



**COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA  
January 27, 2026**

The public may view/listen to the meeting by:

- Calling Toll Free 1-844-992-4726, access code: 2634 284 2088
- Visiting the web link: <https://tinyurl.com/RFCC12726>
- Viewing the City's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofriverfalls>

Call Meeting to Order – 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2025, Council Meeting

Approval of Bills: \$

**\*\*\* NOTE: OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY AGENDA ITEM \*\*\***

**PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Public Comment

*If you are unable to attend the meeting in person but would like to submit a public comment, please e-mail to the City Clerk's office ([awhite@rfcity.org](mailto:awhite@rfcity.org)).*

2. Presentation by the River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau

**CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Acknowledgement of the following minutes:

- a. BID Board – 10/14/25
- b. Plan Commission – 10/7/25, 12/2/25
- c. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – 11/19/25, 12/17/25
- d. Police and Fire Commission – 10/27/25
- e. Historic Preservation Commission – 11/12/25

4. Resolution Approving the City Administrators Annual Performance Review Process

5. Resolution Approving the Purchase of a John Deere 1585 and Accessories from Midwest Machinery Co.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

6. Resolution Approving Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau Request for Open Container Exemption for Special Events

7. Resolution Approving Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau for Noise Control Exemption for Special Events

8. Resolution Approving Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau for Street Closure for Special Events

9. Resolution Approving Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau for City Assistance for Special Events

10. Resolution Directing Staff on Outstanding Fire Call Balances

11. Resolution Approving One-Time Impartial Hearing Officer (IHO) for Personnel Matters

**REPORTS**

12. Administrator's Report

13. Mayor's Good News Report

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

14. Proclamation Congratulating the University of Wisconsin – River Falls Football Team on winning the 2026 NCAA Division III National Championship

## 15. Mayor's Appointments

### **CLOSED SESSION**

16. Recess into Closed Session per Wisconsin State Statutes §19.85(1)(e) for the following purposes: "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, to wit: "discussion and consideration regarding the sale and development of City property in the Sterling Ponds Corporate Park".

### **RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:**

17. Act on Closed Session Items if necessary

### **ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials to be in an accessible location or format, may contact City Clerk Amy White at (715) 426-3408 or in person at 222 Lewis Street, for accommodations. Requests for accommodation should be made at least three (3) business days in advance of the meeting. Every effort will be made to arrange accommodation.

*Posted at City Hall on 1/20/26; Published 1/21/26; Website 1/22/26*



**CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN  
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**January 13, 2026**

Mayor Toland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**City Council Members Present:** Todd Bjerstedt, Jeff Bjork, Nick Carow, Sean Downing, Scott Morrissette, Diane Odeen, Michael Page

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Scot Simpson; Community Services Director/City Clerk Amy White; City Attorney Chris Gierhart (via Webex); Police Chief Gordon Young; Chief of Staff Jennifer Smith; Assistant Director of Community Development Emily Shively; Senior Planner Harley Melhorn; IT Specialist Jonathan Thoen

The pledge of allegiance was said.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

December 9, 2025 meeting minutes

**MSC Bjork/Morrissette to approve the minutes.** Councilmember Page indicated his name was not included in the Council Members Present portion of the minutes. Minutes were modified. **Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**MSC Bjork/Downing moved to approve the bills. Unanimous.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Melissa 'Mei Mei' Abdouch – Abdouch thanked Council for their continued support of the Downtown Business Leaders events.

Patricia La Rue – La Rue spoke about her support for affordable housing and the River Falls community.

Dana Linscott – Linscott spoke about the need for more affordable housing.

William Hansen – Hansen spoke about the Junction Falls Hydro and reminder Council of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Earth Fest.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Resolution No. 7037 Approving Uncollectible EMS Accounts for Fiscal Year 2025

Resolution No. 7038 Approving the Planned Unit Development Specific Implementation Plan for Valley View Apartments

**MSC Odeen/Page to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No. 7039 Approving River Falls Business Leaders Request for Open Container Exemption for Special Events

**MS Downing/Carow to approve the resolution.**

Councilmember Morrissette asked for clarification on the ladies night out event and how they will ensure compliance with the no alcohol beverages allowed in businesses without a license. Melissa 'Mei Mei' Abdouch was present and spoke on behalf of the Downtown Business Leaders. Abdouch indicated

communication is provided to business owners on the laws associated with open container. It is the business' responsibility to make sure they are following it.

**The resolution carried unanimously.**

Resolution No. 7040 Approving River Falls Business Leaders Request for Noise Control Exemption Special Events

**MSC Downing/Bjork to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 7041 Approving River Falls Business Leaders Request for Street Closure for Special

**MSC Bjerstedt/Page to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 7042 Approving River Falls Business Leaders Request for City Assistance for Special Events

**MSC Page/Bjerstedt approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

## **REPORTS**

### Comptroller Report

General Fund revenues through the end of December were \$14,036,173 or 105% of total budgeted revenues for the year. Revenues in December include \$82,359 for Rural Fire Association fee, \$25,454 for building permits, and \$10,385 for Payment in lieu of tax. Expenditures through the end of December were \$12,861,797 or 96% of total budget expenditures for the year. As of December 31, 2025, net revenues over expenditures were \$1,174,376.

Final revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025 are subject to review and revision over the course of the year-end and audit processes.

### Administrator's Report

Councilmember Morrissette asked Administrator Simpson to provide an update on the fire station remodel and how it will impact that area. Simpson said the demolition will begin on January 27, 2026 but will not interrupt services to the community.

### Mayor's Good News Report

Mayor Toland thanked Lisa Moody for her service to the community as a member of the Plan Commission. He recognized the University of Wisconsin – River Falls football team for their national championship win.

**MSC Bjerstedt/Morrissette move to adjourn at 6:52 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy White, Community Services Director/City Clerk

## MINUTES

OCTOBER 14, 2025 AT 8:30 A.M.  
FOSTER CONFERENCE ROOM – CITY HALL  
222 LEWIS STREET RIVER FALLS, WI 54022

**Members present:** Joleen Larson, Mike Miller, Rosa Magnus, Amy Halvorson, Vince Seidling, Kerri Olson, Terry McKay

**Members Absent:** Heidi Hanson, Andrew Singerhouse, Amy Freeman

**Others present:** Emily Shively, City of River Falls

**CALL TO ORDER:** Larson called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

### AGENDA/MEETING MINUTES

The meeting minutes for the August 12, 2025 meeting were approved. **M/S Seidling/McKay. Unanimous.**

### FINANCIALS

Larson reviewed the financial report. She discussed work performed by staff at Public Works which was partially funded by the BID including watering the flowering baskets and planters in the median, and removing garbage and debris. Members commented that Main Street and Second Street looked really nice this summer.

### GRANT REQUESTS

#### **Sign Grant: Lori's Salon and Day Spa, 303 N. Second Street (Lori Moran)**

A sign grant was submitted for Lori's Salon and Day Spa to repair the current free-standing sign on Second Street. The grant request was for \$136.50. **M/S McKay/Halvorson. Unanimous.**

### OTHER BUSINESS

#### **Second Street Gardens and Hanging Baskets**

Chair Larson noted that the Second Street gardens are still looking good; Public Works has taken down the hanging baskets. Magnus noted that the BID Board logo will be on River Dazzle materials in recognition of their support for the event. There was further discussion about the ongoing need to recruit new volunteers to help maintain the Second Street gardens. Seidling brought up a boulevard tree that had low branches and needed trimming.

#### **Main Street Updates**

Shively handed out a brochure from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation's Connect Communities program which is a networking and technical support program for communities seeking to revitalize downtown areas. She noted that the application deadline was October 17, 2025 and there is a \$200 fee to participate. The Board discussed the program and directed staff to submit an application. **M/S Halvorson/Larson. Unanimous.**

The Board discussed businesses that have recently opened or closed downtown and others that have seen challenges due to owner's health issues. Larson reported that she had dropped off fliers about the BID grant programs at businesses in the Business Improvement District to encourage use of the program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Larson adjourned the meeting at 9:30am

## Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715.425.0900  
www.rfcity.org



### MINUTES PLAN COMMISSION OCTOBER 7TH, 2025 CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**Members Present:** Dan Toland, Rob Gormanson, Lisa Moody, Michael Woolsey, Rebecca Prendergast  
**Members Absent:** Diane Odeen, Chris Holtkamp  
**Staff Present:** Amy Peterson, Emily Shively, Harley Mehlhorn, Jonathan Thoen, Becky Corson

#### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Gormanson, S/Woolsey to approve minutes. Motion carried 5/0.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Benjamin Fochs, Powell Ave. – Fochs spoke regarding the lack of pedestrian amenities and infrastructure on Powell Avenue and mentioned his opinion on lack of access from the Mann Valley item to the amenities at DeSanctis Park

Mark Anderson, 880<sup>th</sup> Ave. – Anderson spoke regarding his opposition to the flexibility proposed for the Mann Valley Residential project, specifically focusing on traffic, both pedestrian and vehicular.

Tom McNamara, W. Woodridge Dr. – McNamara spoke regarding the lot size difference between the proposed Wildflower Meadows project and the existing residential development.

Resident at W10321 880<sup>th</sup> Avenue (written name was uninterpretable and name was not uttered) – Spoke regarding his concerns and opposition to the Mann Valley Residential project.

Jill Buss 64 E. Woodridge Dr. – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project. Buss expressed concerned over the discrepancies between what was proposed at annexation and what was proposed at GDP.

LuAnn Hecht, W. Woodridge Dr. – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project, in particular the proximity of the trail to their residence.

Luke Feser, 71 W. Woodridge Dr. – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project, in particular the trails and the inclusion of twin homes.

Elizabeth Bowen – Spoke regarding concerns over the concessions given to developers versus the allowances given to existing home owners.

Unidentified Speaker – Spoke in opposition to the Mann Valley Residential project.

Cheryl Hoffman, 97 E. Woodridge D. – Spoke and expressed opposition regarding the Wildflower Meadows project, in particular the deviations and the lack of park space, as well as stormwater.

Dave Spurgion, 76 W. Woodridge Dr. – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project and the traffic it may generate, particularly for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Matt Ferguson – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project and in particular the density, opining that the property tax from each home would not cover the replacement cost for schools.

James Scott, 95. W. Woodridge Dr. – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project. In particular the density increase from the annexation proposal to the GDP.

Laura Schatz, 79 W. Woodridge Dr. – Spoke regarding concerns over the Wildflower Meadows project. Schatz requested the request be denied citing opposition over the flexibility proposed under the GDP.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development General Development Plan for the Mann Valley multi-family housing development at CTH M and Discovery Drive (ThreeSixty Real Estate Solutions; Cinnaire)**

Senior Planner Harley Mehlhorn provided a presentation on the resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development General Development Plan for the Mann Valley multi-family housing development at CTH M and Discovery Drive. A 255 multi-family unit general development plan. Mehlhorn explained that the GDP is the first step in the PUD process and establishes the right of use and site design and architecture for the project. If approved, the development is subject to Specific Implementation Plan's conformance with the GDP. The site is within the Mann Valley Corporate Park Master Plan, designated to lot 4 which is classified as multifamily high density residential. In Fall of 2023 the City requested proposals to develop mixed use/high density multifamily housing and the review committee selected the proposal from ThreeSixty Real Estate Solutions who is partnering with Cinnaire to include workforce housing within the development. Mehlhorn explained the development will consist of 7 buildings on 4 lots for a total of 255 units. It will have a mix of housing types to include multi family apartments, rental townhomes, studio apartments and an area of income-based housing as shows on the site plan. Mehlhorn indicated that development is seeking relief from three code standards: set back reduction from 25 ft to 10ft, (which he explained it is a small area near the income-based housing), reduction in total parking ratio from 2 to 1.5 stalls per unit, and a reduction in the open space requirement from 1200 to 837 sq. ft./unit. Mehlhorn explained that staff find the requested flexibility appropriate and in support of the comprehensive plan and adding the 50 income-based housing units provides for a supply of much needed affordable housing as identified in the 2022 River Falls Housing Study. Mehlhorn explained that the architecture would be a unified style with ranges in 2-4 story buildings within the development and it is consistent with the quality and design as described in the comprehensive plan. Mehlhorn explained that staff have reviewed the proposal and found it to be consistent with the criteria for approval of the GDP, and the next steps would be to go before Council on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Mehlhorn said that finding conformance within code criteria and the comprehensive plan, staff recommends the Plan Commission forward the enclosed Council resolution approving the GDP for the site to the City Council with a favorable recommendation.

There were a few people who came up after the presentation Mehlhorn gave with concerns:

Unidentified Speaker – Spoke expressing concerns over stormwater management on the site. Mehlhorn responded expressing that the developer would need to meet all engineering standards.

Unidentified Speaker – Spoke regarding concerns over the reduction in green space.

Laura Anderson, 880<sup>th</sup> Ave. – Anderson asked Mehlhorn if the pickleball court and other amenities are counted towards open space, Mehlhorn replied in the affirmative. Anderson went on to speak over concerns over density and opposition to the flexibility proposed under the GDP.

Linda Foster, 880<sup>th</sup> Ave. – Spoke regarding concerns over the project. In particular the density.

Elizabeth Bowden – Spoke again reiterating the concerns over the flexibility granted to developers.

Resident at W10321 880<sup>th</sup> Avenue (written name was uninterpretable and name was not uttered) – Spoke again over concerns, particularly density.

Unidentified Resident of 880<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Expressed that she feels the supply of units in the city is sufficient to meet demand.

Mayor Toland asked for a motion on the Resolution, no motion was made.

Mehlhorn asked if we need a disposition for that item if it is tabled or not, Amy Peterson clarified with the Plan Commission if they are looking for this to go to Council with no recommendation and Mayor Toland indicated no recommendation.

**Resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development General Development Plan and Preliminary Plat for Wildflower Meadows, a 93-unit single and two-family neighborhood development on Powell Avenue near N. Winter Street (JP Brooks)**

Senior Planner Harley Mehlhorn provided a presentation on the resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development General Development Plan and Preliminary Plat for Wildflower Meadows, a 93-unit single family two-family neighborhood development on Powell Avenue near N. Winter Street (JP Brooks). Mehlhorn indicated that the GDP is the first step in the PUD process and establishes the basic right and use for the site. Mehlhorn indicated that this site is 24.5 acres and is located on the North side of Powell Ave between E and W Woodridge Drive. The proposed single-family subdivision consists of 93 lots in total split between 61 single family homes and 32 townhomes. The subdivision features two vehicle access points with a third emergency access to W Woodridge Ave. Mehlhorn indicated that stormwater is to be handled in the two out lots along Powell. The subdivision will be constructed to neighborhood design with sidewalks on both sides and space to park on the street. A small park is also proposed on the southern third of the development. Mehlhorn explained that there are three requests for flexibility as part of the PUD. First a reduction in lot size from 7,500 sq. ft. to 6,250 sq. ft. with a reduction from 75 ft to a minimum of 50ft, set back deviations measuring to the foundation rather the overhang and a 5' corner side yard setback on the twin-home lots. Mehlhorn indicated based on staff review, they found them to support the goals of the comprehensive plan while we work on amending the zoning code. Mehlhorn indicated that we have not yet amended the zoning code to be in line with the comprehensive plan, we have reviewed this in line with comprehensive plan guidance while we work on amending the zoning codes. Mehlhorn indicated the architecture features unified style with high quality finishes, and keeping a strong identity while crafting various elevations to prevent monotony which is consistent within code, the comprehensive plan and surrounding character. Mehlhorn explained that staff have reviewed the proposal and found it to be consistent with criteria for GDP approval. The applicant is also seeking a plat as part of their request to set the layout and dedication for development. Staff evaluated the plat for conformance criteria and staff find each condition to be met and no concerns. Mehlhorn indicated the next step for the GDP is to go before City Council on October 28. If approved a SIP will be provided and presented to the Plan Commission and Council. Staff recommends the Plan Commission forward the enclosed Council Resolutions approving the GDP and Preliminary Plat for the city to the City Council with favorable recommendation.

There were a few people who came up after the presentation Mehlhorn gave with concerns again: Tom Macnamara – Macnamara spoke again expressing concerns over lot sizes.

Tom Bowman, 60 W. Woodridge Dr. – Expressed that a three-car garage will not fit on a 50' lot, Mehlhorn clarified that it would fit with no issue.

Cheryl Hoffman – Asked regarding lot size, Mehlhorn responded. She then asked Mehlhorn to follow up with the green space area total.

Elizabeth Bowden – Spoke once again reiterating the concerns over the flexibility granted to developers.

Eric Amundsen, Marcella Ct. – Expressed concerns over lot size reduction and compatibility with surrounding homes.

Laura Anderson – Asked if people could build the density proposes by the developer, the mayor responded that everybody has the ability to follow the same process.

Debra Deslauriers – Spoke in opposition to the previous item.

Dillon James, 58 E Woodridge Dr. – Expressed concerns over park size. Mehlhorn responded.

Laura Schatz – Asked regarding the next steps, Mehlhorn responded.

Gary Clebe – Expressed concerns and asked about how compatibility is established. Mehlhorn responded.

Paul Tabone with JPB Land spoke on the Wildflower Development, they are the development arm of JPBrooks, and wanted to address the commission and answer any questions that some people have brought forward today. Tabone spoke on the zoning of R2 and how they decided against doing multi-family housing and wanting it to conform with the neighborhood. Tabone spoke on the minimum lot size and how the homes will conform or fit on the lot. Tabone spoke that adding the twin homes after doing a market analysis based on other developers that are doing twin homes. Tabone did talk about crosswalks and adding improvements to Powell Ave and with working with the city to ensure future traffic issues will be elevated with the contribution for that road. Tabone spoke on the parks and trails, and the park is roughly a half-acre and the NW trail corridor being too close to someone's home, he has been in conversations with this person and speak to engineers about moving it in another direction, so it isn't close to the home. Tabone mentioned the ponding area is more space then needed for the size of the site. They have done assessments on what is needed for ponding and being on the high side of the needed percentage. Tabone has met with City Engineers, and they all believe the modeling is accurate and are aware of the water in the area. Tabone discussed impact fees that they are aware of to help with concerns over infrastructure concerns brought forward from others at todays meeting.

More residents came to speak:

Mary MacNamara – Spoke in opposition to the project citing open space and natural resources being eliminated,

Laura Schatz – Asked regarding the next steps, Mehlhorn responded.

Gerald Gilbertson – Spoke in opposition to the project.

Mayor Toland asked for a motion to have a discussion on this Resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development General Development Plan and Preliminary Plat for Wildflower Meadows, a 93-unit single family two-family neighborhood development on Powell Avenue near N. Winter Street (JP Brooks).

Commissioner Woolsey asked if he seconded the motion if he was voting on the Resolution or opening it up for discussion, Mayor Toland indicated it was opening the discussion and they can then vote.

M/Toland, S/Woolsey made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding the final Plat for The Preserve.

Commissioner Woolsey spoke about the comprehensive plan and the most recent housing study. Woolsey mentioned how population is increasing and there is a housing shortage in this country and that we are trying to balance the interest of the housing study and the recommendations that are presented. He spoke on things in both developments that are not pleasing to him and keeping in mind the goals that we have as a City. Woolsey mentioned that the Wildflower development doesn't align with ordinances and standards, and talked about how we need to update our ordinances before we move forward on this development. Woolsey mentioned that he cannot vote in favor of this development based on what is in the books based on lot sizes and other variances we are requesting. Woolsey voted no and recommended that the City Council not approve this.

Mayor Toland spoke and said he is trying to balance what is best for the city and surrounding areas. Toland mentioned the Comprehensive Plan and how citizens of River Falls were involved in answering questions for it. Toland said he agreed with Woolsey on needing to update the ordinances/codes/zoning and that this needs to be up to date before we need to go through more variance requests. Mayor Toland also voted no on this resolution. Toland did indicate he is only voting no on this based on needing the ordinances up to date in the books.

Commissioner Woolsey indicated that he also believed that 93 homes in this development was more than what some people indicated they were hearing it would be initially.

Motion not carried 5/0

### **Planning Update**

Emily Shively gave a planning update. We have a safe street action plan task force meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> from noon to one and more information will be available on the website in the next couple weeks. Shively mentioned that by the end of this year we are working with a consultant to look at the alleyways on main and second street and along the Riverwalk and thinking about how those areas are used, what utilities and infrastructure are down there and if there are opportunities to enter business other ways while working on reconstructing main and second street.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Moody made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. S/Woolsey; motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Corson, Community Development Coordinator  
Harley Mehlhorn, Senior Planner

## Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715.425.0900  
www.rfcity.org



### MINUTES PLAN COMMISSION DECEMBER 2, 2025 CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**Members Present:** Rob Gormanson, Lisa Moody, Michael Woolsey, Diane Odeen, Chris Holtkamp, Dan Toland  
**Members Absent:** Rebecca Prendergast  
**Staff Present:** Amy Peterson, Emily Shively, Becky Corson, Jon Smits

#### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 6:31 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Gormanson, S/Holtkamp to approve minutes. Motion carried 7/0.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sheryl Hoffman – (97 E Wood Ridge Drive) – spoke on development and density needs of neighborhoods and asked the City to stick to the zoning ordinances that are already in place. She asked about more acreage for parks and open space requirements for the Wildflower Meadows neighborhood. She also asked for more tree planting between the neighborhoods.

Laura Schotz – (79 W Wood Ridge Dr) – asked that development stick to the current standards of 75 foot limit lot lines. Wants development that fits within the already developed neighborhood. Adding trees along the edge as a barrier and wanting more landscaping.

Ben Fochs – (2529 Powell Ave) – Spoke on how newer developments are lacking character and would like future developments look towards adding character for the community.

#### ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

**Ordinance regarding the annexation petition from Delbert F. Johnson & Elaine H Johnson revokable trusts for the property at the southeast corner of County Highway M and 1060<sup>th</sup> Street (PID 002010010200 & a portion of 002010010600); application of a Future Land Use Classification of Mixed Use and Medium Density Residential; and application of Zoning classifications of R-2 Multiple Family (Medium Density) Residence District and B-3 Highway Commercial District to portions of the subject properties.**

Assistant Director of Community Development Emily Shively gave a presentation regarding the annexation petition from Delbert F. Johnson & Elaine H Johnson Trusts for the property located on County Highway M and 1060<sup>th</sup> Street. A unanimous petition for annexation has been submitted in collaboration with E.W. Homes for approximately 55 acres. Shively explained the factors for consideration of the annexation, the change of future land use, and the criteria for rezoning. For

the first consideration, the property does have abutment to City boundary at County Highway M meeting the requirement that the area is contiguous with a City boundary. For the second consideration, a number of factors were considered when recommending a future land use classification and zoning classification. In comparison to the future land use plan from the City's Comprehensive Plan it shows that this area has three different land use classifications. Mixed Use, Medium Density Residential, and Growth Preservation Area. The Mixed Use allows for Residential or Commercial or a combination of the two. The Medium Density allows for a mix of housing types such as single family, twin homes, and multifamily buildings. Shivley indicated that the zoning districts that allow for the types of development anticipated by the Comprehensive Plan are B-3 Highway Commercial at the northwest corner of the area and R-2 Multiple Family (Medium Density) residence district and would be applied to the Medium Density area and the area indicated as Growth Preservation Area as there are no topographical concerns with this area and development could take place. Shivley explained that as this property is on the edge of the City, providing a safe bicycle and pedestrian connections to the City is an important goal of the Comprehensive Plan, and part of the annexation process will include a Capital Cost Study being prepared that will determine the cost to extend City infrastructure including sidewalk and trail connections to this area. A budget study will also be prepared that will review the cost of providing City services balanced against the anticipated revenue from a new development.

Shively summarized that the proposed annexation area is contiguous with City boundaries, a change in Future Land Use classification from UAB Mixed Use and UAB Medium Density to Mixed Use and Medium Density Residential and applying a zoning classification of B-3 Highway Commercial to the Mixed Use area and R-2 Multiple Family (Medium Density) Residential is consistent with the Future Land Use Map and will allow for efficient development of the property. Next steps would be for this to move to City Council in January and Shively recommends forwarding the enclosed ordinance to City Council with a favorable recommendation.

Mayor Toland asked if anyone had any public comments on this, now would be the time to come forward for that.

John Witt – (W10546 880<sup>th</sup> Ave) – Spoke and asked for the property to be zoned R-1 as the neighborhood around is Ag and single-family homes would keep things compatible for future development. He discussed that the Comprehensive Plan talks about orderly and efficient growth and importance of guiding development on existing land uses and how R-1 would keep things consistent and compatible.

Chris Witt – (W10546 880<sup>th</sup> Ave) – Spoke on concerns on the address written wrong on publications and wanting that updated so people know where the property is located for annexation. She also indicated the letter they received was dated 11/20 with postage in December and would like to ensure notifications are being sent properly.

Kelly – (lives on 880<sup>th</sup> Ave) – Spoke on the proposed annexation and how R-1 would be more ideal with what conforms within the area vs R-2 and multi-family housing. She is worried about growing too fast and negative consequences of that. She would like the City to look at Clifton Township and Town of River Falls and the acreage requirements and how a bigger development coming nearby they would like that taken into consideration for continuity of the neighborhoods.

Joseph Gruber – (W10509 880<sup>th</sup> Ave) – He mentioned they never received a notification in the mail regarding the annexation for the property. His biggest concern for medium density development is high volume of thru traffic on 880<sup>th</sup>. Worried about the safety of people out walking or kids in the area with increased traffic on that road. He also mentioned concerns about light

pollution that will develop in the area if a development moves forward. Is wondering if something can be done such as screening on the southern end as he doesn't want a warehouse across the street from him. Would like lot sizes to stay larger and not many homes per acre.

Diane Odeen made a motion to forward the annexation petition with a favorable recommendation to City Council. **M/Odeen, S/Woolsey– carried 7/0**

Discussion was had about the B-3 zoning and if that would allow for vertical mixed use, and what that could look like. Shively explained what it could look like. Michael Woolsey asked a question about the three different areas of this site, and the zoning for the southern end of the parcel. Shively indicated that the Growth Preservation Area doesn't mean that growth isn't prevented from occurring and how there might be some challenges in those area, but how that doesn't apply to this parcel. Diane Odeen made a comment about how the area around there has bluffs which would help make a natural barrier from this space. Amy Peterson gave a distinction on how Future Land Use Map and Zoning Map and how a Zoning Map is by parcel and a Future Land Use map has broader strokes which is what we are seeing here. Discussions were had on how to connect mobility and how that is covered and would it become cost prohibitive. Shively discussed the capital cost study that is being done. She said we will outline the cost for extending utilities to the area, upsize for future development possibility, and then we can identify cost for future trails and sidewalk connections. With this project, we can include part of the cost to bridge the dry run to connect where Mann Valley is and the trail to DeSanctis Park and how that is all part of the connectivity for this development. Diane Odeen asked that staff address the notice issues with this moving forward to City Council.

**Resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development Specific Implementation Plan for the first phase of the Mann Valley multi-family housing development at CTH M and Discovery Drive (50-unit building by Cinnaire)**

Assistant Director of Community Development Emily Shively gave a presentation on the Specific Implementation Plan (SIP) for Valley View Apartments. This step is the final step in the Planned Unit Development process for this project. Shively covered where the residential housing site is located within the Mann Valley Corporate Park Master Plan. Shively indicated that the General Development Plan (GDP) for the residential area was approved by Council on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The development will consist of 255 units with 7 buildings on 4 different lots. Shively highlighted where the 50-units of income-based housing were going to be located within the project. Shively indicated the main access will be off Discovery Drive, with an emergency access on County Highway M. There will be 85 parking spaces and sidewalk connections off Discovery Drive into the site and through the parking areas. There will be residential patios on east side of the building. Shively indicated there are two areas for stormwater management and our Engineering team is reviewing the specifics to ensure we meet Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and City Stormwater requirements. Shively showed the proposed architecture with high-quality finishes and materials to be consistent with code and the Comprehensive Plan and other buildings within the City. In summary, Shively indicated that staff have reviewed the proposed development and finds the SIP to be in substantial conformance with the GDP approved for the project. Shively said we find this conformant and recommend forwarding the SIP to City Council with a favorable recommendation.

Chris Holtkamp made a motion to forward the resolution regarding the Planned Unit Development Specific Implementation Plan to the City Council for approval. **M/Holtkamp, S/Woolsey – Carried 5/0**

Diane Odeen asked questions on when we think the rest of the housing would be started. Shively indicated the approvals would be coming through Winter/Spring. Nicole from Cinnaire said the anticipated start time of construction would be May 2026, and a year of construction with leasing starting Spring/Summer of 2027. Questions were asked on what the buildings would look like in the other areas of the neighborhood. Shively indicated the buildings would look different, but all buildings are using quality materials and landscaping.

### **Planning Update**

Emily Shively gave a planning update. There is a Holiday reception before the Council Meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> and Plan Commission is invited. An email about an event on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the St Croix Economic Corporation went out if members are interested. Lastly, on December 11<sup>th</sup> we are having an Open House for the Safe Streets Action Plan from 5-6:30pm at City Hall. Information from the Open House will be on the project website following the meeting if you are unable to attend.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Moody made a motion to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. S/Holtkamp; motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Corson, Community Development Coordinator

# Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715.425.0900  
www.rfcity.org



## PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. CITY HALL TRAINING ROOM

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** Matt Janquart (Chair), Jeff Bjork (Council Rep), Mei Mei Abdouch, Phil Galli, Brenda Gaulke, Melissa Pedrini and Natasha Schaefer.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Brooks Ostendorf-Conservation and Parks Manager, Erica Ellefson-Public Works Manager, Kyle Mackey-Recreation Coordinator, Levi Myers-Natural Resources Coordinator, and Brenda Rundle-Customer Service Representative.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **MSC Gaulke/Bjork approve the minutes of the Oct. 15, 2025 Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) meeting. Unanimous.**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patricia La Rue said that DeSanctis Park needs a bathroom and drinking fountain as it becomes used by increasingly more people. She also thanked Erica and Irv for working with her on the bench donation for Brian Hatch.

### ACTION ITEMS

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Tonya Schmitt gave the Grow to Share (GTS) end-of-season report to PRAB and a brief history of GTS which started at Hoffman Park in 2009. They are gearing up for their move to DeSanctis Park. Their mission is to cultivate healthy food and sustainable lifestyles in collaboration with local organizations. They have both sharing gardens and community gardens. They have many local partnerships and offer education for all. 2025 was their largest donation total to date at 2,257 pounds of food donated to a variety of local organizations, including the River Falls Food Pantry. That total included 655 pounds of apples, mostly off the single apple tree at GTS. They hope to have a few fruit trees at DeSanctis Park. They had 125 volunteers of all ages help with 628 hours of garden care this year. They estimate they will need to pay \$15,000 for water to the gardens once the City brings water to the edge of the property, and another \$5,000 for a shed just to get started at DeSanctis Park. They are looking for help and donations.
3. Brooks Ostendorf reviewed the outdoor recreation plan which is a strategic guide for the development, enhancement, and maintenance of the City's outdoor recreation system. It was completed in 2023 with much community feedback and will be updated in 2028. River Falls has a surplus in parkland per capita (based on national standards), but gaps in ice rinks, pools, skate parks, and full-size basketball courts (again based

on national standards). Local community members indicated that they value having an ice rink, winter trails, splash pads, an indoor pool, all-abilities playgrounds, natural playgrounds, kayak launches, gardens supporting habitats, and nature viewing areas. The Kinni Corridor Project will be integral to addressing some of these amenities.

4. Brooks Ostendorf shared a memo with an overview of the 2002 Park and Fire Impact Fee Ordinance. This ensures that new development funds public amenities for increased demand. PRAB and City Council will be reviewing the Impact Fees in 2026. Park Impact Fees are deposited into segregated accounts and must be spent on new features in parks near the development (not park maintenance) within 20 years or refunded to the developer. PRAB members were given clarification about the difference between Parkland Dedication Fees (in lieu of land) and the required Park Impact Fees. Park Board would like to be provided with all information to make decisions on developments and know their part in the process. They appreciated this update and conversation.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

5. Erica Ellefson shared a memo about recent park maintenance activities, including a new bench in Glen Park donated by Patricia La Rue in honor of former RFMU employee Brian Hatch, the Prairie Enthusiasts removing buckthorn along the river, and the new sunshade at the pool.
6. Levi reported that 25 diverse trees will be planted at Hoffman Park and 25 more at Glen Park to replace removed Ash trees and supplement the existing tree canopy. Kyle reported that the new adult drop-in fall basketball league has ended, and a winter league will start in January. RFPBA now plays pickleball indoors at Greenwood for the winter. Local associations are now using school district gym space. Reservations for park shelters in the months of January and February of 2026 opened on Nov. 3. Reservations for the rest of the 2026 calendar year will open on Jan. 5.

#### **CALENDAR**

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MSC Abdouch/Schaeffer to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Customer Service Representative

# Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715.425.0900  
www.rfcity.org



## PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES DECEMBER 17, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. CITY HALL TRAINING ROOM

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 5:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:** Matt Janquart (Chair), Jeff Bjork (Council Rep) 5:49 p.m., Mei Mei Abdouch, Phil Galli, and Brenda Gaulke.

**Members Absent:** Melissa Pedrini and Natasha Schaefer.

**Staff Present:** Brooks Ostendorf-Conservation and Parks Manager, Erica Ellefson-Public Works Manager, Kyle Mackey-Recreation Coordinator, Levi Myers-Natural Resources Coordinator, and Brenda Rundle-Customer Service Representative.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **MSC Gaulke/Galli approve the minutes of the Nov. 19, 2025 Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) meeting. Unanimous.**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

William Hansen of the Town of River Falls appreciates local dam and hydro power to avoid line loss, and mentioned that he taught swimming at Glen Park Pool in the early 1960's.

### ACTION ITEMS

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Brooks shared a history of Glen Park Pool renovations and maintenance. A leak was detected in fall 2025 that needs to be repaired. Staff recommends conducting a ground penetrating radar test and repairing the known leak in spring 2026 with the goal of opening the pool in early June as usual. If needed, additional repairs could be done in fall 2026. Because a newly constructed pool is a medium-priority, long-term project (2045), staff recommends maintaining efficient operation and maintenance of the existing pool for the next 15-20 years. This will likely include a new pool filter, pool liner, and annual rivet repairs in addition to any unexpected maintenance or repair projects. The pool operates at a financial loss, as a City service. Park Board understands that repairs need to be made but seems to encourage the City to consider an upgraded pool to be a priority, while honoring the historic bathhouse.

### STAFF REPORTS

3. Levi announced that the City was awarded a \$25,000 2026 Urban Forestry Grant and the City will match that amount. The money will be used for planting new trees and hiring a forestry intern. After a bid process, Willow River Company was selected as the City's new tree care services contractor for the next three years beginning next month. Services will include tree removal, pruning, stump grinding, and emergency response assistance. Kyle shared that online registration is open for the

winter adult drop-in basketball session. Online reservations for park shelters will open on Monday, Jan. 5 at 8 a.m.

**CALENDAR**

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MSC Abdouch/Galli to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Rundle, Customer Service Representative

**POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**October 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.**

River Falls City Hall  
Council Chambers  
222 Lewis Street  
River Falls, WI

Commission President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commission Members Present: Lenny Austin, Tom Gunderson, Gary Donath

Commission Members Absent: Jon Longsdorf, Dick Rinehart

Staff Present: Gordon Young

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes from August 20, 2025.

**MSC Donath/Gunderson. Unanimous.**

- 1) Action on Removal from Probation for Officer Lisha Fairbairn (effective October 11, 2025)

Chief Young shared background for Officer Fairbairn and a brief explanation of the probationary period. He shared some positive comments received from victims, peers and supervisors which show Officer Fairbairn's compassion, care, as well as strong written and oral communication skills. She identified future goals to serve the department and community and was recently placed on the Pierce County ERU Team, as well as a recent appointment to the department's Honor Guard unit.

Chief Young requested Officer Fairbairn be removed from probation and placed into Class 1.

**MSC Gunderson/Donath to remove Officer Lisha Fairbairn from Probationary status effective October 11, 2025.**

Adjournment: **MSC Gunderson/Donath. Unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ailene Splittgerber  
Recording Secretary

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**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**November 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm**  
**CITY HALL – Training Room**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**, Hoffman, Page, Friede, Geister, Anderson, Staff liaison Mehlhorn.

**CALL HPC MEETING TO ORDER 6:00 PM**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

Minutes of the October 8, 2025 meeting. – Approval Friede/Page Motion carried unanimously

**HPC MEMBER VOLUNTEER HOUR REPORT**

Page: .25

Hoffman: 1

Geister: 2

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items**

1. Geister spoke regarding his joining the St. Croix County Historical Society, stating that there are those from surrounding area attending regarding cemetery tours for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The United States of America during River Falls Days
2. Hoffman brought up the Lego League, stating that she presented regarding the RF cemeteries and the lime kilns, further mentioning that such group would come and present to the commission regarding their findings and solutions.

**MEETING DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Budget
  - a. Mehlhorn briefly summarized the remaining funds in the yearly budget. Mehlhorn stated the remaining expenditures include the concrete cost for the “Bridges” sign and then the commission requested reimbursement for the hotel costs associated with the conference since less commissioners attended than was anticipated Two motions were made and passed:
    - i. Motion to allocate funds to cover the concrete costs associated with the historic interpretive sign Paige/Friede motion carried unanimously
    - ii. Motion to allocate funds to reimburse hotel costs associated with the conference. Friede/Page motion carried unanimously.
2. Conference debrief
  - a. Hoffman briefed the commission on the sessions that she attended at the annual state historic conference. Summarizing what was learned from sessions like “What’s the Big Idea”, “how to design an exhibit”, and “making meaningful America 250”. Page requested an item next agenda for Com. Radford to report on her conference experience.
3. NRHP quotes
  - a. Mehlhorn ran through the quotes received for the NRHP signage ranging from 450-900 dollars, with a range of material types. The commission requested exclusively metal quotes, with a preference on the “bronze” look the other signs

have. Motion was put on the floor to secure final quotes up to the remaining funds of the commission Page/Friede, motion carried unanimously.

4. Swinging Bridge Spring event coordination

- a. The event coordination was discussed, particularly the date. After a brief discussion, the commission decided on May 9<sup>th</sup> to hold the event from 2-5p and requested staff seek a reservation of the pavilion at such time. Motion to move event to that day Friede/Page motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Friede/Page to adjourn at 6:38pm. Unanimous.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Toland and City Council Members

**FROM:** Karen Bergstrom, Human Resources Director

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**TITLE:** **RESOLUTION APPROVING CITY ADMINISTRATOR ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW PROCESS**

---

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the performance review process and selection of committee members is requested.

### BACKGROUND

The contract with City Administrator Simpson was updated in 2024 to extend the term from May 1, 2024, through April 30, 2028. The contract included the requirement for an annual review by the City Council before May 1 of each year. Following the review, the Council may consider adjustments to annual compensation or other benefits.

### DISCUSSION

City Administrator Scot Simpson values the annual 360 review process as an essential tool for continued leadership development. If approved, this year's review will include input from the Mayor, Council members, and Administrator Simpson's executive team.

For 2025, the 360-degree evaluation included the Mayor, City Council members, and Administrator Simpson's executive team. Business leaders participate in the evaluation process every five years; therefore, they will be included again in 2029. Staff is recommending that the same committee members who participated in the 2025 process continue to serve for the 2026 review.

### Next Steps

Survey Monkey will be used to conduct the evaluation. A blank copy of the survey is attached for reference.

### Proposed Timeline:

- **January 29, 2026:** Distribute survey to Mayor, Council members, and executive team.
- **February 12, 2026:** Deadline for completed surveys.
- **Week of February 16 or 23, 2026:** Subcommittee (Mayor Toland, Council President Morrisette, Comptroller Odeen, and Alderperson Carow) meet to review survey results.
- **March 10, 2026:** City Council meets in closed session to discuss performance review and approve compensation adjustments, if applicable.

*Memorandum to Mayor and City Council*

*January 27, 2026*

*Page 2*

**CONCLUSION**

Approve the City Administrator's annual review process as outlined, with the proposed committee consisting of Mayor Toland, Council President Morrissette, Alderperson/Comptroller Odeen, and Alderperson Carow.



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CITY ADMINISTRATOR ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW PROCESS**

**WHEREAS**, City Administrator Scot Simpson is under contract through April 30, 2028; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council have agreed to an annual performance review; and

**WHEREAS**, an evaluation survey of the Mayor, Council Members, and direct reports will be prepared and results compiled for review by an evaluation committee comprised of the Mayor, and Councilmembers Odeen, Morrissette and Carow; and

**WHEREAS**, results of the evaluation and recommendation of the evaluation committee will be brought to the full Council for discussion and action if needed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of River Falls hereby supports the City Administrator annual performance review process as presented.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk









5. Feel free to elaborate on ratings selected for this section.

## 2025 City Administrator Annual Review

### 6. Values People

**Please indicate the rating that corresponds to the degree to which you observe Mr. Simpson demonstrating the listed leadership behavior, according to the rating key below. N/O should be used if you have not been in situations that would afford you the opportunity to observe the behavior.**

**Rating Key:**

**1 = Never; 3 = Seldom; 5 = Sometimes; 7 = Most of the time; 10 = Always; N/O = Not Observed**

1. Shows respect for others and their ideas:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	N/O
<input type="radio"/>										

2. Encourages others involvement in making things better:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	N/O
<input type="radio"/>										

3. Appreciates differences between people in thought and style:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	N/O
<input type="radio"/>										

4. Allows for flexibility in how work is accomplished:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	N/O
<input type="radio"/>										

5. Considers others' needs when making decisions:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	N/O
<input type="radio"/>										

6. Feel free to elaborate on ratings selected for this section.







7. Feel free to elaborate on ratings selected for this section.

## 2025 City Administrator Annual Review

### 10. Leadership Behaviors

1. What 2-3 behaviors would you like to see this person do differently?

More of?

Less of?

2. What 2-3 behaviors would you like to see this person continue?



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Toland and City Council

**FROM:** Erica Ellefson, Public Works Manager

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**TITLE:** RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE 1585 UNIT AND ACCESSORIES FROM MIDWEST MACHINERY CO.

---

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve a resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2026 John Deere 1585 and accessories from Midwest Machinery Co. who is on a cooperative purchasing contract through Sourcewell for \$51,562.

### BACKGROUND

The City of River Falls currently owns two John Deere 1585 units used for mowing and snow removal. The 2026 capital improvement plan (CIP) has a replacement John Deere 1585 planned for 2026 for \$59,000. These mowers are planned for replacement on a 10-year cycle due to their year-round use.

### DISCUSSION

The City of River Falls has two John Deere 1585 units that are used year-round. In the warmer months they are equipped with mowing decks and in the winter, they are equipped with a blower and sweeper for snow removal.

City staff acquired a quote from Midwest Machinery Co. who are on the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contract. The quote includes the 1585 unit, 72" mower deck, snow blower, sweeper, and mulch kit. The quote also includes a trade in allowance for the 2015 John Deere 1585 unit.

### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION

Included below is the quote from Midwest Machinery Co. The quote includes the 2026 John Deere 1585 unit, 72" mower deck, snow blower, sweeper, and mulch kit, and all working components for \$51,562.

The 2026 CIP identified \$59,000 in fund balance from the capital equipment fund for a new John Deere 1585 unit and accessories. Unspent budget will remain in the capital equipment fund.

Sources	Amount	Uses	Amount
Fund Balance Capital Equipment Fund	\$51,562	Midwest Machinery Co.	\$51,562
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$51,562</b>	<b>Total Uses</b>	<b>\$51,562</b>

**CONCLUSION**

Staff recommend City Council approve the purchase of a 2026 John Deere 1585 unit and accessories for \$51,562 from Midwest Machinery Co. and authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement for the same.





**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE 1585**

**WHEREAS**, the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan calls for the replacement of the 2015 John Deere 1585 unit and accessories in 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, staff recommend trading in the 2015 John Deere 1585 for \$11,400 toward the purchase of the new John Deere 1585 unit and accessories; and

**WHEREAS**, Midwest Machinery Co. is on the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contract; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the River Falls Common Council authorizes the purchase of a 2026 John Deere 1585 unit and accessories from Midwest Machinery Co. for \$51,562 and authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement for the same.

Dated this 27th day of January 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Toland and City Council

**FROM:** Amy White, Community Services Director/City Clerk

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**TITLE:** RIVER FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM BUREAU  
REQUEST FOR CITY ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

---

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Consider the four resolutions related to the River Falls Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism request for City assistance. The resolutions are for the following: 1) street closure request, 2) exemptions from code for open-container and alcohol in the parks, 3) an exemption to the noise ordinance and 4) use of city resources and assistance for the events.

### BACKGROUND

For the past several years, the Chamber has submitted a letter requesting City assistance for various community events. The events included in the request have included: River Falls Bluegrass Festival, River Falls Day, Bacon Bash and River Dazzle.

Annually, the Chamber submits a new request outlining their needs. A detailed list of assistance requested by the Chamber can be found in their attached letter. The Chamber is requesting varied levels of City assistance for each event outlined in the letter.

### Public Purpose Doctrine

The public purpose doctrine was a judicial articulation of the belief that governmental power should be used for the benefit of the entire community. The public purpose doctrine requires that public funds be expended only for public purposes. The expenditure itself does not necessarily constitute a public purpose but rather the justification offered for the expenditure can be characterized as serving a public purpose. Case law provides more instructive interpretation of what constitutes public purpose. For an expenditure of public funds to constitute a public purpose, case law established the following test for determining whether a particular appropriation is for a public purpose:

For the public purpose requirement to be met, the subject matter of the appropriation must be a public necessity, convenience or welfare. Each case must be decided with reference to the object sought to be accomplished and to the degree and manner in which that object affects the public welfare. Factors which may be considered include the course or usage of the government, the objects for which taxes have been customarily levied, the objects which have been considered necessary for the support and proper use of government, the extent to which the expenditure results in competition with private enterprise, the presence or absence of a general economic

benefit, the number of citizens benefited, and the necessity and infeasibility of private performance. *Hopper v. City of Madison*, 79 Wis.2d 120, 256 N.W.2d 139, 142 (1977).

Legislation continues to recognize that the use of public funds to assist and offer incentive for private events can, in some instances, serve the public. For example, the legislature has recognized that public purpose is service by developing tourism, promoting industry, and stimulating development and redevelopment of certain areas which boost the local economy.

### Room Tax

The City of River Falls adopted room tax in Chapter 3.14 of the Municipal Code effective in 2008, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §66.0615. 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, the 2015-2017 budget bill signed by Governor Walker, made numerous changes to the room tax law. Among its many provisions, the new law regulates spending and the allocation of local room tax revenues, sets state reporting rules, and modifies the definition of a “tourism entity.” In addition, 2015 Wisconsin Act 301 further amended the definition of a “tourism entity” in response to concerns raised by local municipalities.

City collects a six percent tax on all hotel stays. The Chamber, as the City’s contracted tourism entity, receives 70 percent of the collected tax receipts, which are to be utilized for tourism promotion and tourism development. The 30 percent that remains with the City is one of the revenue sources of the Business Development and Tourism Fund. The retained revenues are used for business development and tourism expenses through support of the River Falls Chamber events, regional economic development organizations, and public infrastructure to support tourism and development.

When room tax was first enacted in 2008, the Chamber formed a Tourism Committee whose purpose is “to promote and encourage tourism in River Falls through projects, initiatives and/or events that are likely to generate paid overnight stays at more than one establishment.” The Committee serves as an advisory council for the development and execution of the tourism marketing plan, advertising schedule, and budget to promote tourism throughout the City.

### **DISCUSSION**

Below is a discussion of three specific exemptions to current Municipal Code the Chamber requests each year.

#### Loud and Unnecessary Noise Prohibited Exemption Request

Each event involves a request by the Chamber to grant an exemption to [Section 8.28.020](#) of the Municipal Code: Loud and Unnecessary Noise Prohibited. The Chamber is requesting an exemption for the following events:

- River Falls Days for all days of events
- Bacon Bash for all days of events
- River Dazzle for the day of the event

#### Open Container Exemption Request

Some events involved a request by the Chamber to grant an open container variance for a limited period of time. This is an exemption from [Section 9.24.040 \(C\)](#) of the Municipal Code. The Chamber is requesting an open container exemption for the following events:

- River Falls Days in Heritage Park, including Heritage Park parking lot from Thursday, July 9 through Saturday, July 11. Event will close each night at 10:30 p.m. Signage, fencing, wristbands, and other appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safety.

- River Falls Days Car Cruze Sunday, July 12 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Exemption on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Avenue, Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews.
- Bacon Bash in Heritage Park, including Heritage Park parking lot from 5 p.m. Friday, September 18, through 10:00 p.m. Saturday, September 19. Signage, fencing, wristbands, and other appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safety.
- Bacon Bash Car Cruze Sunday, September 20 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Exemption on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Avenue, Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews.
- River Dazzle Friday, November 27. Exception on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Avenue from 1:00 p.m. through 5:30 p.m., Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews. Signage, wristbands, event cups, and other appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safety.

#### Parks and Recreation Areas Exemption Request

The Chamber is requesting exemptions to the parks and recreations areas ordinance in [Section 12.20.020 \(J\)\(1\)](#) of the Municipal Code to allow intoxicating beverages in Heritage Park two events:

- River Falls Days
- Bacon Bash

#### Request for City Assistance

As outlined in the request letter from the Chamber, they are asking Council to approve City assistance at no cost.

#### Street Closure Request

The Chamber is requesting to close the following streets:

- River Falls Days, closure and use of Maple Street from Main Street to Lewis Street and Riverwalk from Maple Street to Walnut Street from Thursday, July 9 at 8 a.m. to Monday, July 13 at 4 p.m.
- Fireworks, Sunday, July 13 at dusk, closure of East Division to all non-emergency vehicles during the fireworks
- River Falls Days Parade, Friday, Jul 10, closure for the parade route beginning at Powell Avenue and ending at Spring Street utilizing North Main Street, East Division Street and Second Street as deem appropriate by the River Falls Police Department. Restricted access of all streets in the Industrial Park, including Quarry, Troy, Summit, Mound View and Benson for parade line-up beginning at 4:30 p.m. Request the 100 block of East Elm Street from the Alley to Second Street be closed from 10 a.m. to parade completion.
- River Falls Days Car Cruze, Sunday, July 12, 11 a.m until 3 p.m. “Reserved Parking” and Closure of north and south bound lane of Main Street from Maple Street to Locust Street and east and west bound lane of East Elm Street from Main Street to the alley at 10 a.m.
- Bacon Bash, closure and use of Maple Street from Main Street to Lewis Street and Riverwalk from Maple Street to Walnut Street from Thursday, September 17 at 3 p.m. until Sunday, September 20 at 4 p.m.
- Bacon Bash Car Cruise, Sunday, September 20, 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. “Reserved Parking” and Closure of north and south bound lane of Main Street from Maple Street

- to Locust Street and east and west bound lane of East Elm Street from Main Street to the alley at 10 a.m.
- River Dazzle, Friday, November 27, Closure of Riverwalk Alley from 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. Closure of Main Street from Pine to Locust Street including north lane of Locust Street intersection at 5:30 p.m.

**CONCLUSION**

Consider the four resolutions related to the River Falls Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism request for City assistance. The resolutions are for the following: 1) street closure request, 2) exemptions from code for open-container and alcohol in the parks, 3) an exemption to the noise ordinance and 4) use of city resources and assistance for the events. River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau will be available at the Council meeting to answer any questions that may arise.

January 20, 2026

**Honorable Mayor and City Council,**

On behalf of the River Falls Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau, we respectfully submit the following request for City support in facilitating our 2026 signature festivals and community events.

We are submitting these materials early to ensure the City of River Falls has ample time to plan for and coordinate the resources needed for these activities. Because many of our events require long-range planning and collaboration, there may be slight adjustments as details become finalized. We kindly request your flexibility and consideration should any modifications be necessary.

We also want to express our sincere appreciation for the City's longstanding partnership. Your investment, through tourism dollars, public works, utilities, safety personnel, and countless behind-the-scenes efforts, plays a critical role in the success of these cherished community traditions. We recognize that many contributions are not always visible to the public, yet they are absolutely vital. Please know that your dedication does not go unnoticed. We are committed to recognizing and celebrating the City of River Falls throughout 2026 at our signature festivals and in our event communications and promotions.

Your continued support strengthens more than just our events. It fuels tourism, drives economic development, and reinforces the vitality and well-being of our community. Each festival brings thousands of visitors to River Falls, supporting local businesses, creating economic impact, and showcasing our city as an exceptional place to live, work, and invest. These events enrich our quality of life and help position River Falls as a destination where individuals, families, and professionals want to build their futures.

As always, we welcome your input and deeply appreciate your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (715) 425-2533 with any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosa Magnus".

Rosa Magnus  
Chief Executive Officer



**The RF Chamber Team looks forward  
to working with you!**

# 2026

## **SIGNATURE FESTIVALS**

**River Falls Bluegrass Festival: April 17 - 19, 2026**

**River Falls Days: July 9 - 12, 2026**

**Bacon Bash: September 18 - 20, 2026**

**River Dazzle: Friday, November 27, 2026**

## **CHAMBER PROGRAMMING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Annual Awards & Recognition Banquet: February 12, 2026**

**Investor & Partner Appreciation: April 8, 2026**

**Annual Golf Outing: Tuesday, June 16, 2026**

**New Teacher Breakfast: Wednesday, August 19, 2026**

**4th Annual Workforce Summit: Thursday, October 29, 2026**

**Rise & Learn Education & Workshop Series: Dates Vary**

**Chamber Coffee: First Friday of the Month\***

**Business Unwind: Quarterly**

\*No Summertime Chamber Coffee events.

**RIVER FALLS DAYS  
JULY 9 – 12, 2026**



**Festival Grounds Hours:**

**Thursday, July 9 5:00 PM – 10:30 PM**  
**Friday, July 10 4:00 PM – 10:30 PM**  
**Saturday, July 11 11:00 AM – 10:30 PM**

**Mainstreet Car Cruise:**

**Sunday, July 12 11:00AM – 3:00PM**

Our largest summer community event will include the parade, booth fair, family activities, fireworks, food/beer, car cruise, and more.

**Downtown/River Location**

**Street/Property Closures and Parking Enforcement**

- Request the partial closure and use of Heritage Park and Parking Lot from Monday, July 6 at 8:00 AM (or such time that best works for the staff of RF Public Works) to Monday, July 13 at 4:00 PM to allow for the setup of snow fence and delivery of city owned infrastructure including picnic tables, garbage cans, etc.
- Request full closure of Heritage Park Parking lot from 8:00 AM Tuesday, July 7 through 4:00 PM on Monday, July 13 for set up, event activities, and tear down. Request remaining vehicles to be towed at 8:00 AM Wednesday, July 8.
- Request the use of gravel area south of Heritage Parking Lot near White Pathway/N Fremont Street for special use event parking and dumpster use from Wednesday, July 8 at 8:00 AM to Monday, July 13 at Noon.
- Request the closure and use of Maple Street from Main Street to Lewis Street and Riverwalk from Maple Street to Walnut Street from **Thursday, July 9 at 8:00 AM to Monday, July 13 at 4:00 PM** Allow delivery trucks to access Riverwalk from Maple Street.
- Request the use of City Hall Plaza from Wednesday, July 8 at 8:00 AM to Sunday, July 12 at 4:00 PM.
- Request the use and closure of the upper-level City Hall parking lot for special event parking and family activities on Thursday, July 9 after 5:00 PM, Friday, July 10 after 5:00 PM all-day Saturday, July 11, and all-day Sunday, July 12.
- On Saturday, July 11 the upper lot will be used for family friendly activities. There will be no alcohol allowed in this area.
- Request the use and closure of the lower-level City Hall parking lot for special event use from Thursday, July 9 at 8:00 AM to Sunday, July 12 at 4:00 PM
- Request the use of City Hall Training Room Monday, July 6 through Monday, July 13. Also request the use of Maple Conference Room from Monday, July 6 through Monday, July 13 for volunteers and event storage use.

**Utilities Assistance - Electric and Water**

- Request temporary electric service in Heritage Parking Lot and City Hall Plaza.
- A list of the specific power requested for the event will be coordinated with River Falls Municipal Utilities prior to the event. A "walk through" is requested prior to the beginning of the event.
- Request access to City Hall exterior water spigot.

**Public Works Assistance - Ticket Booths, Garbage Barrels, Picnic Tables, and Misc.**

- Request both ticket booths to be moved from storage to Heritage Park by Wednesday, July 8 by Noon.

- Request snow fence to be installed around the perimeter of Heritage Park and Parking Lot.
- Request several picnic tables in the Heritage Parking Lot, as well as lawn area northeast of City Hall and plaza area.
- Request garbage barrels be placed at Heritage Parking Lot, Maple Street, and lawn area northeast of City Hall Plaza from Wednesday, July 8 at 8AM to Sunday, July 12 at 4 PM.
- Request city garbage cans located along Main Street be removed or covered to encourage use of garbage barrels
- Request holes created on asphalt to secure rental tents. Holes will be properly repaired as soon as possible post event by the rental company.
- Request installation and use of City tent to be used northeast of City Hall.
- Request stormwater catch basins within Heritage Parking Lot be screened to protect debris from entering the river.
- Request use of orange cones to cover/identify tent stakes.
- Request use of tents, tables, power cords, chairs, brooms, dust pans, and trash pickers on premises over weekend.

### **Open Container Exemption – Heritage Park & Portions of Main Street for Car Cruze on Sunday**

- Request the exemption of the open container variance on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Street from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews. Signage, wristbands, event cups, and other appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safety. We will work with the River Falls Police Department to ensure concerns are addressed prior to the event.

### **Variances**

- Request an exception to 8.28.020 Municipal Code: Loud and Unnecessary Noise Prohibited
- Request an exception to 12.20.020(J) Municipal Code: Alcoholic Beverages within Heritage Park during River Falls Days with the intent to end music and beer sales by 10:00PM on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights (30 minutes prior to end of music).

### **Security**

- Request assistance from the Police and *Emergency Services (Allina EMS)* throughout the weekend to maintain safety.
- Request one or two reserve officers to provide overnight security from 10:30 PM to 6:00 AM on Thursday, July 9 and Friday, July 10.

### **Fireworks (Sunday, July 13 - Dusk)**

- Request that “No Parking” be enforced on East Division Street between Eighth Street and Hanson Drive from 6:00 PM until the completion of the fireworks.
- Request that East Division be closed to all non-emergency vehicles during the fireworks.
- Request the use of Hoffman Park, north of the softball fields for the fireworks display held on Sunday, July 12 at dusk. Liability for any problems arising from the fireworks display will be assumed under insurance by the vendor.
- Request EMS, Fire and Police support during fireworks at Hoffman Park on Sunday, July 12.

### **Parade (Friday, July 10 - 6:00PM Start)**

#### **Street / Property Closures and Parking Enforcement**

- As deemed appropriate by the River Falls Police Department, we respectfully request the street be closed/monitored for the parade route beginning at Powell Avenue and ending at Spring Street utilizing North Main Street, East Division Street, and Second Street.
- Request restricted access of all streets in the Industrial Park, including Quarry, Troy, Summit, Mound View, and Benson for the parade line-up beginning at 4:30 PM.
- Request “No Parking – Tow Zone” be enforced along the parade route after 4:00 PM until the

completion of the parade.

- Request “No Through Traffic - Open to Local Businesses Only” sign posted at St. Croix Street and Powell Avenue.
- Request “No Parking” be enforced on Spring Street from Second to Fourth Streets (parade exit).
- Request “No Parking” be enforced on the 100 block of E Maple Street from the alley to Second Street and on the 200 block of E Maple Street from Second Street to the alley from 4:30 PM – 9:00 PM during the parade (fire truck parking).
- Request the 100 block of E Elm Street from the alley to Second Street be closed from 10:00 AM to parade completion (parade judging stand). \*With the anticipated Fire Department construction, we will continue to work with the City knowing that there may be a need to close Pine Street from the alley to Second Street for the parade judging stand.
- Request “No Parking” be enforced on Cedar Street starting at 4:00 PM for ambulance parking only.
- Request barricades at the right turn lane from Division Street onto Second Street (route turn), at the intersection of Second Street and Spring Street (route turn), and as well as Cascade and Second Street (to deter traffic into parade route exit).

#### **Parade (Friday, July 10) - Picnic Tables, Garbage Barrels, and Misc. City Assistance**

- Request garbage barrels be placed along the parade route and UWRF Lot Q prior to parade, then moved to the food vendor area in Heritage Park prior to 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 12.
- Request picnic tables and water bin be placed in UWRF Lot Q by 12 p.m. on Friday, July 10, then relocated to the food vendor area and Heritage Park prior to 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 11.
- Request the parade route be cleaned after the parade.
- Request use of tents, tables, power cords, chairs, brooms, dust pans, and trash pickers on premises over weekend.

#### **Car Cruze (Sunday, July 12, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM)**

##### **Street / Property Closures and Parking Enforcement**

- “Reserved Parking” and closure of north and south bound lane of Main Street from Maple to Locust Streets and east and west bound lane of E. Elm Street from Main Street to the alley at 10 a.m.

##### **Garbage Barrels and Misc. City Assistance**

- Deliver garbage barrels, safety cones, and barricades to street closing areas by 9AM Sunday, July 12, to be picked up at the end of the event.
- Request assistance from the River Falls Police Department for road closure and to ensure safety.
- Request assistance for “No Parking – Tow Zone” signage installation.

**BACON BASH**  
**SEPTEMBER 18 – 20, 2026**



**Festival Grounds Hours:**

**Friday, September 18** 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM  
**Saturday, September 19** 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM

**Mainstreet Car Cruise:**

**Sunday, September 20** 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

This three-day event celebrates all things bacon. The event includes live music, vendor booths, pig-themed activities, and bacon-inspired food booths.

Bacon Bash will continue to be a Friday night and all-day Saturday event with the Car Cruise and Bloody Mary Sample crawl to be held on Sunday.

**Street / Property Closures and Parking Enforcement**

- Request the closure and use of Heritage Park and Parking Lot from Tuesday, September 15 at 8:00 AM through Monday, September 21 at 3:00 PM. Request remaining vehicles to be towed at 8:00 AM Tuesday, September 15.
- Request the use of gravel area south of Heritage Parking Lot near White Pathway/N Fremont Street for special use for event parking and dumpster parking from Wednesday, September 16 at 8:00 AM to Monday, September 21 at 3:00 PM.
- Request the closure and use of Maple Street from Main Street to Lewis Street and Riverwalk from Maple Street to Walnut Street from Thursday, September 17 at 3:00 PM. to Sunday, September 20 at 4:00 PM. Allow delivery trucks and food trucks to access Riverwalk from Maple Street.
- Request the use of the City Hall Plaza from Thursday, September 17 through Monday, September 21.
- Request the use and closure of lower City Hall parking lot from Friday, September 18 at 8:00 AM to Sunday September 20 at 4:00 PM.
- Request the use of City Hall Training Room on Monday, September 14 through Monday, September 21.
- Request the use of the Maple Street Conference Room from Monday, September 14 through Monday, September 21.

**Electric and Water**

- Request temporary electric and water service in Heritage Parking Lot and City Hall Plaza.
- A list of the specific power requested for the event will be coordinated with River Falls Municipal Utilities prior to the event. A "walk through" is requested prior to the beginning of the event.
- Request access to City Hall exterior water spigot.

**Public Works Assistance - Ticket Booths, Garbage Barrels, Picnic Tables, and Misc.**

- Request both ticket booths to be moved from storage to Heritage Park by Wednesday, September 16 by Noon.
- Request snow fence to be installed around the perimeter of Heritage Park and Parking Lot.
- Request several picnic tables in the Heritage Parking Lot, as well as lawn area northeast of City Hall and plaza area.
- Request garbage barrels be placed at Heritage Parking Lot, Maple Street, and lawn area northeast of City Hall Plaza from Wednesday, September 16 at 8:00 AM to Sunday, September 20 at 4:00 PM.
- Request city garbage cans located along Main Street be removed or covered to encourage use of garbage barrels

- Request holes created on asphalt to secure rental tents. Holes will be properly repaired as soon as possible post event by the rental company.
- Request installation and use of City tent to be used northeast of City Hall.
- Request stormwater catch basins within Heritage Parking Lot be screened to protect debris from entering the river.
- Request use of orange cones to cover/identify tent stakes.
- Request use of tents, tables, power cords, chairs, brooms, dust pans, and trash pickers on premises over weekend.

**Open Container Exemption – Heritage Parking Lot & Main Street for Car Cruze (Sunday, September 20)**

- Request the exemption of the open container variance on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Street from Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Signage, wristbands, event cups, and other appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safety. We will work with the River Falls Police Department to ensure concerns are addressed prior to the event.

**Variances**

- Request an exception to 8.28.020 Municipal Code: Loud and Unnecessary Noise Prohibited
- Request an exception to 12.20.020(J) Municipal Code: Alcoholic Beverages within Heritage Park during Bacon Friday, September 18 through Sunday, September 20, with the intent to end music and beer sales at 9:30 pm on both evenings on Friday, and Saturday nights (30 minutes prior to end of music).

**Security**

- Request assistance from the Police and *Emergency Services (Allina EMS)* throughout the weekend to maintain safety.
- Request one or two reserve officers to provide overnight security from 10:00 PM – 7:00 AM on Friday, September 18.

**Car Cruise (Sunday, September 20, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM)**

**Street / Property Closures and Parking Enforcement**

- “Reserved Parking” and closure of north and south bound lane of Main Street from Maple to Locust Streets and east and west bound lane of E. Elm Street from Main Street to the alley at 10:00 AM.

**Garbage Barrels and Misc. City Assistance**

- Deliver garbage barrels, safety cones, and barricades to street closing areas by 9AM Sunday, September 20 and pick them up following the event.
- Request assistance from the River Falls Police Department for road closure and to ensure safety.
- Request assistance for “No Parking – Tow Zone” signage installation.
- Request city garbage cans located along Main Street be removed or covered to encourage use of garbage barrels

**RIVER DAZZLE - CHILI CRAWL AND PARADE  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2026**



**Friday, November 27**

- 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM Festivities at Veterans Park & Businesses**  
**5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Reindeer on the Rooftop, Runs, Announcements from awards**  
**6:30 PM Start of Light Parade and streaming on Main Street**

This event includes a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus, chili crawl, lighting of the trees downtown, trolley rides, and costumed carolers. The event concludes with a Santa Run on Main Street, and lighted parade, all to start the holiday season and spirits.

**Street Closures and Parking Enforcement**

- Request “No Parking – Tow Zone” be enforced along north and southbound lanes on Main Street from Pine Street to Locust Street and the westbound and eastbound lanes of E Pine Street from Main to Second Street at 3:00 PM. Request remaining vehicles to be towed by 5:00 PM.
- Request the closure of Riverwalk Alley from 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Request the use of Veterans Park from 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Request closure of Main Street from Pine to Locust Streets (including north lane of Locust Street intersection) at 5:30 PM.
- Request the use of the White Pathway and the South end of the Heritage Park parking lot from Noon – 6:30 PM.
- Request assistance for “No Parking – Tow Zone” signage installation.

**Garbage Barrels and Misc. City Assistance**

- Request city garbage cans located along Main Street be removed or covered to encourage use of garbage barrels
- Deliver garbage barrels along Main Street by 11:00 AM and pick up following event.
- Deliver ticket booth and Santa House to Veterans Park by 10:00 AM, Wednesday, November 25
- Request two barricades at Heritage Park Parking Lot to reserve space for the trolley rides.
- Request two barricades at former Bo Jon’s Flowers and Gifts, two barricades at N Main Street and E Pine Street, and two barricades at N Second Street and E Pine Street for parade lineup.
- Request barricade or snow fencing for ice sculpture at Veterans Park

**Electric**

- Request power in Veterans Park for ticket booth and sound system.
- Request holiday lights in Veterans Park are turned on by Noon
- Request holiday lights on Main Street are turned on at 6:00 PM to signal start of the Mascot Run, Santa Run & lighted parade.

**Security**

- Request assistance from the River Falls Police Department for road closure and traffic control to ensure safety.

**Open Container Exemption**

- Request the exemption of the open container variance on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Street from 1:00 PM – 5:30PM, Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews. Signage, wristbands, event cups,

and other appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safety. We will work with the River Falls Police Department to ensure concerns are addressed prior to the event.

### **For Each Festival**

- Rosa Magnus, CEO, and Collin Geraghty, Events and Member Engagement Manager are Serv Safe Certified
- We will work with City Clerk to apply for Temporary Alcohol License and class B Temporary Beer License upon approval in January/February for all festivals
- We will work with RF Police Department for Parade application and road closures/open container upon approval in January/February for all festivals
- We will work with Public Works and Utilities to ensure logistics are in place
- We will work with RF Fire Department for fire safety of food vendors
- We will notify Pierce County Public Health of the food vendors attending in order for them to come for inspections and check their licenses

We have preparation meetings with these groups, as well as wrap up meetings, to identify successes and challenges to be addressed in the following year.

Thank you once again for your consideration of our city requests for our River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau Signature Festivals.



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM BUREAU REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau intend to hold the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is requesting authorization for the closure of these streets; and

**WHEREAS**, street closure will require the use of public works personnel, barricades and parking enforcement; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Common Council of the City of River Falls hereby approves the request for the closure of these streets to be coordinate through the River Falls Police Department.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM BUREAU REQUEST FOR OPEN CONTAINER EXEMPTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau intend to hold the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is requesting an exemption to Sections 9.24.040 (C) and 12.20.020 (J)(1) of the Municipal Code to allow the consumption of intoxicating beverages for River Falls Days in Heritage Park, including Heritage Park parking lot from 5p.m. Thursday, July 9, 2026 through 3 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2026. Event will close at 10:30 p.m. Thursday Friday and Saturday evenings and Bacon Bash in Heritage Park, including Heritage Park parking lot from 5 p.m. Friday, September 18, 2026, through 10:00 p.m. Saturday, September 19, 2026.

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is requesting an exemption to Sections 9.24.040 (C) of the Municipal Code to allow the consumption of intoxicating beverages for River Falls Days Car Cruze on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Avenue from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews Sunday, July 12, 2026 and for Bacon Bash Car Cruze on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Avenue and Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday September 20, 2026 and

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is requesting an exemption to Sections 9.24.040 (C) of the Municipal Code to allow the consumption of intoxicating beverages on Main Street from Pine Street to Cascade Avenue from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Maple Street from Main Street to City Hall, and the river walking trail from Maple Street to The Garage Bikes & Brews for River Dazzle on November 27; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Common Council of the City of River Falls hereby approves the request for the Parks and Recreation areas exemption and open container exemption for the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, as outline in the Chamber request.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM BUREAU REQUEST FOR NOISE CONTROL EXEMPTION FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau intend to hold the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is requesting an exemption to Section 8.28.020 of the Municipal Code to allow the use of loudspeaker and amplified sound in Veteran's park and Heritage Park during the events; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Common Council of the City of River Falls hereby approves the request for the exemption to the noise control ordinance for the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, as outline in the Chamber request.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM BUREAU REQUEST FOR CITY ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau intend to hold the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau is requesting the use of city owned barriers, picnic tables, trash receptacles; and

**WHEREAS**, police personnel may be needed for parking enforcement and public works personnel will be needed to set up and take down barriers, picnic tables and trash receptacles before and after the event and such services are outside of regular work hours for public works personnel; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Common Council of the City of River Falls hereby approves the use of these public resources at no cost for the following events: River Falls Days, July 9-12, Bacon Bash, September 18-20 and River Dazzle, November 27, as outline in the Chamber request.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Toland and City Council

**FROM:** Scot Simpson, City Administrator

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**TITLE:** **RESOLUTION DIRECTING STAFF ON OUTSTANDING FIRE CALL BALANCES**

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### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt the resolution directing staff regarding the disposition of outstanding balances associated with the now removed “Accident Response Within City Limits” fire fee.

### BACKGROUND

From 2013 through 2025, the City assessed a \$500 “Accident Response Within City Limits” fee associated with certain Fire Department responses. The fee was established as a cost-recovery mechanism, intended to offset a portion of the operational expenses incurred when the Fire Department responded to incidents that were deemed appropriate for partial cost recovery.

Often, the fee required staff time to invoice in excess of fee recovery to handle disputes and collect fees, particularly when the nature or scale of the response conflicted with public expectations of a billable incident. As a result, staff concluded that the administrative effort to manage the fee often exceeded the revenue generated and imposed an unintended burden on some individuals receiving fire services and recommended Council end the fee.

On October 28, 2025, the City Council approved the amended 2026 Fees and Licenses Schedule, which included eliminating the “Accident Response Within City Limits” fee, effective January 1, 2026. As of that effective date, \$7,962.72 in outstanding unpaid balances remain from fees previously assessed. Finance staff have been receiving inquiries from individuals with outstanding balances requesting whether all or a portion of those balances may be forgiven or put on payment plans, each handled on a case-by-case basis. As there is no existing policy direction regarding treatment of these legacy balances, staff are requesting Council direction on how to proceed.

### DISCUSSION

#### Current Status

Although the removal of the “Accident Response Within City Limits” fee has been in effect since January 1, 2026, the City has outstanding balances for previously billed accounts. The following information outlines the status of the outstanding balances related to assessed fees prior to the fee’s removal from the Fees and Licenses Schedule:

- Total outstanding balance: **\$7,962.72**
- Amount paid by individuals who have a remaining balance: **\$1,100 (\$1,000 of which was paid out by insurance for one of the impacted individuals)**
- Average outstanding balance: **\$498**
- Number of open accounts: **16 (2 have not been assessed yet as they occurred late in 2025)**
- Oldest outstanding balance: **October 2025**
- Current collection status:
  - **9 unpaid with no payment plan (2 of which have not yet been assessed)**
  - **4 unpaid and sent a final notice**
  - **2 on a payment plan**
  - **1 request for total forgiveness**

### Policy Considerations

With the “Accident Response Within City Limits” fee discontinued, Council direction is needed on how to resolve the remaining outstanding balances assessed under the prior policy. Staff have outlined the following options to address these legacy accounts in a manner that aligns with current policy, administrative efficiency, and clear communication to those impacted:

- Maintain the Status Quo (Continue Collections)
  - Under this option, the City would continue to pursue collection of outstanding balances using existing billing, dispute resolution, and payment plan processes until accounts are resolved or deemed uncollectible under administrative criteria. This approach maintains current fee collection practices and treats outstanding balances in accordance with the policy in effect at the time the fees were incurred.
- Offer Discounts or Structured Settlements (Time-Limited Program)
  - This option would establish a temporary settlement program to encourage resolution of outstanding accounts. Council may direct staff on settlement parameters such as discount levels, eligibility criteria, approval authority, and program duration (e.g., 90–120 days). The intent would be to accelerate collections and reduce long-term administrative workload while acknowledging the City’s policy change.
- Waive All Remaining Outstanding Balances (Close Out the Program)
  - Under this option, Council would direct staff to waive and close all remaining outstanding balances related to the discontinued fire call fee. Finance would process the necessary accounting adjustments, and staff would notify affected account holders that the balances have been formally closed because of Council’s policy decision.

Given the total outstanding balance amount and the administrative time expected to be incurred to process them, staff recommend that Council choose the option to waive the remaining

outstanding balances. This option presents the clearest, most efficient, and policy-consistent resolution, specifically because:

- The fee in question is no longer assessed, signaling a clear shift in Council's policy direction.
- Continuing to collect (or partially collect) legacy balances require ongoing staff time, administrative effort, and engagement for a program the City has already removed from the Fees and Licenses Schedule.
- As accounts age, the likelihood of successful collection declines while administrative costs persist, diminishing the net value of continued enforcement.
- A full waiver provides a clean close-out, eliminates confusion for impacted individuals, aligns outstanding accounts with current policy, and allows staff to redirect resources to active priorities.

While the revenue would be foregone, the amounts are offset by avoided administrative costs and the benefit of a clear, equitable, and easily communicated resolution.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Staff recommend that the City Council waive all remaining outstanding fee balances related to the prior "Accident Response Within City Limits" fire fee and formally close the program. Alternatively, the Council may take no action, which would direct staff to continue the status quo option, or choose a Time-Limited program with additional direction to staff on parameters.



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING STAFF ON OUTSTANDING FIRE CALL BALANCES**

**WHEREAS**, on October 28, 2025, the Common Council approved the amended 2026 Fees and Licenses Schedule, which eliminated the “Accident Response Within City Limits” fire fee effective January 1, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, as of January 2026, outstanding unpaid balances totaling \$7,962.72 remain from fees assessed under the prior fire fee; and

**WHEREAS**, continued collection of these legacy balances would require ongoing administrative work for a fee that has been discontinued and would not align with current Council policy direction; and

**WHEREAS**, staff recommend waving the remaining outstanding balances as doing so provides a clear, equitable, and administratively efficient resolution that aligns prior assessments with current City policy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of River Falls hereby directs staff to waive and close all remaining outstanding balances associated with the former “Accident Response Within City Limits” fire call fee assessed prior to January 1, 2026. The appropriate staff are directed to take necessary actions to implement this resolution and notify affected account holders accordingly.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Toland and City Council Members

**FROM:** Scot Simpson, City Administrator

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**TITLE:** **ONE-TIME APPOINTMENT OF IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER (IHO) FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS**

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### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of a one-time appointment of Attorney Malina Piontek, Piontek Law Office, Madison, Wisconsin, to serve as the impartial hearing officer (IHO).

### BACKGROUND

A former employee filed a grievance with the City on October 23, 2025, regarding the individual's involuntary separation from employment. The grievance was filed directly with the Mayor. This prompted the Mayor to assume the employer representative role and conduct the investigation as outlined in the City's Grievance Procedure.

The former employee objected to the use of the City's impartial hearing officer, Attorney Max Neuhaus of Rodli, Beskar, Krueger & Pletcher, S.C. Attorney Ryan Heiden from Von Briesen & Roper issued the advice that under the law, the City is not required to hire an alternative council for this process but recommended three alternative attorneys from the Madison area who would not have perceived relationships with the City, should the City choose to seek an alternate IHO. The City Administrator asked Councilmember Diane Odeen to review the suggested options and recommend an individual to fill the IHO role. Council Member Odeen recommended Attorney Malina Piontek.

### DISCUSSION

When an employee issues a grievance that does not reach a resolution under Step 1 of the City's Grievance Procedure, an employee may engage the process outlined in Step 2 and request that an IHO be assigned to review the grievance. The role of the IHO is to determine if the Mayor's decision was arbitrary or capricious. The IHO will issue a written decision. This process complies with the City's Grievance Procedure and Section 66.0509, Wis. Stats. (attached). Upon City Council approval of the recommended IHO, the City will retain the hearing officer to review the grievance.

### CONCLUSION

Staff advises that Council approve the one-time appointment of Attorney Malina Piontek to serve as the impartial hearing officer as outlined in Step 2 of the City's Grievance Procedure.

## GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

This policy is established to comply with Section 66.0509, Wis. Stats., and provides a formal grievance procedure for addressing workplace safety, discipline, and termination matters. It applies to all employees covered under Section 66.0509, Wis. Stats., except for Police and Fire employees subject to Section 62.13(5), Wis. Stats. Employees may appeal any level of discipline under this procedure.

For purposes of this policy, "workplace safety" refers to conditions affecting an employee's physical health or safety, including the safe operation of equipment, the safety of the physical work environment, personal protective equipment, workplace violence, and related training.

Employees are encouraged to first discuss concerns or questions with their immediate supervisor. Every reasonable effort should be made to resolve issues informally before initiating a formal grievance.

### Procedure

#### 1. Step 1 – Filing a Written Grievance

- The employee must file a written grievance with the City Administrator within **five (5) business days** of becoming aware of the event that led to the grievance.
- The grievance must include:
  - Employee's name and position.
  - A clear statement of the grievance and issue involved.
  - The relief sought.
  - Date of the event giving rise to the grievance.
  - Steps taken to address the issue with the supervisor.
  - Employee's signature and date.
- The City Administrator or their designee will investigate the grievance and provide a written decision within **ten (10) business days** of receiving the grievance.
- If the grievance involves the City Administrator, it must be filed with the mayor. The mayor or their designee will conduct the investigation.

#### 2. Step 2 – Review by an Impartial Hearing Officer

- If the grievance is unresolved, the employee may request a review by an impartial hearing officer within **five (5) business days** of receiving the City Administrator's decision.
- The hearing officer will not be a City employee. Their role is to determine if the City Administrator's decision was arbitrary or capricious.
- The grievant bears the burden of proof.
- The hearing officer will decide whether to conduct a hearing or resolve the matter based on written submissions. Formal court rules of evidence do not apply.
- The hearing officer will issue a written decision.

#### 3. Step 3 – Review by the Governing Body

- If unresolved, either the employee or the City Administrator may request a review by the governing body within **five (5) business days** of receiving the hearing officer's decision.
- For Library employees, the appeal is filed with the Library Board. For all other employees, it is filed with the Common Council.

- The governing body will review the grievance and provide a written decision within **ten (10) business days** of its meeting.
- The Common Council or Library Board will decide the matter by majority vote. This decision is final and binding.

### **Additional Guidelines**

- If an employee fails to meet the specified deadlines, the grievance will be considered resolved.
- The grievance procedure does not provide a court-like process but ensures a fair and thorough review of the matter.



**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING ONE-TIME APPOINTMENT OF IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER (IHO) FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS**

**WHEREAS**, a former employee filed a grievance with the City of River Falls on October 23, 2025, regarding the individual's involuntary separation from employment; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's formal Grievance Procedure is in compliance with Section 66.0509, Wis. Stats and determines a process that addresses workplace safety, discipline, and termination matters; and

**WHEREAS**, under Step 2 of the City's Grievance Procedure, an employee is entitled to request that an impartial hearing officer (IHO) review the grievance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council have been advised to appoint Attorney Malina Piontek to serve as the City's one-time IHO for this matter;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of River Falls approves the appointment of Attorney Malina Piontek to act as the impartial hearing officer for the grievance filed on October 23, 2025.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



## PROCLAMATION

### CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS FALCONS FOOTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2025 NCAA DIVISION III FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**WHEREAS**, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Falcons football team completed a historic season by winning its first NCAA Football Championship in program history; and

**WHEREAS**, the Falcons won its first WIAC Championship since 1998 and first outright WIAC Championship since 1985; and

**WHEREAS**, the Falcons made their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1996 and demonstrated exceptional perseverance, talent, and sportsmanship throughout the 2025 season; and

**WHEREAS**, senior Kaleb Blaha became the first Falcon in program history to win the Gagliardi Trophy as the most outstanding NCAA Division III football player and was named the 2025 Stagg Bowl most outstanding player; and

**WHEREAS**, the team was represented with excellence by student-athletes Sam Aho, Alex Anderson, Bradley Arndorfer, Riley Ashburn, Trevor Asher, Brian Ball, Jake Barnard, Brandon Bedalov, Kaleb Blaha, Brady Block, Levi Bolstad, Jack Boraas, Jax Breitenfield, Reece Brenna, Caleb Campbell, Alex Carr, Trent Cherry, Ethan Chromy, Cooper Comish, Kody Curtis, Frank Daniels, Jack Dietz, Max Dietzman, Carter Eklund, Max Erb, Cade Fitzgerald, DJ Fox, Johnny Frank, Jeffrey Freund, Ben Gallus, Levi Hahn, Andre Hall, Adam Hamed, Xavier Hankes, Owen Hansel, Carsen Hauser, Will Heger, Sam Helgestad, Jake Hilton, Joel Humphrey, Boyd Hunt, Nolan Israelson, Devin Johnson, Adam Johnstone, Braden Jones, Mitchell Kallies, Jai Kalvik, Andrew Karls, Tanner Kaufman, Cayden Kershaw, John Klefstad, Carter Klein, Rudy Kletsch, Payton Kopp, Evan Krien, Cade Kuempel, Drew Kuempel, Peter Ladu, Rory Lane, Sebastian Layer, Oliver Liffrog, Colin Lifshitz, Marcus Lomanga, Jonah Mallberg, Korey Maloney, Connor McKenzie, Hunter McKinney, Brian Mikel, Paul Miley, Dominic Miller, Nolan Miller, Gage Monpas, Derek Murphy, Kaleb Neuenfeldt, Kyle Norman, Noah Nusbaum, Levi Oevering, Israel Ogunleye, Evan Olson, Jack Olson, Alec Pelkey, Ethan Perkins, Vincent Peterson, Hunter Pletka, Conner Preston, Ashten Quade, Carter Quam, Kellen Quast, Blake Ramlet, Jaylen Reed, Stephen Reifenberger, Cody Rezny, Blake Rohrer, Owen Rose, Austin Rush, Arthur Russell Jr., Justin Scheberl, Diego Schmitt, Tyler Schneidewind, Beau Schrot, Jared Schultz, Nick Shade, Jeremy Sherlock, Rhowan Smith, Owen Sommer, Tenzing Sonam, Kevin Spahn, DJ Stewart II, Daniel Stokes, Taylor Sussner, Grayden Thatcher, Gage Timm, Jesse Truax, Von Trueheart, Nick Wasko, Landon Weinman, Ben Wesolowski, Caden Wick, and Logan Zywiec; and

**WHEREAS**, the team was guided by outstanding coaches and staff, led by Head Coach Matt Walker, assistant coaches Jake Wissing, Joe Matheson, Alex Wood, Parker Kizer, Kristian Crabb, Scott Imrie, Craig Miles, Pete Range, Bobby Patterson, Ethan Wegscheider, Michael Noll, Jake Kreuter, Charlie Korbein, Aaron Borgerding, Michael Brown, Alex Klecker, Austin Biwer, and Connor Develice, student managers Kallie Beissel and Tate Schuman, strength and conditioning coaches Jake Anderson and Luke Pavlat, and athletic trainers Kristina Mitchell, Adam Johnson, Chris Pabich, and Sean Peterson.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Mayor Dan Toland and the members of the River Falls Common Council, do hereby congratulate the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Falcons football team, the coaching staff, the athletic department, and the chancellor on winning the 2025 NCAA Division III Football National Championship title and wish the student-athletes, coaches, and staff continued success on and off the field.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.

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Dan Toland, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jackie Hanson, Deputy City Clerk



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Dan Toland, Mayor  
**DATE:** January 27, 2026  
**TITLE:** MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Consideration of the following appointments:

#### **Plan Commission**

Appointment of Steven Severson to Plan Commission through May 2027.

#### **Police and Fire Commission**

Re-Appointment of Gary Donath to Police and Fire Commission through April 2031.

#### **Historic Preservation Commission**

Re-Appointment of Casie Radford to the Historic Preservation Commission through January 2029