



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Wastewater Commission

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room 207

The meeting was called to order by Wastewater Commission President, Natalia Taft, at 5:41 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 7 - Natalia Taft, John Tate II, Cory Mason, Anthony Bunkelman, Jim Sullivan, Claude Lois and Marlo Harmon

EXCUSED: 6 - Anthony Beyer, Jens Jorgensen, Jack Feiner, Kevin Salb, Nancy Washburn and Nick Barootian

[0389-25](#)

Subject: Approval of Minutes from the March 19, 2025, Wastewater Commission Meeting

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alternate Sullivan, seconded by Mayor Mason, that this file be Approved.

[0390-25](#)

Subject: Communication from Wastewater Utility Staff Regarding Treatment Plant and Conveyance System Project Updates

Staff Recommendation: To Receive and File

Fiscal Note: N/A

Wastewater Utility Superintendent, Mary-Frances Klimek, reported progress updates on the Facility Plan projects at the Treatment Plant including UV Disinfection, Engine/Blowers, and the Gas Conditioning Project. Field Services Director, Amanda Kaminski, provided updates on the status of current and completed conveyance projects within the Utility including Chicory Rd Interceptor, Chicory Rd Storage Basin, N. Main Relay, Johnson Park Lift Station, Michigan & Dodge + CIPP, as well as Main and Goold. Upcoming projects were touched upon by the Utility Director as well.

A motion was made by Vice President Tate II, seconded by Harmon, that this file be Received and Filed.

[0391-25](#)

Subject: Consideration of Change Order No. 1 - Contract A-23, Chicory Road Area Sewer Improvements - Miron Construction (contractor)

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Contract change results in an increase of \$35,006.40, bringing the total contract amount to \$10,288,208.40.

The Utility Director presented the change order for Contract A-23 - Chicory Road Area Sewer Improvements, which was for the purpose of removing buried concrete encountered during excavation as well as the installation of temporary piping for the two existing drain tiles encountered during excavation at the south end of the wet weather storage basin. The Contractor also had to remove or drill through three unknown obstructions.

A motion was made by Alternate Sullivan, seconded by Harmon, that this file be Approved.

[0393-25](#)

Subject: Consideration and Possible Action to Extend the Curative Action Resolution Time Periods

Staff Recommendation: To Approve Curative Action Extension Up to 90 Days

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director presented the item, reminding the Commission of the impacts of the Material Change in Circumstances that was filed by the City in June 2024. This had resulted in the Commission deciding to postpone taking curative actions for up to 90 days in both October 2024 and January 2025 in order to allow for party-led resolutions to be discussed, while also being provided regular updates by the Commission's retained legal counsel on the progress occurring within these discussions.

The Utility Director relayed information from the Commission's legal counsel that the parties had met and that the talks were progressing. He also recommended that the curative actions be extended for up to another 90 days.

Discussion amongst the Commission ensued regarding what specific actions are entailed in the term "curative actions" such as directing the parties to schedule meetings, and checking on the progress of the meetings while not actively being present to participate in these said meetings. Questions arose as to what point does the Commission take a specific action in directing the parties to work out the issues instead of continuing to extend the curative actions.

Commission President Taft reminded Commissioners that the Commission's sole responsibility is to administer the process while not being an active party in the Agreement and the discussions held by the involved parties; while also noting that if substantial progress is not occurring, the Commission can withdraw the letter and recommend the next step of mediation between the parties.

A motion was made by Mayor Mason, seconded by Lois, that this file be Approved with the understanding that the curative actions will be extended up until the July Commission meeting date.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by President Taft , seconded by Bunkelman, to enter into Closed Session. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 7 - Taft
Tate II
Mason
Bunkelman
Sullivan
Lois
Harmon

EXCUSED: 7 - Sheppard
Beyer
Jorgensen
Feiner
Salb
Washburn
Barootian

[0395-25](#)

Subject: Communication Sponsored by Commissioner McCarthy Requesting that the Wastewater Commission Meet Regarding Bargaining and Development Opportunities, which, for Competitive and Bargaining Reasons, Requires a Closed Session

Staff Recommendation: To Receive and File

Fiscal Note: N/A

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Alternate Sullivan , seconded by Harmon, to enter into Open Session. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 7 - Taft
Tate II
Mason
Bunkelman
Sullivan
Lois
Harmon

EXCUSED: 7 - Sheppard
Beyer
Jorgensen
Feiner
Salb
Washburn
Barootian

A motion was made by Mayor Mason , seconded by Harmon, instructing the Utility Director to proceed as directed during the Closed Session. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.