



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Wastewater Commission

*President Kathy DeMatthew, Vice President Mike Andreasen, Secretary John Engel,
Mayor John Dickert, Robert Pucely, Ronald Keland, Alderman Ronald D. Hart, Alderman
James T. Spangenberg, Michael Staeck, John Hewitt,
Daryl Lynaugh, Robert Lui, Thomas Bunker, Victor Puente, Thomas Friedel*

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

4:30 PM

City Hall Annex - Room 227

1. Roll Call

OTHERS PRESENT: K. Haas, M. Gitter, K. Scolaro, N. Sanders, A. Wheeler, R. Gilbreath, K. Wanggaard, R. Pace, S. Cryer, N. Erlandson, W. Mielke, M. Gallagher

PRESENT: 13 - Ronald D. Hart, Michael Staeck, Robert Pucely, Ronald Keland, John Hewitt, Daryl Lynaugh, Robert Lui, Thomas Bunker, Victor Puente, James T. Spangenberg, Thomas Friedel, Kathy DeMatthew and John Engel

EXCUSED: 2 - John Dickert and Mike Andreasen

2. Approval of Minutes for the August 2009 Meeting

A motion was made by Alderman James T. Spangenberg, seconded by Secretary John Engel, that this be to Approve the Minutes. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

3. [09-4165](#)

Subject: Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Wastewater Finance Committee Held on September 9, 2009.

Recommendation: Approve

A motion was made by Alderman James T. Spangenberg, seconded by John Hewitt, that this be Approved. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

4. [09-4157](#)

Subject: Budget Expenditures for August 2009 totaling \$1,118,562.10

Recommendation: Approve

A motion was made by Ronald D. Hart, seconded by Alderman James T. Spangenberg, that this be Approved. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

5. [09-4159](#)

Subject: Project Reports:

- A) Michigan Boulevard Lift Station Project
- B) 15th Street & Lathrop Avenue Interceptor

Recommendation: Receive and File

Project reports were given by staff.

Received and Filed

6. [09-4212](#)

Subject: Discussion of Budget Revisions Suggested by the Technical

Advisory Committee (TAC) with regard to OpenCel

Recommendation: Receive and File

The General Manager discussed the possible changes in the 2010-2014 Capital Improvement Program if the Wastewater Commission agreed to go ahead with the OpenCEL project in 2010 or postpone it until 2011. It was noted that if the project is implemented, there would have to be an amendment to Section 3.5 to the Racine Area Intergovernmental Sanitary Sewer Service, Revenue Sharing, Cooperation and Settlement Agreement. Also, Parties representing 90% of the existing flow would have to consent in going ahead with the amendment.

The Village of Caledonia submitted a letter electronically on the evening of September 28, 2009 expressing their support for OpenCEL but indicating they could not support a permanent change to the Sewer Agreement, Section 3.5, to allow for the expenditure. Without their support, the necessary change to the agreement would not be possible.

Several options were discussed of how the Commission could proceed, including using Section 3.4 of the Agreement to approve the project and cost of service study, and simply invoice the respective Parties of the Agreement their share of the project. While this is a valid approach and solution, it was discussed that this may not be the preferred way to proceed at this time.

Received and Filed7. [09-4164](#)

Subject: Submittal of the Report of the Finance Committee of the Racine Wastewater Commission Regarding year 2010 Wastewater Utility Operation and Maintenance Budget and the 2010-2014 Capital Improvements Budget Recommending Adoption

Recommendation of the Racine Wastewater Commission of

9-29-09: To adopt. Refer to the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Alternate Commissioner and City Administrator, Thomas Friedel, spoke against the proposed budget which did not include OpenCEL funding in 2010. It bothered him that the Commission could not move forward on a cost-saving technology in accordance with the provisions in the Sewer Agreement and, furthermore, that the budget being put forth does not appear to be the best decision for the Commission and the Utility.

A motion was made by Alderman James T. Spangenberg, seconded by Secretary John Engel, that the 2010 Wastewater Utility Operation and Maintenance Budget, as recommended by the Finance Committee of the Board of Wastewater Commissioners, be Recommended For Adoption. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hewitt, seconded by Commissioner Engel, that the 2010-2014 Wastewater Utility Capital Improvements Budget be Recommended For Adoption. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

8. [09-4166](#)

Subject: Submittal of 2010 Sewer Service Rates

Recommendation: Approve

A motion was made by Thomas Friedel, seconded by Robert Pucely, that the

Class I Sewer Rates be Approved. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

A motion was made by Thomas Friedel, seconded by John Hewitt, that the Class II Sewer Rates be Approved. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

9. [09-4163](#)

Subject: Request from Crispell-Snyder, Inc. for a Sanitary Sewer Extension for 90th Street in the Village of Mt. Pleasant

Recommendation: Approve

The General Manager received a request from Crispell-Snyder, Inc. for construction of a sanitary sewer extension along 90th Street in the Village of Mt. Pleasant and noted that the Chief Engineer has reviewed the plans and recommended approval.

A motion was made by Robert Lui, seconded by Alderman James T. Spangenberg, that this be Approved. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

10. [09-4211](#)

Subject: Authorization of the General Manager to Submit a Grant Application to Focus on Energy for OpenCel

Recommendation: Approve

The General Manager requested authorization to submit a grant application to Focus on Energy for the OpenCEL project at the appropriate time.

A motion was made by Thomas Bunker, seconded by Michael Staeck, that this be Approved. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

11. [09-4213](#)

Subject: Authorization of the General Manager to Enter Into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OpenCel for the Installation of their Technology

Recommendation: Defer

The General Manager requested that this item be deferred.

A motion was made by Secretary John Engel, seconded by Thomas Friedel, that this be Deferred. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

12. [09-4216](#)

Subject: Authorization of the General Manager to take the necessary steps to amend the Sewer Agreement, Section 3.5, Minor Unplanned Upgraded Sewer Service Facilities, to increase annual capital expenditures without a Cost of Service study

Recommendation: Defer

The General Manager requested that this item be deferred.

A motion was made by Secretary John Engel, seconded by John Hewitt, that this be Deferred. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

13. [09-4214](#)

Subject: Results of the 2009 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Lab Audit

Recommendation: Receive and File

The Wastewater Plant Superintendent, Rick Pace, noted that the laboratory is governed by requirements and standards set forth by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, NR149, and the Wastewater Lab has to undergo an audit on a tri-annual basis. He stated that the lab passed the audit with high grades, and he commended the Laboratory Director and her employees for a job well done.

Received and Filed

14. Other Business

No other business to report.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Hewitt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Engel, to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the office of the General Manager at 636-9181 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.