



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, April 06, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Committee Room - City Hall, 3rd Floor 1717
E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 5:00 pm

2. **ROLL CALL**

Committee Members: Shannon Derby, Darla LeClair, Tim Petri

Staff & Others: Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl, Brian Dellemann, Dave Casebeer, Shawn Taddy,
Kyle Kordell

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the March 2, 2026, Public Utilities Committee meeting

Darla LeClair made a motion to approve the March 2, 2026, Public Utilities Committee meeting minutes with item 7A being revised to note the interest rate is zero (0%) percent and not one (1%) percent, seconded as amended by Tim Petri. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT** – N/A

5. **PROJECT STATUS UPDATES**

A. **2025 CIPP**

Visu-Sewer is still in town cleaning and televising the remaining sanitary sewer mains proposed for lining and is approximately 50% complete with the lining work. They did subcontract one spot repair due to a sag in the line on 26th Street between Lincoln Avenue and Jackson Street.

B. **2026 CIPP**

Engineering staff is currently working on plans and specifications to allow this project to be advertised later this month.

C. **2025 LSL Contract**

Essential Sewer & Water continues to replace the remaining lead water services on the east side of the city. Public Works crews have begun preparing pavement for repair in that area.

D. **2026 LSL Contract**

Still waiting for Mammoth Construction to provide an anticipated start date for the near north side LSL program.

E. 2026 Water System Improvement

We received and opened bids from four contractors on March 26. The low, responsive bidder was Vinton Construction, with a bid that was \$217,865.00 below the Engineer's Estimate of Probable Costs. Engineering will recommend awarding the contract to Vinton Construction at the April 6, 2026, City Council meeting.

6. WASTEWATER UTILITY: UPDATES AND ACTION

A. Personnel Update

1. Dave Casebeer – This will be Dave Casebeer's last Public Utilities Committee meeting, as his final day at the plant will be at the end of the month. Thank you, Dave, for 10,475 days (over 28 years and 8 months) of dedicated service to the City of Two Rivers. Congratulations on your well-deserved upcoming retirement.
2. Edward Gilmer – Ed has taken the WDNR wastewater operator exams. He successfully passed the general operator certification but missed passing a specialty certification by one question. He has been performing well overall. He briefly returned to Public Works a few weeks ago to assist with snow plowing.
3. Shawn Taddy – We continue to hold periodic meetings regarding the Superintendent transition, and Shawn appears to be adjusting well to his new upcoming role.

B. Lift Station Updates

1. Jesse Street

Wastewater staff have observed increased pump hours at the Jesse Street lift station, indicating a potential issue. Upon inspection, it was determined that the check valves are not functioning properly, allowing water to flow back into the lift station and causing the pumps to operate more than normal. A contractor is scheduled to replace the valves this week to restore the pumps to normal operation.

C. DPW's JetScan Sewer Camera

Last fall, the sewer camera failed and was sent in for repair at a cost of approximately \$2,000. Within the past week, the camera has failed again. After taking it in for evaluation, the preliminary repair estimate provided was approximately \$8,000.

The existing camera was originally purchased 8–10 years ago at a cost of approximately \$12,000. A comparable replacement unit is currently estimated at around \$20,000. It should also be noted that the current JetScan camera system has limited functionality, particularly that it does not provide distance measurements overlaid on the video. As a result, staff must manually count pipe joints to estimate footage, which reduces efficiency and accuracy during inspections.

Recently, staff received an unsolicited email from a vendor based in Arkansas regarding a portable "tractor/crawler" camera system equipped with a pan-and-tilt camera head. Based on initial review, this type of system would offer enhanced capabilities compared to the existing JetScan unit and may provide improved operational efficiency for the wastewater division.

The quoted sale price for this system is approximately \$24,000. As this is an unfamiliar (off

brand) vendor, staff is conducting additional research to evaluate product reliability, service support, and overall value. In addition, staff will need to determine whether funds are available and identify a potential funding source should this be pursued as an emergency or unplanned capital expense.

- D. Plant influent flow readings may be unreliable over the past several weeks due to a suspected partial obstruction in one of the pipes feeding a primary clarifier, which may be causing artificially elevated readings.

Crews have attempted to clear the line using existing jet nozzles with limited success. A larger, more aggressive jet nozzle has been secured and will be used later this week in an additional cleaning attempt.

If these efforts are unsuccessful, it may be necessary to drain the primary clarifier and perform cleaning operations under no-flow conditions within the line and tank.

7. ELECTRIC AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS UTILITIES: DIRECTOR UPDATES AND ACTION, IF APPLICABLE

A. Utility Moratorium April 15th Update

It has recently been noted that there are 948 utility accounts with past due balances ranging from less than \$100 to several thousand dollars.

On April 14, 24-hour disconnect notices will be issued to properties with outstanding balances. On April 15, electrical service will be physically disconnected at properties that received notice and remain delinquent.

Also on April 15, a second round of 24-hour disconnect notices will be issued to additional properties with past due accounts. On April 16, further electrical service disconnections will occur for those properties that remain unpaid following notification.

B. Unit #3 Transformer Testing

Annual testing of the newer unit #3 transformer unit will be conducted and will take approximately one week to complete. Prior to the unit being taken off line, the loads will be transferred to the other two transformer units.

C. Community Electronic Recycling

- June 9th, 2026, from 7:30 am to 5 pm at the Electric Utility, 1415 Lake Street
- Utilizing a new vendor with a new, more cost-friendly pricing

D. Project Updates

- Recently installed underground services in the new phase of Sandy Bay Highlands; conditions were very muddy and sloppy. A new service was installed on Riverview Drive for a residential property.
- Completed electric meter replacements to the newer style that allows for remote disconnection, with over 100 meters swapped out recently.
- Received the initial 2026 order of 864 new meters. With the approved WPPI loan, an additional 864 meters will be ordered for 2026.
- Winter tree trimming has concluded. Dave's Tree Service from Sturgeon Bay was utilized for larger trees along Columbus Street and Hawthorne Avenue (STH-310).

8. **WATER UTILITY: DIRECTOR UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED – No update**

9. **STORM WATER UTILITY: UPDATES AND ACTION, AS NEEDED**

A. **MS4 Stormwater Master Plan Update**

No new information is available at this time.

10. **SOLID WASTE UTILITY: UPDATES AND ACTION, AS NEEDED**

A. **Recycling Grant Annual Report**

Staff is compiling the necessary information for Engineering to submit the annual report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources by the end of April.

B. **Garbage & Recycling Discussion**

A brief discussion was held regarding recent social media postings about the City's solid waste collection program, specifically concerning the methods and costs. It was unclear whether any written or verbal authorization had been given to the contractor to begin work prior to the contracted start time.

Residents who wish to obtain carts can purchase them locally, and Manitowoc Disposal may have some available for purchase.

The current contract is believed to be in good standing. The committee is encouraged to develop potential questions to ask the public regarding their future preferences for refuse and recycling collection.

C. **Landfill – WDNR Preparing to support Efforts to address PFAS Contamination**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) provided an email update stating that Tony Evers signed two bills to aid with PFAS contamination. Assembly Bill 131 is now 2025 Wisconsin Act 201, which creates new grant programs to help Wisconsin communities address PFAS contamination in drinking water, wastewater, landfills, and industrial and commercial sites.

Staff will be evaluating how Act 201 may potentially benefit the City in the future. This funding could assist in offsetting costs related to sludge sampling and disposal, expanded sludge testing, and efforts to remove PFAS at the source rather than at the wastewater treatment plant. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

11. **ANY OTHER ITEMS OR ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE, WITH DISCUSSION AND ACTION – N/A**

12. SET DATE, TIME AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Proposed for Monday, May 4, 2026, at 5:00 pm

13. ADJOURNMENT: 5:49 pm

Tim Petri by made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Darla LeClair. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: *Matthew R. Heckenlaible*

Public Works Director/City Engineer