourn at 8:05PM. Carried, all.

Becky J Bolte - Clerk