

**Title:** Milwaukee. Common Council

**Call Number:** Mss-0837

**Inclusive Years:** 1849 – ongoing

**Bulk:** 21.52 cu. ft. total

**Location:** BV, Sh. 340, 341 (3.5 cu. ft.)  
BV, Sh. 352, 357-359, 361-368 (18 cu. ft.)  
OS SM “M” (3 items)

**Abstract:** The Common Council first met in 1846 after the three villages of Juneautown, Kilbourntown and Walker’s Point merged to form the City of Milwaukee. The council’s duties included levying special taxes for city improvements, borrowing money/issuing bonds for street work, and to provide the building of sewers, sidewalks, etc. From 1858-1874, Milwaukee’s Common Council consisted of two elected boards – the Board of Aldermen and the Board of Councilors (see Mss-0737 and Mss-0738 for those records). The bicameral system was abandoned in 1874, and the current unicameral organization was adopted.

**Scope and Content:** Collection consists of council proceedings, publications, annual and miscellaneous reports, manuals and other ephemera. The collection is arranged by the following series: Miscellaneous, Manual and Annual Reports, and Proceedings.

**Administrative Note:** Processed by Steve Daily, 1998, and Kevin Abing, 2000.

<b>Series 1: Miscellaneous</b>	<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>
City Charter Related Publications	1	1
- <i>Charter &amp; Ordinances of the City of Milwaukee 1849</i>		
- <i>Amendments to the Charter of the City of Milwaukee 1858</i>		
- <i>An Act to Revise, Consolidate and Amend the Charter of the City of Milwaukee 1874</i>		
- <i>Tentative Draft of a Proposed Charter for the City of Milwaukee 1928 (2 copies)</i>		
- <i>An Act to Confer Home Rule on Cities of the First Class in Wisconsin, prepared by Milwaukee Charter Convention, 1909</i>		
City of Milwaukee Telephone Directories, 1928, 1936, 1949, 1960, 1978	1	2
Common Council <i>The City Hall Reporter</i> , 1897, and <i>Journal of Proceedings</i> , 1911-1936 (not inclusive)	1	3
Historical/Booster/Information Publications	1	4
- <i>Milwaukee: Seventy Five Years a City (2 copies)</i>		
- <i>Making Milwaukee Mightier: A Record of Annexation and Consolidation, 1929 (2 copies)</i>		
- <i>It’s Great to Live in Milwaukee. Here’s why..., 1948</i>		
- <i>Milwaukee at Mid-Century: A Brief Guide to her Government, 1948</i>		
- <i>Milwaukee is Yours!, ca. 1950</i>		
- <i>Milwaukee: An Overview of Milwaukee’s Government, a Brief</i>		

<i>History of Milwaukee and City Hall</i> , n.d.		
- <i>Gifts to the City of Milwaukee Prior to Its Eightieth Anniversary</i> 1926 (2 copies)		
- <i>Milwaukee: A History of City Government and How It Works</i> , ca. 1979		
- <i>Citizen's Guide to Commissions, Committees and Boards</i> , 1986		
- <i>Milwaukee...A City of Progress Through Good Government</i> , 1959 (published by the <i>Milwaukee Sentinel</i> ) [2 copies]		
- <i>Milwaukee Reports to the People</i> , 1955 (published by <i>The Milwaukee Journal</i> ) [2 copies]		
-“ <i>Your Common Council, Aldermen, Council Procedure, Ward map, Standing Committees</i> ”, 1968 leaflet (2 copies)		
<b>Ordinance/Bills Related Publications</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
-“Proposed Condemnation and Benefit Assessment Bill, Drafted Under Instructions of the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee “1930		
-Copy of an ordinance authoring the Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company to construct, maintain and operate street railways in Milwaukee, 1900		
-“Important Facts about New Condemnation and Benefit Law,” 1932 (2 copies)		
-Rules of the Road, Ordinance of the Common Council, 1908		
<b>Miscellaneous Reports</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
- <i>City of Milwaukee Six-Year Capital Improvement Program 1954-1959</i>		
- <i>Schedules of the Recommended 1951-1956 Permanent Improvement Program</i>		
- <i>Miscellaneous Revenues Collected by Milwaukee with Comparative Charges by Sixteen Other American Cities</i>		
- <i>Review of Movement for Standardization of Public Employments</i> , 1916		
-Interpretation and Explanation of Trackless Trolley Ordinance, 1945		
- <i>Strategic Budgeting &amp; Resource Management: A System</i> by Mayor Henry W. Maier, 1982		
-Transcript of Proceedings, Utilities and Licenses Committee re Revocation of Class B License of William J. Shoemaker, 1983		
-1983-84 List of Liquor and Beer Licensees, 1983		
-Information and Data on the Subject of Municipal Lighting, ca 1900		
-An Act to Confer Home Rule on Cities of the First Class in Wisconsin, 1909		
-Annual Report, Public Debt Amortization Fund, City of Milwaukee, 1974		
-Public Enterprise Committee Program for the City of Milwaukee, 1959		

Common Council Directories, 1901-1952, 1970	2	7
Miscellaneous	2	8
Liquor license issued to Michael Eberhardt 1912		
Liquor license issued to Wenzel Popp 1907		
Liquor license issued to William Schilke 1894		
U.S. Stamp for Special Tax on Retail Liquor Dealers 1875		
Ordinance No 431, Annexation Order West Allis 1949-1950		
<i>Blueprints for Civic Progress</i> Capital Improvements Committee report 1952	2	LOOSE
<i>City of Milwaukee Budgets</i> , 1936, 1946, 1979	2	LOOSE
<i>City of Milwaukee: Master Fact Book</i> , ca. 1973	2	LOOSE
<i>City of Milwaukee Proposed Six-Year Program of Public Improvements 1944-1949</i>	2	LOOSE
<i>1965-1970 Capital Improvement Program</i>	2	LOOSE
<i>1967-1972 Capital Improvements Program</i>	2	LOOSE
<b>Miscellaneous Reports (continued)</b>		
Audit Report, City of Milwaukee, 1960 (2 copies)	2A	LOOSE
Visual Organization Inventories, 1973, 1978-1981, 1986	2A	LOOSE
Proposed Executive Budget, Summary and Supplement, 1980	2A	LOOSE
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Department of Building Inspection and Safety Engineering Annual Report, 1963	2A	LOOSE
<b>Miscellaneous Reports (continued)</b>		
Preliminary Report of the Committee on Streets and Terminals to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Plan Association	2B	LOOSE
Report No. 37: Plural Bodies in the Milwaukee City Government, 1950	2B	LOOSE
Report No. 38: General Organization Structure, Mayor's Office, and Summary Comments, 1950	2B	LOOSE
City of Milwaukee, Workable Program for Urban Renewal Recertification, 1960	2B	LOOSE
<i>Milwaukee Speaks on Housing and Blight Elimination</i> , 1945	2B	LOOSE
Management Staff Needs of the Mayor's Office, 1955	2B	LOOSE
Bridges to the Future, City of Milwaukee Capital Improvement Program, 1954	2B	LOOSE
Capital Improvement Program, City of Milwaukee, 1963-1968	2B	LOOSE
Report on Street Lighting Survey of the City of Milwaukee, 1915	2B	LOOSE
Supplementary Report on Street Lighting Survey, City of Milwaukee, 1915 (2 copies)	2B	LOOSE
Report on Municipal Light and Power System, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1934	2B	LOOSE
Milwaukee Should Own and Operate its Gas Utility, ca. 1940s	2B	LOOSE
Acquisition and Control of the Street Railway, Electric Light and Power and Heating Utilities, Summary Report to Common Council, 1921 (2 copies)	2B	LOOSE
Report on the Proposed Service-at-Cost Contract between Milwaukee Electric Ry. & Light Co. and City of Milwaukee, 1924 (2 copies)	2B	LOOSE
An Ordinance Constituting a Contract between the City of Milwaukee and	2B	LOOSE

the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company, 1924		
An Inventory of Functions and Services Performed for the General Public by the City of Milwaukee by George C. Saffran, Budger Supervisor, 1958	2B	LOOSE
<b>Series 2: Manuals/Rules and Annual Reports</b>	<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>
Annual reports – 1921 to 1930	3	LOOSE
Annual reports – 1931 to 1936, 1939-1951	4	LOOSE
Annual reports – 1952-1966, 1968, 1970, 1972-1974, 1976-1977	5	LOOSE
Annual reports – 1976-1982, 1984, 1987-88, 1997-98	6	LOOSE
Manuals/Rules: 1880-1881, 1896, 1900, 1904, 1902, 1906, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1920	7	LOOSE
<b>Series 3: Common Council Proceedings</b>		<b>Shelf</b>
Proceedings 1872-1877, 1888-1905	BV	361
Proceedings 1906-1910, 1912-1918	BV	362
Proceedings 1919-1928	BV	363
Proceedings 1934-1942	BV	364
Proceedings 1943-1948	BV	365
Proceedings 1949-1952	BV	366
Proceedings 1952-1954	BV	367
Proceedings 1955-1956	BV	368
Proceedings 1956-1959	BV	352
Proceedings 1962-1967	BV	357
Proceedings 1962-1967	BV	357
Proceedings 1977-1980	BV	359
<b>OVERSIZE MATERIAL</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	
1937 annual consolidated report (2 copies)	OS SM “M”	
<i>Milwaukee Civic News</i> , 1938	OS SM “M”	