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CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2025

REGULAR MEETING **7:00 P.M.**

Vice Mayor Polehna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Collins, Belland, Odebrecht, Polehna

Absent: Mayor Kozlowski

Staff present: City Administrator Kohlmann
City Attorney Land
City Clerk Wolf
Administrative Services Director Bechel
Community Development Director Zimmerman
Police Captain Meredith
Assistant City Administrator Sanders

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Polehna led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITIONS OR PRESENTATIONS

Rick Heidick Presents Stillwater Street Safety for All

Rick Heidick of Sustainable Stillwater complimented the City on its efforts in the past few years to make Stillwater safer for bicycling. The City's current Bicycling Friendly City designation expires this year, and they have reapplied for the designation. He noted an increase in event participation and use of trails, as well as increased use of bicycles for transportation. He recommended the City designate a bicycle advocate, approve a complete streets policy, create City-sponsored training, and continue development of arterial bike routes.

Proclamation for Stillwater Area High School Girls' Soccer Team

Vice Mayor Polehna read a proclamation designating November 19 as Stillwater Area High School Girls Soccer Team Day in Stillwater, celebrating their 2025 championship season.

OPEN FORUM

Scott Kneesken, 1520 Linden St W, talked about bike and street safety.

STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Sanders gave updates on funding for a second PFAS plant, including a grant that will cover 50 percent of the cost, and a $1.6 million award that will be received by the City in a PFAS settlement over a period of years. Excel Energy is doing remediation at the Teddy Bear Park parking lot. The downtown sign monument has been installed.

Police Captain Meredith announced the Shop with a Cop Day is December 8. The Veteran's Day events went well. The Police Department has a new data specialist starting soon.

Community Development Director Zimmerman announced that the Washington County Emergency Housing Project has passed inspections and should be able to receive tenants by early December. The City is working on a plan for spending local affordable housing aid.

Administrative Services Director Bechel discussed software implementation and Social Media communications updates.

City Clerk Wolf noted the IT Department set up closed captioning on streamed City meetings, provided a recap on the mattress recycling program, and mentioned openings on Human Rights Commission and Energy Action Commission with applications due December 22.

City Administrator Kohlmann announced Well 9 will qualify for grants and loans, which moves up other projects on the bonding request list.

CONSENT AGENDA

November 5, 2025, Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes
Payment of Bills
2025 Street Improvement Project Modifying Assessment – **Resolution 2025-113**
Bergstein Warehouse and Shoddy Mill Project Architect Services Agreement
City Code Revisions to Prohibit Virtual Currency Kiosk Uses – **Ordinance 1st Reading**
City Leave Policy Revised to Adopt Paid Family and Medical Leave Policy – **Resolution 2025-114**
Energy Action Commission Team Extension - **Resolution 2025-115**
Liquor and Tobacco License Renewals for 2026**- Resolution 2025-116**
Local Road Improvement Program Funding for Myrtle Street Reconstruction Project – **Resolution 2025-117**
Lumberjack Landing Riverbank Tree Removal Project
Maryknoll Drive Parking Restrictions – **Resolution 2025-118**
Resolution for Denial of Conditional Use Permit for Cannabis Retail at 1754 Washington Ave. – **Resolution 2025-119**
Resolution Rejecting Denial of Design Review for Roof Replacement at 220 Myrtle St. – **Resolution 2025-120**
Speed and Traffic Calming Solution Agreement
St. Croix Recreation Center Basin Planting Project Agreement
Temporary Liquor License for Episcopal Church of the Ascension
Tuition Reimbursement Policy – **Resolution 2025-121**
Zoning Map Amendment for 12210 McKusick Rd. N. Case Number CD2025-046 **– Ordinance 1242 2nd Reading**

The applicant asked to pull action on Resolution 2025-119 for denial of a Conditional Use Permit for Cannabis Retail at 1754 Washington Ave from the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Belland, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended. All in favor.

The property owner raised factors he did not believe had been considered at the last City Council meeting in relation to his request for the Conditional Use Permit.

Vice Chair Polehna indicated he was comfortable with the City Council's original decision.

Motion by Councilmember Odebrecht, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to support **Resolution 2025-119** for denial of Item 21 on the Consent Agenda. Motion passes 3-1 with Councilmember Belland voting against.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

2026 Parking Lot 4 Ice Rink Event Agreement

City Administrator Kohlmann presented Chuck Doherty from the Waterstreet Inn, who requested to again install an ice rink in Parking Lot 4. The rink will be open to the public when there are no events.

Motion by Councilmember Belland, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to waive all fees and approve the ice rink and contract. All in favor.

2026 World Snow Celebration Event Agreement, Noise Variance, and Temporary Liquor License

Robin Anthony from Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce described the 2026 World Snow Celebration event and requested approval of an event agreement, variance, and temporary liquor license. There will be 16 snow sculptures built by 16 countries.

Councilmember Belland pointed out that the event, which is held in collaboration with the City of Stillwater, is a great investment in the Community.

Motion by Councilmember Odebrecht, seconded by Councilmember Belland, to waive all fees and approve the agreement, variance, and temporary liquor license. All in favor.

COUNCIL REQUEST ITEMS

Holiday Tree Lighting

Vice Mayor Polehna stated the City's Christmas Tree lighting will be on December 6 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Belland, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

_____
Ted Kozlowski, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Beth Wolf, City Clerk

Resolution 2025-113, Modifying the Assessment for PID 2803020130067 for the 2025 Street Improvement Project #2025-02

Resolution 2025-114, Authorizing Revisions to City Leave Policies and Adoption of a Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) Policy

Resolution 2025-115, Extending the Energy Action Commission through December 31, 2026

Resolution 2025-116, Approving Renewals of Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for 2026

Resolution 2025-117, Authorizing the Pursuit of the 2025 Local Road Improvement Program Funding for The Myrtle Street Reconstruction Project

Resolution 2025-118, Approving Parking Restrictions along Maryknoll Dr. N between County Highway 12 (75th St. N) and Boutwell Rd. N

Resolution 2025-119, Memorializing the Denial of a Conditional Use Permit for A Cannabis Retail Business At 1754 Washington Avenue **(Case Number: Cd2025-041)**

Resolution 2025-120, Adopting Findings of Fact to Overturn the Denial of a Design Review for The Reroof Of A Locally Designated Preservation Site and Contributing Structure to The National Listed Historic District with Alternative Materials **(Case Number: Cd2025-040)**

Resolution 2025-121, Authorizing the Adoption of a Tuition Reimbursement Policy

Ordinance 1242, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 28, Division 2, Section 28-183 of the City Code of the City of Stillwater Regarding Traditional Residential Zoning