Public Works Committee Meeting

Cravath Lakefront Room, 2nd Floor
312 W. Whitewater St.
Whitewater, WI 53190
*In Person and Virtual

Tuesday, September 08, 2026 - 5:00 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER
The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order by Board President Hicks at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL
PRESENT: Board Member Smith, Board Member Schanen, Board President Hicks
ABSENT: None
OTHERS: Marquardt

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion made by Board Member Schanen to approve the agenda for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, Seconded by Board Member Smith.

Voting Yea: All via voice (3)
Voting Nay: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Approval of minutes from August 11, 2026**
   Motion made by Board Member Schanen to approve the minutes from August 11, 2026, Seconded by Board Member Smith.

   Voting Yea: All via voice (3)
   Voting Nay: None

HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS
None

NEW BUSINESS

2. **Discussion and Possible Action regarding traffic and pedestrian safety on Ann Street.**
   Marquardt stated at a recent Council meeting, a resident asked for speed bumps to be placed on Ann Street between Trippe Street and Fremont Street or stop signs to be placed on Ann Street at Trippe Street due to the number of cars speeding. This item was previously reviewed at the July 11, 2023, Public Works Committee meeting to discuss the inclusion of speed bumps while the street was being designed for reconstruction. For that meeting the Police Department set up a speed board to collect data including the highest speed of each car. The speed board was out for 12 days, collecting data from 1,732 vehicles. The data showed 1,303 (75%) of the vehicles were at or below the posted speed of 25 mph. The 85th Percentile, the percentile which the speed limit should be set for, was 27 mph. Of the 429 vehicles over the limit, 416 were within 10 mph of the speed limit and 13 were recorded at more than 35 mph.

Before Ann Street was reconstructed between Trippe Street and Fremont Street, there was no sidewalk on the north side of the street. On the south side, the existing sidewalk extended east from Trippe Street for approximately 270 feet before turning and terminating in the street—roughly one-quarter of the distance to Fremont Street.

As part of the reconstruction project, the Public Works Committee determined that a sidewalk would not be installed along the south side of Ann Street east of the existing sidewalk. This decision was based on right-of-way constraints near the Fremont Street and Ann Street intersection, existing topography and trees, and the proximity of adjacent homes to the proposed sidewalk alignment.

For stop sign installation, staff refers to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for guidance. Section 2B.04-Guidance (05) states "YIELD or STOP signs should not be used for speed control".

At the July 11, 2023, Public Works meeting, the Committee decided to not take any formal action on the installation of speed bumps.

Staff's recommendation, consistent with past recommendations on similar requests, is to not install speed bumps or a stop sign at the Trippe Street/Ann Street intersection. This recommendation is based on guidance from the MUTCD for Stop Sign installations and Multi-Way Stop Applications and from the results of the previous speed study. The Police Department has also indicated they have had additional patrols in the area in the last few months but have not issued any speeding tickets.

President Hick opened the floor to public comment.

Dave Stone, W. 303 Ann St. stated he may have seen one car, the last couple of months, traveling at a high rate of speed. Otherwise, he didn't see any. Dave said it's a low volume street for cars.

Beverly Stone, W. 303 Ann St. stated there really isn't much traffic on Ann St.

President Hicks closed the floor to public comment.

Marquardt stated Strand came back with a price of $3,000 - $4,000 for a study consisting of a two-week period.

No action was taken by board members at that time.

Marquardt will do a staff report to Council at the next meeting since this item was brought up at a Council meeting.

3. Discussion and Possible Action regarding changing the hours of operation for ATV/UTVs.

Marquardt stated the City enacted an Ordinance in November 2021 that allowed the operation of ATV/UTVs on City streets. Part of that Ordinance included a provision that ATV/UTVs could not be operated between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. At the August 4, 2026, Common Council meeting, Alderperson Hicks asked for a review of these hours.

At the August 11, 2026, Public Works meeting a few questions were asked that needed input from the City Attorney. The questions emailed from the Police Chief to the City Attorney along with the City Attorney's responses are listed below.

1) The request to extend the ATV/UTV restricted hours from 10:00 p.m. - 5:00 a.m. to midnight – 5:00 a.m. received some pushback at the PWC meeting tonight due to the increased potential for intoxicated operation. The discussion then went to how the penalties for intoxicated operation of an ATV/UTV on a roadway amount to a DNR violation under statute 23.33 instead of an OWI under statute 346.63 and without the DL restrictions. The question that came up was whether it would be possible to add a restriction in our ordinance that increased the penalty and essentially would make the penalty for operating an ATV/UTV equivalent to an OWI…I deferred to you on that and let them know that we'd bring it back to PWC once we had a researched legal answer as to if/how that could be accomplished. I can't see how it could be done (other than possibly the financial penalty increasing).
City attorney: State statute prohibits creating a municipal ordinance that is more restrictive or has higher penalties than that laid out in 23.33. Due to that, maintaining the current process of enforcing this as a DNR violation is the best course of action.

2) Regarding ordinance 11.45.030, the consensus was to remove subsection 3 (requirement to operate on extreme right side of roadway), which I did not have an issue with. Please let me know if you see any unintended consequences.
City attorney: No concerns with removing 11.45.030(3).

3) The PWC also discussed potentially removing subsection 4 (restriction of operating on paved surfaces only), but I believe they removed that request. On this one I think it would be a mistake to remove that as we could then see people operating in public spaces like parks without recourse. Again, curious to get your thoughts.
City attorney: Recommendation is to keep 11.45.030(4) as removal would technically allow ATV/UTV operators to drive in the right-of-way which in some cases includes lawns of homeowners.

In November 2021, the Common Council adopted Chapter 11.45 – Operation of all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles allowed.

Staff will create an Ordinance Amendment, if needed, based on the direction of the Public Works Committee.

Motion made by Board President Hicks to change hours for ATV/UTV use within the City limits to no operating between midnight to 5:00 a.m. including suggestions from the City attorney on removing section 11.45.030(3), Seconded by Board Member Smith.

Voting Yea: Board President Hicks, Board Member Smith
Voting Nay: Board Member Schanen

4. Discussion and Possible Action regarding mailbox replacement policy due to snowplow damage.

Marquardt stated the Street Department currently does not have a written policy regarding replacement of mailboxes damaged during snowplowing events. This policy establishes guidelines, based on current practice, on when the city is responsible for repairing/replacing a mailbox related to snowplow damage.

The maximum amount the City will pay for replacement of a mailbox is $75.

Staff recommended a motion to approve the Mailbox Replacement Policy.

Marquardt stated this does not have to go to Council, per City attorney.

Motion made by Board Member Schanen to approve the mailbox replacement policy due to snowplow damage, Seconded by Board Member Smith.

Voting Yea: All via voice (3)
Voting Nay: None

5. Discussion and Possible Action regarding John's Disposal request for rate increase.

Marquardt stated Staff received a request from John's Disposal asking for a 3.8 % increase ($0.62) per unit, monthly increase as outlined below. According to the contract, John's may request an annual adjustment up to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI is 3.8%.

	2026	2027 (3.8%)	Increase
Garbage	$9.75	$10.12	$0.37
Recycle	$4.50	$4.67	$0.17
Bulk	$2.17	$2.25	$0.08
	$15.95	$16.42	$0.62

Since September 2019, John's Disposal has received approval for annual rate increases for garbage, recycling, and bulk collection services. The approved rate changes are as follows:

- In September of 2019, John's Disposal was approved for a recycling rate increase from $2.59 to $3.59 for 2020.
- In October 2020, John's Disposal was approved for a recycling rate increase from $3.59 to $3.84 for 2021.
- In September 2021, John's Disposal was approved for rate increases for garbage from $8.29 to $8.70, recycling from $3.84 to $3.85, and bulk from $1.66 to $1.85 for 2022.
- In October 2022, John's Disposal was approved for rate increases for garbage from $8.70 to $9.00, recycling from $3.85 to $4.15, and bulk from $1.85 to $2.00 for calendar year 2023.
- In September 2023, John's Disposal was approved for rate increases for garbage from $9.00 to $9.25, recycling from $4.15 to $4.27, and bulk from $2.00 to $2.06 for calendar year 2024.
- In September 2024, approval was granted for rate increases in garbage from $9.25 to $9.47, recycling from $4.27 to $4.37 and bulk from $2.06 to $2.11 for 2025.
- In September 2025, approval was granted for rate increases in garbage from $9.47 to $9.75, recycling from $4.37 to $4.50 and bulk from $2.11 to $2.17 for 2026.

City Staff estimated a $0.53 increase for 2027 in the 2026-2027 budget. With an estimated 2800 toters for 2027, the $0.62 rate increase is an additional $3,024 for the 2027 budget. The total increase over the 2026 budget is $20,832.

Marquardt noted our contact with John's expires at the end of 2027. Marquardt will start the renewal process during the spring/summer of 2027. Per our policy, an RFP needs to take place every five years.

Since the requested increase is in line with the CPI, staff's recommendation is for the Committee to recommend approval of the rate increase for 2027 to the full Council.

Motion made by Board President Hicks to forward to Council the annual rate increase for garbage, recycling, and bulk collection services from John's Disposal, Seconded by Board Member Smith.

Voting Yea: Board Member Smith, Board Member Schanen, Board President Hicks

Voting Nay: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Board Member Schanen to adjourn the Public Works meeting at 5:22 p.m., Seconded by Board Member Smith.

Voting Yea: All via voice (3)
Voting Nay: None

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Stoll

Alison Stoll, Administrative Assistant
Department of Public Works

*Minutes approved on October 13, 2026