



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, July 01, 2024 at 5:00 PM

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

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 5:05 pm

2. **ROLL CALL**

Committee Members: Tim Petri, Darla LeClair, Shannon Derby – All present

Staff & Others: Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl, Greg Buckley

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the June 3, 2024, Public Utilities Committee Meeting

Shannon Derby made a motion to approve the June 3, 2024, Public Utilities meeting minutes, seconded by Darla LeClair. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT – N/A**

5. **CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

A. **Roosevelt Avenue reconstruction update**

Scott Ahl provided an update stating that all of the sanitary sewer main has been completed as of last week. Presently one crew is working on the remainder of the water main while a second crew is working on the installation of water services and sanitary laterals. They are anticipating the completion of the water main the week of July 8th and then working on the mainline storm sewer.

B. **LSL overview**

The contract has been awarded and awaiting a preconstruction meeting. Over the past week, City and Manitowoc County staff had a conversation pertaining to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and the use of them. Manitowoc County was not comfortable with utilizing ARPA and WDNR Safe Drinking Water Fund loan (SDWF) for private side water services so they stated their portion of the ARPA funding will only be used on the public side of the water services and that they will only match the City's ARPA funding if spent on the same items (public side water services). That leaves the City in a difficult situation regarding the \$2,500 grant that we have supplied to property owners in the past and intended to continue to do so with this project.

Staff has had multiple discussions with consultants, bond council and WDNR staff regarding funding strategies in order to move forward with this project.

An option that is being investigated and is awaiting confirmation from WDNR is whether City general tax funds can be utilized to pay a portion of the SDWF loan back on behalf of the property owner. Indications appear favorable; but, at this time, we don't have a definitive answer.

Other alternatives are being investigated as well.

Further discussion will be provided at the July 1, 2024, full City Council meeting.

C. Riverside Foods update

City staff had a meeting scheduled with Riverside Foods representatives to discuss how construction and startup is progressing. The meeting was cancelled when it was conveyed to City staff that they were not anticipating beginning construction until this fall. They stated their contractor is booked out that far.

After some of the recent rains, there were a few challenges observed at the wastewater plant that appear to be a result of significant fat, oil and grease build up. In a follow-up discussion with Riverside Foods about these most recent issues, they are checking if they can urge their contractor to begin in mid-August.

WDNR is also taking a special interest in Riverside Foods as they just hired a "Pretreatment Coordinator" for this region and are looking at attempting to schedule an on-site meeting and inspection of their processes.

D. Sandy Bay Highlands 3 update

The initial portion of the project is out for bid with the advertised bid opening July 10th. The base bid area is the first part of Orchard Lane and the cul-de-sac and Rawley Court to the west of Orchard Lane. There is an add on bid included for the remainder of Orchard Lane north of Rawley Court to the end of the property and approximately 400 feet of Sandy Ridge Drive west of Orchard Lane. This also includes applicable stormwater management features.

Anticipating forwarding an award recommendation to City Council on July 15, 2024.

Construction is not anticipated to begin until after the Manitowoc County Parade of Homes which is September 12-14, 2024.

6. WASTEWATER UTILITY: UPDATES AND ACTION

A. Plant operations during June storms

The new WPDES Wastewater Permit is out for public comment and is anticipated to be effective beginning August 1, 2024, for a period of five (5) years.

The wastewater plant observed significantly higher influent flows than effluent flows due to the substantial rains that were observed over the weekend of June 19-21. At no time did we release any untreated wastewater and in fact there appeared to be capacity within the plant.

After the flows diminished, an outside resource came to check the accuracy of the influent flow meter and the effluent flow meter. Both meters seem to be reading correctly which caused additional questioning as to why the difference in readings. Further investigation revealed that piping leading from the influent flow meter to the primary clarifiers was partially obstructed with a solidified chunk of fat, oil and grease causing a backwater condition which provided a false representation of the flows coming into the plant.

That fat, oil, and grease partial obstruction has since been cleared by wastewater and DPW forces and flow readings have come back with similar influent and effluent meter readings. However, some large grease chunks were able to get into the primary clarifier and pH levels

were rising slightly. Wastewater staff is monitoring that condition to prevent the treatment process becoming unbalanced.

As previously mentioned, Riverside Foods has been notified of this situation, thus the push to get there project completed sooner rather than later.

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

A. June 25th storm recap

Outages were scattered throughout the City. The first call was reported at 3:39 am to the on-call employee. There were a total of five field employees that responded to work after the notification. The Electric Director also joined the crews in efforts for restoration and most customers were back up by 6:00 am.

Two other areas of the City were affected. The Industrial Park on Woodland Drive due to a large, downed tree with service restored around 7:30 am and 12th St which started around 9:00 am affecting a large area of the south side with service restored around 11:00 am.

Community notification and updates were handled through the office manager. As areas were completed the crews relayed that information to keep the customers informed.

8. WATER UTILITY: DIRECTOR UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED - NO UPATE

PW Director Heckenlaible made a comment that he received an email from WDNR pertaining to a notice of preliminary hearing on statement of scope for NR 809 (Lead and Copper). The objective of the proposed rule is to update chapter NR 809 related to control of lead and copper in public drinking water to be consistent with 2021 Federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) under 40 CFR 141.80 to 141.93, the anticipated 2024 Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) and other federal laws addressing lead and copper in public drinking water.

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

A. Storm water master plan update

McMahon has prepared/updated some existing conditions maps that will be the base point of where the modeling will continue from. Staff is reviewing those maps and making comments back to McMahon. Hoping to have modeling data by the end of the year.

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

Due to the rains making the landfill saturated, the repairs to the northerly seep have been put on hold so that construction activities do not do more damage to the vegetation and cap than is necessary.

Further sampling and investigation of other potential discharges have been determined to be unnecessary from the early May complaint.

The wet weather is impacting the quantity of effluent flow being discharged into the collection system. The source of this effluent flow is unknown but assumed to be groundwater from offset and not water that is infiltrating through the clay cap.

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS OR ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE, WITH DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- A. Greg Buckley added a note that in the past couple of weeks, the June Newsletter was sent out separately and not as part of the Utility Bills. The newsletter contained the Water Utility's Water Quality Letter that is required to be sent out to property owners and users annually by the end of June. This was an exception to the normal practice.
- B. Frontier Communications – No update on status of project.

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

Proposed for Monday, August 5, 2024, at 5 pm prior to Council meeting

13. ADJOURNMENT: 5:44 pm

Shannon Derby made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Darla LeClair. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: *Matthew R. Heckenlaible*
Public Works Director/City Engineer