

CITY OF SHEBOYGAN
BOARD OF WATERWORKS COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
Wednesday, August 19, 2026

OPENING OF MEETING

President Howe convened the meeting at 3:30 PM.

Present: President Tom Howe, Secretary Rich Dale.

Superintendent Joe Trueblood

1. Pledge of Allegiance

All present honored the flag of the United States of America.

MINUTES

2. Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2026 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

3. Financial reports and approval of vouchers

Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the reports as presented including gross payroll of \$345,458.22 and general vouchers of \$1,167,818.44. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Superintendent's report including operations, construction-maintenance, and customer relations/fiscal

Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the Superintendent's report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5. Approval to seek annexation petition for Utility property on N. 36th St.

Superintendent reviewed that the Utility had purchased a 5 acre parcel on N. 36th Street due to its availability and ground elevation equivalent to Taylor Hill, which made it suitable for a similar ground level water reservoir. As the Taylor Hill reservoir is approaching 100 years of lifetime, a replacement reservoir will need to be constructed within the next 5 years, and so it makes sense now for the municipality to annex the N. 36th Street property into the City. Commissioner Dale noted that access in N. 36th Street to the south might be needed for a future water main connection to the site. Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to request

that the municipality annex the property as soon as feasible. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of preliminary proposed 2027 Water Utility budget

Superintendent reviewed highlights of the proposed 2027 Water Utility budget which shows budgeted annual revenue of \$17.98M including \$2.9M in non-operating WDNR LSL grants. Superintendent noted that debt service is estimated at \$2.7M, PILOT to the City is at \$1.2M, chemical and electrical costs are at \$1.0M, giving base annual costs of \$4.9M. Superintendent noted that water usage remains flat, which poses a challenge as aging infrastructure needs replacement and costs must be spread over a relatively flat customer base. Superintendent reviewed large capital improvements projects, including water main replacement in LakeShore Drive, short term maintenance on the Taylor Hill reservoir, the ongoing filter 7/8/9 reconstruction project, 20-year meter replacements along with master meter pits at mobile home parks, and site acquisition for a future water treatment plant. Other larger expense projects include feasibility study on upgrades to the Georgia Avenue pump station, design of a future water reservoir, ongoing hydraulic modeling of non-boosted zone areas on the southside of Sheboygan, and ongoing review of new options for a Sheboygan River water main crossing. After further review and discussion, Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the preliminary 2027 budget and to submit the final budget at the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Review Dixon Engineering inspection report on Taylor Hill reservoir

Superintendent updated the Board on results from the recent engineering inspection of the 93 year old reservoir on Taylor Hill. Although the reservoir remains serviceable, it has significant issues impacting its ongoing working lifetime. Short term (5 years) maintenance items have an estimated cost of \$162,000. Long term items have an estimated cost of \$6.6M. A replacement tank of similar size would have an estimated cost of \$3.0M, not including water main extension costs. It would not be feasible to demolish the current structure and build new at the same site. So the existing property at N. 36th Street would serve as the future reservoir site, leaving Taylor Hill reservoir either to be significantly modified or taken out of service in future years. Superintendent noted that Utility staff and consultants will continue to have communications with WDNR about acceptable plans for moving forward with short term repairs.

8. Approval of submittal to WI PSC for water rate case effective in Q1 2027

Superintendent reminded the Board of the last rate increase in April 2025 and of the ongoing need to offset the large debt service incurred under the raw water improvements (RWI) project. Rather than large rate increases, the Utility has sought to increase rates more moderately at bi-annual intervals. Baker Tilly's initial analysis resulted in an estimated revenue requirement increase of 17.9%. Superintendent noted that the filter reconstruction project came in well under budget but is a significant cost, and ongoing critical infrastructure replacement cannot be deferred too long without further escalation in costs. Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to submit the initial rate study to WI PSC for further analysis. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Update on Sheboygan River crossing project

Superintendent noted that Utility staff has engaged with Donohue & Associates for discussion of alternative options for a Sheboygan River crossing after an unsuccessful construction for the Garton toy factory site earlier this year. Superintendent anticipates presenting a proposal for ongoing engineering analysis at the next Board meeting.

10. Renewal of contract for commercial/industrial cross connection surveys

Superintendent reviewed a renewal proposal from Hydro Corp for ongoing commercial/industrial cross connection inspections as required by the State. Hydro Corp began working for the Utility in 2012 and has provided exceptional service throughout. Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to approve the two-year proposal at a cost of \$133,776 for 900 inspections. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL

none

NEXT MEETING DATE

11. Next scheduled meeting:

September 21, 2026 at 3:30 PM

ADJOURN

12. Motion to Adjourn

At 4:30 PM, Commissioner Dale made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Howe, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.