



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
www.cityofracine.org

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Waterworks Commission

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Tuesday, October 29, 2019

4:00 PM

City Hall Annex, Room 227

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#### Roll Call

**PRESENT:** 5 - Kathy DeMatthew, Thomas Bunker, Natalia Taft, John Tate II and James Palenick

**EXCUSED:** 3 - Terry McCarthy, Cory Mason and James Spangenberg

#### Approval of Minutes for the September 23, 2019 Meeting

A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be to Approve the Minutes

[1210-19](#)

**Subject:** Budget Expenditures for September totaling \$1,689,096.62

**Recommendation:** Approve

A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by City Administrator Palenick, that this file be Approved

[1209-19](#)

**Subject:** Project Reports:

- A) Foxconn Water Main Updates
- B) Update on CCT Study
- C) Update on Vulnerability Study
- D) Update Real Estate Acquisition
- E) Update on New Vacancies and Filling Vacancies

**Recommendation:** Receive and File

*General Manager gave a report on the open projects and where they stand as of today*

A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Approved

[0957-19](#)

**Subject:** Change Order No. 1 on Contract W-19-5, Durand Avenue Water Main Replacement, A.W. Oakes (Contractor)

**Recommendation on October 29, 2019:** Defer

**Recommendation on November 19, 2019:**

A motion was made by Vice President Tate II, seconded by Bunker, that this

file be Deferred

[1100-19](#)

**Subject:** Change Order No. 1 on Contract W-19-11, Perry Ave. to Newman Rd. 48" Transmission Water Main, S.J. Louis Construction, Inc. (Contractor)

**Recommendation on October 29, 2019:** Defer

**Recommendation on November 19, 2019:**

A motion was made by Vice President Tate II, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Deferred

[1219-19](#)

**Subject:** Change Order No. 1 on Contract W-19-19, Water Main Replacement - Phase 4, Willkomm (Contractor)

**Recommendation:** Approve

*Abandoned sewer conflict; remove portion of sewer and add concrete bulkhead*

A motion was made by Secretary DeMatthew, seconded by Bunker, that this file be Approved

[1221-19](#)

**Subject:** Change Order No. 1 on Contract W-19-12, Summit Avenue Elevated Storage Tank Pump, Staab Construction Corporation (Contractor)

**Recommendation:** Approve

*This change order is for a 4 inch drain line relocation, landscaping additions and WE Energies charges over allowance*

A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Approved

[1215-19](#)

**Subject:** Easement for WE Energies at Summit Avenue booster station

**Recommendation:** Approve

A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Approved

[1214-19](#)

**Subject:** Request for the General Manager of the Water Utility to be named the authorized representative for Financial Assistance Loans from the State of Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund.

**Recommendation of the Waterworks Commission:** To Approve.

**Recommendation to the Finance & Personnel Committee on**

**11-11-2019:** That permission be granted to the general manager of the Water Utility to be named the authorized representative for Financial Assistance Loans from the State of Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A - As part of the loan process, the State requires that an authorized representative be appointed. General Manager, Keith Haas, shall be appointed.

*Referred to F&P for approval*

**A motion was made by Secretary DeMatthew, seconded by Bunker, that this file be Referred**

[1208-19](#)

**Subject:** Resolution for the City of Racine to file a Declaration of Official Intent to reimburse for funds for the Plant Pumping Improvements project (SDWLP)

**Recommendation of the Waterworks Commission:** To Approve.

**Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on**

**11-11-2019:** That permission be granted to the general manager of the Water Utility to file a Declaration of Official Intent to reimburse for funds for the Plant Pumping Improvements project (SDWLP).

**Fiscal Note:** Passage of this resolution will allow the Racine Water Utility to reimburse itself for any funds advanced for planning and engineering ahead of a loan

**A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by City Administrator Palenick, that this file be Referred Finance and Personnel Committee**

[1213-19](#)

**Subject:** Proposal from raSmith for Professional Services for TID#1 water main construction

**Recommendation:** Approve

**A motion was made by Secretary DeMatthew, seconded by Vice President Tate II, that this file be Approved**

[1220-19](#)

**Subject:** Proposal from Ruckert-Mielke to provide engineering services for the existing water system alterations STH20 and CTH H

**Recommendation:** Approve

**A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Approved**

[1199-19](#)

**Subject:** Request from Ruckert-Mielke for additional funds for the additional design services for the additional work efforts with regards to wholesale meter stations at Newman Rd. and Emmertsen Rd

**Recommendation:** Approve

**A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Approved**

[1085-19](#)

**Subject:** Discussion of Health Care Changes for Active Employees

**Recommendation:** Approve

*A motion was made by Commissioner Bunker and seconded by Commissioner DeMatthew to maintain the current health plan for active employees for 2020. Commissioner Bunker read a historical perspective on why it is important to maintain a strong benefit package for existing and future employees for the Utilities in the interest of public health and well being of the community. Eroding the current benefits offered will not make the Utilities a desirable employer of choice in the future. A lengthy discussion followed. The motion failed on a 3 to 2 voice vote.*

*Following additional discussion a motion was made to adopt the City Plan (3000/6000 HSA) with a 7.5% premium share and with a stipend of \$2500 to be placed in all active employees HSA accounts*

**A motion was made by Vice President Tate II, seconded by President Taft, that this file be Approved**

[1086-19](#)

**Subject:** Discussion of Health Care Changes for Retired Employees Between 55 and 65 Years of Age

**Recommendation:** Approve

*The Utility adopts the 3000/6000 changes. That this group of pre 65 retirees pay a 7.5% premium share. Furthermore, staff shall bring back an appropriate stipend to mitigate the cost impact in health care plan*

**A motion was made by Vice President Tate II, seconded by President Taft, that this file be Approved**

[1087-19](#)

**Subject:** Discussion of Health Care Changes for Retired Employees Over the Age of 65

**Recommendation:** Approve

*Proposed for those of age 65 and over the Medicare B reimbursement be fixed at \$135.50 for all retirees and or spouse over 65. Further that all pay 7.5% premium share and that the Utility will neutralize the cost impact. Commissioner Bunker abstained*

**A motion was made by President Taft, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Approved**

**CLOSED SESSION**

It is the intent that the Waterworks Commission convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of a utility employee. It is also the intent that open session will follow closed session.

[1211-19](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the General Manager discussing a personnel matter

**Recommendation:** Defer

A motion was made by Bunker, seconded by Secretary DeMatthew, that this file be Deferred

**OPEN SESSION**

[1217-19](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Chief of Operations submitting revisions for the policy manual with regard to Operator Intern Program modification

**Recommendation on October 29, 2019:** Defer

**Recommendation on November 19, 2019:**

A motion was made by Vice President Tate II, seconded by President Taft, that this file be Deferred

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Secretary DeMatthew, seconded by Bunker, to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.