



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Waterworks Commission

Thursday, October 17, 2024

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room 207

Rescheduled from 10/15/24

The meeting was called to order by Waterworks Commission President Jorgenson at 5:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Let the record show that Commissioner Sullivan was present in a non-voting capacity for the Waterworks Commission Meeting since Commissioner Mason was also present.

PRESENT: 7 - John Tate II, Natalia Taft, Cory Mason, Terry McCarthy, Jens Jorgenson, Mollie Jones and Jim Sullivan

EXCUSED: 1 - Stacy Sheppard

[0900-24](#)

Subject: Approval of Minutes for the September 17, 2024, Waterworks Commission Meeting

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

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

[0901-24](#)

Subject: Approval of Minutes for the September 23, 2024, Special Waterworks Commission Meeting

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

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

[0912-24](#)

Subject: Request Authorization to Submit Intent to Apply (ITA) and Priority Evaluation and Ranking Form (PERF) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for FY2026 LSL Loan

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Requesting \$40,000,000 from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Fund for the year 2026 to cover expenses of approximately 4,000 LSLR's over a three year period. Ruekert-Mielke to provide technical support submitting ITA through general professional service agreement.

The Utility Director requested authorization to submit the Intent to Apply (ITA) and Priority Evaluation and Ranking Form (PERF) to the DNR in the amount of \$40 million for FY2026 to cover the expenses of approximately 4,000 Lead Service Line Replacements (LSLRs) over a three-year period. Ruekert-Mielke will be providing technical support and submitting the ITA through the provisions of their professional services agreement with the Utility.

A motion was made by Mayor Mason, seconded by President Tate II, that this file be Approved.

[0913-24](#)

Subject: Request Authorization to Submit Intent to Apply (ITA) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for FY2026 Loan for the 42" Water Main - Phase 4 Project

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Tentative ITA loan amount will be \$5,000,000 to cover Racine Water Utility's share (approximately 51%). The rest of the cost will be paid by Mt. Pleasant. Ruekert-Mielke to provide technical support submitting ITA through general professional service agreement.

The Utility Director requested authorization to submit the Intent to Apply (ITA) to the DNR in the amount of \$5 million to cover the Utility's 51% share of financing the 42" Water Main - Phase 4 Project for FY2026. Ruekert-Mielke will be providing technical support and submitting the ITA through the provisions of their professional services agreement with the Utility. Discussion ensued about the possibility of collaborating with Parks & Recreation Department (PRCS) as well as the Department of Public Works (DPW) regarding the overlap of this project with areas in the City that these departments oversee. The Commission also expressed a desire to have the Utility Director present regular updates on the status of the loan application as well as the design work.

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

[0914-24](#)

Subject: Request Authorization to Submit Intent to Apply (ITA) to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for FY2026 Loan for Small Diameter Old Water Main Replacements

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Safe Drinking Water Loan Program at 55% of market rate. Tentative loan amount per year \$10 million to replace old water mains in concurrence with LSLR's. Ruekert-Mielke to provide technical support

submitting ITA through general professional service agreement.

The Utility Director requested authorization to submit the Intent to Apply (ITA) to the DNR in the amount of \$10 million for FY2026 to cover the expenses of replacing older small diameter water mains in concurrence with the approximately 4,000 LSLRs over a three-year period. Ruekert-Mielke will be providing technical support and submitting the ITA through the provisions of their professional services agreement with the Utility.

A motion was made by Alder McCarthy, seconded by President Tate II, that this file be Approved.

[0902-24](#)

Subject: Approval for the Water Basin Tank Cleaning and Hauling Services, Full Source Organics Management, LLC (contractor)

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Agreement for services shall begin with the calendar year 2025 and extend annually for a total of five (5) consecutive calendar years ending in the calendar year 2029. Est. future costs with CPI adjustments (past 5 year avg. 4.1) assuming 500 dry tons of material each year:

2025 - \$360,000

2026 - \$374,760

The Utility Director presented the proposed Agreement with Full Source Organics Management, LLC, outlining the commencement in the 2025 calendar year; and extending annually for a total of five consecutive calendar years ending in the 2029 calendar year.

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

[0903-24](#)

Subject: Change Order No. 2 on Contract W-24-1, 2024 Lead Service Replacements - Phase 2, Miller Pipeline, LLC (contractor)

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Contract change results in an overall increase of \$3,057.85, bringing the contract total to \$1,002,635.13.

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

[0904-24](#)

Subject: Change Order No. 3 on Contract W-24-1, 2024 Lead Service Replacements - Phase 2, Miller Pipeline, LLC (contractor)

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Contract change results in an overall net decrease of

\$88,777.92, bringing the total contract amount to \$913,857.21.

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

[0919-24](#)

Subject: Discussion and Possible Action to Change Meeting Day, Date, and Start Time of Waterworks Commission Meetings

Fiscal Note: N/A

A joint discussion was opened between the Waterworks Commissioners and the Wastewater Commissioners who were present. Feedback was shared on the topic of potential change in meeting day, date, and time necessitated by frequent scheduling conflicts. In order to facilitate more time and productivity without the sense of rushing through important topics at hand, it was proposed that the meetings be moved from the third Tuesday to the third Wednesday of each month with the Wastewater Commission Meeting being held first at 5:30 p.m.; followed by the Waterworks Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m. This change will take effect for the November 20, 2024, Commission Meeting. It was also directed that a zoom link be made available for meetings with the understanding that Commissioners make every effort to attend in person and only utilize zoom when unpreventable circumstances occur.

A motion was made by Vice President Taft, seconded by Alder McCarthy, that this file be Approved

[0920-24](#)

Subject: Communication from the Water Utility Director to Retain a Legal Counsel to Represent the Waterworks Commission Pending Legal Actions

Staff Recommendation: To Defer this Item until the next meeting when City Attorney Letteney is able to be present to participate in this discussion

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Alder McCarthy, seconded by Vice President Taft, that this file be Deferred.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.