



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, October 06, 2025 at 5:00 PM

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

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:01 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Darla LeClair, Tim Petri Excused: Shannon Derby

Staff & Others: Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl, Brian Dellemann, Dave Casebeer, Andrew Sukowaty, Kyle Kordell, Michelle Dax

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the September 2, 2025, Public Utilities Committee Meeting

Tim Petri made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2, 2025, Public Utilities Committee meeting, seconded by Darla Leclair. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC INPUT – N/A

5. CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

A. Harbor, 16th, Emmet Street Reconstruction

1. Utility work completed. Now working on grading, graveling, and prepping for pavement.

B. 2025 Lead Service Lateral Replacement Project

1. Contractor working on Jackson Street and transitioning over to the Garfield Street area
2. DPW Streets staff are following behind making pavement repairs in a timely manner as weather permits

C. 2025 Sewer Lining Project

1. Anticipated to be a late fall/winter installation of approximately 10,000 lineal feet

6. WASTEWATER UTILITY: UPDATES AND ACTION

A. Certified Collection System Operator

As of August 2024, the City's WPDES permit requires the presence of a Certified Collection System Operator. While we technically have two certified individuals on staff, the Wisconsin DNR has clarified that certification must apply specifically to personnel who are actively engaged in the cleaning and maintenance of the sewer collection system.

Since our currently certified staff do not perform direct sewer cleaning duties, the DNR has indicated that we must have at least one certified individual within the DPW – Street division

who is directly involved in these operations. To ensure compliance, we will need to designate a Street Division staff member to obtain the required certification.

This is a new proposed position within our 2026 budget.

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

A. Current Project Update

1. Two new houses. Will install new lighting when curb & gutter paving complete.
2. 4000 Mishicot Road – converting from overhead to underground. Only electric will be converted. Poles will remain for Telecom.
3. Changes 150 meters in last month. Backorder time of new meters is now greatly reduced from 18 months to 1-2 months.

B. Public Power Week

Public Power Week runs this week from October 5-10.

C. Two Rivers Utilities Food Drive

Utilities holding a food drive at their facility from October 6-17.

D. Bucket Truck Update

Delivery was expected in March 2025 but has been delayed. Delivery is now expected in January 2026.

8. WATER UTILITY: DIRECTOR UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED

A. Chemical Treatment Update

1. Lead/Copper recent changes update
 - a. 3-years to implement – October, 2027
 - b. 10-year get the lead out – being changed at the national level
 1. 15 parts/billion down to 10 parts/billion
 2. First and 5th liter samples

B. Fluoride – Council Brief

There is a growing trend toward moving away from community water fluoridation, a practice that has long inspired strong opinions on both sides. Currently, there is no federal mandate requiring fluoridation, and the decision is made at the local or state level. Fluoride was first added to public water supplies in the 1940s and 1950s to help prevent tooth decay. Since then, fluoride has also been added to toothpaste and mouthwash, giving individuals additional sources of protection against cavities. However, because fluoride is often added directly to community water systems, consumers do not have a personal choice in whether they consume it.

Thirteen communities have removed fluoride for various reasons.

- It is corrosive and hazardous in bulk levels.
- EPA getting a lot of pushback

- All city council directive for additive
- 90% goes directly to Lake Michigan and is not consumed by the consumer
- Why now? Might be pertinent to consider with current discussions
- \$5,000 chemical cost + \$7,000-\$10,000 safety equipment costs = \$12,000-\$15,000 per year

Michelle Dax expressed concerns related to the negative impacts of fluoride. This may be a future agenda item for a future council work session.

9. STORM WATER UTILITY: UPDATES AND ACTION, AS NEEDED – No update

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

A. Wastewater WPDES Permit Impact

Under the Wastewater WPDES permit issued in August 2024, the wastewater utility is required to sample both the effluent and influent to determine the levels of PFOS and PFOA in the waste stream. Sampling results have confirmed the presence of these “forever chemicals” within our wastewater system.

Due to the detected levels, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has provided the city with a verbal notice requiring the wastewater division to develop a PFOS and PFOA minimization plan and determination. This plan will involve evaluating the wastewater collection system to identify potential source locations of these contaminants.

The first and most obvious location that came to staff’s mind was the landfill discharges.

In short, a significant portion of what we are observing at the wastewater treatment plant appears to originate from the landfill. At this time, no immediate action is required at the landfill; however, future requirements are anticipated. Unfortunately, it remains unclear what those requirements will entail.

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

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

Joint Public Utilities and Personnel & Finance Meeting proposed for Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 6 pm

13. ADJOURNMENT: 6:00 pm

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