



OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department
Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal
Corporation, or Sub-unit thereof.

Meeting: **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Members: Gary Gisselman, Doug Diny, Susan Schmidt, Tyler Wildman, Chris Filtz, Ben Gerhards, Veronica Hope
Location: Board Room, 2nd Floor of Wausau City Hall, 407 Grant Street.
Date/Time: **Monday, January 23, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Approve the Minutes of December 5, 2022 Meeting
4. Update: E-Scooter Ordinance
5. Presentation by Amanda Tabin from Aspirus on the Teach Safe Bicycling program
6. Update from Fred Heider on the Safe Routes To School Plan
7. Planning for Bike Month May 2023
8. Next Meeting Date: February 27, 2023
9. Adjourn

It is likely that members of, and a quorum of the Council and/or members of other committees of the Common Council of the City of Wausau will be in attendance at the abovementioned meeting to gather information. **No action will be taken by any such groups.**

Questions regarding this agenda may be directed to the City Planning Office @ (715) 261-6760.

This Notice was posted at City Hall and emailed to the Media on 01/20/2023

Any person wishing to offer public comment may e-mail **City Clerk Kaitlyn Bernarde** at clerk@ci.wausau.wi.us with "BPAC Public Comment" in the subject line prior to the meeting start. All public comment, either by email or in person, will be limited to items on the agenda at this time. The messages related to agenda items received prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Chair.

Other Distribution: Media, Alderpersons, Mayor, City Departments

CITY OF WAUSAU BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Time and Date: The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee met on Monday, December 5, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Wausau City Hall.

Members Present: Gary Gisselman, Doug Diny, Tyler Wildman, Chris Filtz, Veronica Hope, Susan Schmidt

Others Present: Brad Lenz, Andrew Lynch, Cord Buckner, TJ Niksich, Lance Mueller

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the *Wausau Daily Herald* in the proper manner.

Welcome and introductions

Chair Gisselman called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approve minutes of previous meeting(s)

Motion and second by Wildman/Hope to approve the minutes. Approved unanimously.

Discussion: Bicycle Safety and possible ordinance changes

Chair Gisselman brought up the need, in the light of the fatal crash in September, to examine the city bicycle ordinance and look at other programs that could help avoid another tragedy. Lynch noted that after such an incident it is a good idea to look at the physical environment and determine if there was a contributing factor or something that could be changed. Since that was not the case the committee could look at the education and outreach that is being done or could be done. Schmidt noted that the ordinance hadn't been updated in years and didn't mention e-bikes. Officer Buckner explained that the registration system is used to identify and return lost or stolen bikes but there are no inspections or other requirements. Lynch noted that many communities are getting rid of their registration systems and using an online database such as Bike Index. Filtz questioned if there were any school biking instruction or instruction during driver's education. It was suggested to discuss the Safe Routes To School plan that is being written by NCWRPC at a future meeting. The committee also wanted at future meetings to hear about the Aspirus program that is mentioned in the updates. Lynch noted that was tentatively scheduled for the January meeting. Gisselman closed the conversation and voiced his desire for the committee to take some action on this in 2023 and that they could continue to gather information.

Discussion and Possible Action: Traffic Safety Request 7th and Bridge St

Chair Gisselman had received an email from a resident which noted multiple near misses between pedestrians and cars at the intersection of 7th St and Bridge Street. Staff noted that this intersection is likely being crossed by children preparing to use the school crossing at Bridge and 6th St one block away. Schmidt did note that there are times during the day that she will not ride her bike on 7th due to the volume of traffic. Many cars use it as an alternative to 6th Street and to potentially bypass the turn lanes at 6th and Bridge. Niksich offered to place traffic counters at the intersection in the spring and if the volume is high enough it may warrant an upgrade to a four-way stop. It can also be put on the list for painting crosswalks. The committee will likely revisit this item in the spring after the traffic counts are performed.

Updates and Information

Lynch relayed the updates on items from the previous meeting. This was included in the packet.

Future Agenda Items

Aspirus Safety Programs

Offset intersections safety concern at 9th and Forest Park, 11th and Crocker. These were noted by Gerhards as dangerous crossings in his neighborhood.

Adjourn

Motion and second to adjourn by Diny/Schmidt. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Next Meeting is January 23, 2023

ORDINANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Creating Ch. 10.41. Electric scooters.

Committee Action: Approved 5-0

Ordinance Number:

Fiscal Impact: None

File Number: 23-0105

Date Introduced: January 10, 2023

The Common Council of the City of Wausau do ordain as follows:

Add ()

Delete ()

Section 1. That Chapter 10.41 Electric scooters is hereby created to read as follows:

10.41.010 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter:

Electric scooter means a device weighing less than 100 pounds that has handlebars and an electric motor, is powered solely by the electric motor and human power, and has a maximum speed of not more than 20 miles per hour on paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor. Electric scooter does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device, motorcycle, motor bicycle, electric bicycle, or moped.

10.41.020 State laws applicable. Every person using an electric scooter upon a public roadway shall be subject to the provisions of all ordinances and state laws including Wis. Stats. §§346.02(12), 346.80, 346.803, and 346.805, applicable to the operator of any vehicle, except those provisions with reference to the equipment of vehicles and those provisions that, by their nature, would have no application.

10.41.030 Provisions for operation.

(a) Where prohibited. Except as provided in subsection (b), no electric scooters shall be operated on any public sidewalks or any City-owned parking ramps. No electric scooters shall be operated on any roadway, trail, path, or property where a sign is erected indicating that bicycles and/or electric scooters are prohibited.

(b) Permitted Sidewalks. Electric scooters are permitted on the sidewalks in the following locations:

(1) Bridge Street bridge;

(2) Thomas Street bridge;

- (3) Scott Street and W. Washington bridge;
- (4) Grand Avenue, from Schofield City limits to the southern boundary line of Forest Street; and,
- (5) Forest Street, from the east boundary of Sixth Street to the west boundary of Fifth Street.

(c) Riding on roadway.

- (1) Every person using an electric scooter upon a two-way public street shall ride as near as practicable to within five feet of the right curb or edge of the roadway, except when passing another vehicle or making a left-hand turn; and when riding in groups, users of electric scooters shall ride in single file, except on residential streets which are not divided by painted or other marked extra lines where they may ride two abreast. On one-way roads, the user may ride as near as practicable to within five feet of the left-hand curb or edge of the roadway.
- (2) Persons using electric scooters shall not impede the normal movement of motor vehicle traffic.

(d) Bicycle ways. Operation of electric scooters are permitted on any ways, lanes, trails, paths, or other property designated for the use and operation of bicycles.

(e) Clinging to other vehicles. No person using an electric scooter shall cling to or attach themselves or an electric scooter to any moving vehicle.

(f) Contests with other vehicles; stunt riding. No person using an electric scooter shall participate in any race, speed, or endurance contest with any other moving vehicle on a City roadway or perform any trick riding on any highway, bicycle way, or sidewalk or operate with no hands on the handlebars or otherwise practice any fancy or acrobatic riding or stunts while operating such electric scooter.

(g) Traffic regulations and speed limits. Every person using an electric scooter upon a public roadway shall obey all the instructions of official traffic-control devices, signs, and signals applicable to vehicles and shall not operate an electric scooter at a speed greater than the speed limit.

(h) Right-of-way.

- (1) The operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to a person using an electric scooter in the same manner as for bicyclists and pedestrians. When using an electric scooter, every person shall, upon entering a public roadway, yield the right-of-way to motor vehicles, except that a person using an electric scooter shall be subject to the same regulations as bicyclists and pedestrians. Operators of electric scooters shall offer the right-of-way to bicycles in bicycle lanes and on bicycle paths.

(2) Every person operating an electric scooter upon a sidewalk shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian or bicyclist and shall exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle or other electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device or a pedestrian proceeding in the same direction.

(i) Towing prohibited. The operator of an electric scooter shall not tow, drag, or cause to be drawn behind the electric scooter any coaster, sled, toy vehicle, trailer, person on in-line or other skates or skateboard, or any other type of conveyance.

(j) Passengers. No electric scooter shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

(k) Age limit. No person less than eight years of age shall operate an electric scooter on City roadways or sidewalks, except that persons six or seven years of age may do so during daylight hours if accompanied by an adult capable of remaining close enough to ensure the safe operation of the scooter by such child, such as by walking or running alongside, using their own electric scooter or bicycle, or engaging in a similar activity. This subsection is intended to permit the usage of electric scooters by families.

(l) Headphones prohibited. No operator of an electric scooter shall wear any headphones, earphones, or earbuds covering or inserted into both ears while operating an electric scooter.

(m) Equipment regulations. Every person using electric scooters between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise shall have the scooter equipped with a lamp firmly attached to the front of such electric scooter exhibiting a white light to the front, and with a reflector or a lamp mounted on the rear of the vehicle visible at a distance of 500 feet. The reflector shall not be less than three inches in diameter.

(n) Parking. No owner of an electric scooter shall permit it to be left, nor shall any person using an electric scooter leave it, unattended in a manner which obstructs any City roadway or sidewalk or other public way.

10.41.030 Penalty. Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be required to forfeit fifty dollars (\$50.00) as well as court costs and the costs of prosecution.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on the day after its publication.

Adopted:
Approved:
Published:
Attest:

Approved:

Katie Rosenberg, Mayor

Attest:

Kaitlyn A. Bernarde, Clerk



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NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

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NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

May is National Bike Month, promoted by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities from coast to coast. Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling — and encourage more folks to giving biking a try.

[READ ABOUT THE FIRST EVER NATIONAL RIDE A BIKE DAY IN 2021 »](#)

[SIGN UP FOR THE NATIONAL BIKE CHALLENGE »](#)

In 2023, we'll be celebrating ways to #BikeThere during National Bike Month and National Ride A Bike Day on May 7, 2023. There are so many ways to celebrate Bike Month and to #BikeThere: during Bike to Work Week (and Day!), biking to coffee or around the block, and riding on May 7 for #BikeDay.

Bike to Work Week 2023 will take place May 15-19, 2023, and Bike to Work Day is on Friday, May 19!

With a focus on individual and community wellbeing, **we'll be highlighting how you can #BikeThere during Bike Month.** Whether you're riding for fun, fitness or with family, or taking essential trips to work or shop, you are part of our movement for safer streets, connected communities, a healthier planet, and happier people.

As a national sponsor, the League provides resources to help you and local organizations in your area plan an event, and each year the number and diversity of Bike Month celebrations continues to grow, accelerating the momentum around bicycling nationwide.

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