



# City of Racine

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Waterworks Commission

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Wednesday, April 16, 2025

6:00 PM

City Hall, Room 207

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The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Commission Vice-President, John Tate II, who was chairing the meeting in Commission President Jorgenson's absence.

#### ROLL CALL

**PRESENT:** 5 - John Tate II, Natalia Taft, Cory Mason, Jim Sullivan and Marlo Harmon

**EXCUSED:** 2 - Jens Jorgensen and Nick Barootian

[0407-25](#)

**Subject:** Approval of Minutes for the March 19, 2025, Waterworks Commission Meeting

**Staff Recommendation:** To Approve

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

A motion was made by Harmon, seconded by Vice President Taft, that this file be Approved.

[0422-25](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Utility Director with a Formal Introduction of the Retained Legal Counsel for the Waterworks Commission

**Staff Recommendation:** To Receive and File

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Attorney John Robert Behling and Attorney Samuel D. Bach-Hanson from Weld Riley, S.C., were both present virtually to formally introduce themselves to the Waterworks Commission. Both attorneys relayed a bit about their background while also assuring the Commission that they were in process of familiarizing themselves with the current water agreements and were eager to begin providing legal counsel and advice regarding their findings and research.*

A motion was made by Vice President Taft, seconded by Mayor Mason, that this file be Received and Filed.

[0408-25](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Utility Director Regarding Water Rate Increase (Ruekert-Mielke Staff will present to the Commission)

**Recommendation of the Waterworks Commission on 04/16/25:**

This item was recommended for Deferral in order to have more time to compile the data and figures to present to the Commission.

**Staff Recommendation:** To Receive and File

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*The Utility Director introduced the item while also relaying that the Utility Staff wished to defer this item as not all of the data and figures were ready to present at this point.*

**A motion was made by Vice President Taft, seconded by Mayor Mason, that this file be Deferred until the May 2025 Commission Meeting.**

[0423-25](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Utility Director Requesting Approval to Authorize the Mayor and the Commission President to Enter into an Agreement Proposed by The Community Infrastructure Partnership (CIP) for Multi-Year Lead Service Line Replacement and Related Infrastructure Work

**Staff Recommendation:** To Approve

**Fiscal Note:** Contingent on WDNR loan availability.

*Sean Agid and Shawn Kerachsky were recognized by Commission Vice-President Tate II, to present this item as representatives of Community Infrastructure Partners (CIP), an organization specializing in partnering alongside communities to help collaborate on and execute infrastructure projects. CIP representatives presented a proposal involving the current Lead Service Line Replacements that will be taking place across the City. Historically, the LSLs are replaced in conjunction with road paving projects; however, Commissioner Mason expressed a desire for the Commission to leverage federal funding for these replacements while it is available through federal grant money. CIP in essence then would be hired to project manage this operation and assist with the outreach while also focusing on developing local workforce to engage with this project. Essentially, this approach will be more effective in controlling cost overages, and their 13% fee of the total cost would be rolled into the proposal.*

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

[0409-25](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Utility Director Regarding the US EPA Inspection Report Findings

**Staff Recommendation:** To Receive and File

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*The Utility Director presented the EPA inspection report findings to the Commission.*

*Together, with other Utility personnel present at the meeting, updates on the progress made in response to the seven "Areas of Concern" (AOCs) items were given to the Commission. Most items had already been addressed or were in progress of addressing.*

**A motion was made by Vice President Taft, seconded by Mayor Mason, that this file be Approved.**

[0410-25](#)

**Subject:** Consideration of a Proposal from AECOM for 2025 Leak Detection Services

**Staff Recommendation:** To Approve

**Fiscal Note:** Cost of the proposal is \$41,875.00.

**A motion was made by Mayor Mason, seconded by Vice President Taft, that this file be Approved.**

[0419-25](#)

**Subject:** Request for Final Payment on Contract W-23-10 - Lead Service Replacement, Five Star Energy Services, LLC (contractor)

**Staff Recommendation:** To Approve

**Fiscal Note:** Contract W-23-10 is complete at a final cost of \$617,700.00. Final payment amount (retainage) is \$22,986.25.

**A motion was made by Vice President Taft, seconded by Harmon, that this file be Approved. The motion was passed with one NAY vote by Commissioner Mason recorded.**

**Though Finance recommended no penalty, the Commission expressed concerns about the project concluding with 0% Racine Works hours. The contractor had made a good faith effort in reaching out to WRTP for workers and submitted payroll documentation to RWP, but was still unsuccessful in securing local hours.**

[0420-25](#)

**Subject:** Consideration of Bid Opening Results on Contract W-25-7 - 2025 Private Lead Service Replacement

**Staff Recommendation:** To Approve

**Fiscal Note:** Lowest responsive bid from Mid City Corporation at \$432,400.00 for replacing 80 private LSLRs.

*The Utility Director is authorized and directed to execute the contract on behalf of the Racine Water Utility. The lowest responsible bidder was Mid City Corporation with a bid of \$432,400.00*

**A motion was made by Vice President Taft, seconded by Mayor Mason, that this file be Approved.**

## Adjournment

*There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.*