



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wastewater Commission

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room 303

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 11 - Natalia Taft, John Tate II, Anthony Bunkelman, Jens Jorgensen, Jim Sullivan, Nancy Washburn, Marlo Harmon, Nick Barootian, Rosalind Thomas, Jack Feiner and Cory Mason

EXCUSED: 3 - Claude Lois, Kevin Salb and Tony Beyer

[0128-26](#)

Subject: Approval of Minutes for the January 21, 2026, Wastewater Commission Meeting

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Thomas, seconded by Bunkelman, that this file be Approved.

[0129-26](#)

Subject: Consideration of 2026 Hauler Rates

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director presented new Waste Hauler Rates for 2026 to recover Utility costs attributed to treatment, analysis, and administration of waste delivered by tanker truck to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The rate for PATS, who handles residential waste will be \$19.07 / 1000 gallon, and the rate for Stericycle, who handles medical waste from container washing will be \$12.64 / 1000 gallon. A third vendor, Terrava Renewables, who may be considered as a potential future vendor for handling landfill leachate, has a rate of \$22.82 / 1000 gallon.

A motion was made by Tate II, seconded by Washburn, that this file be Approved.

[0132-26](#)

Subject: Request by the Village of Caledonia for a Sanitary Sewer Extension at Audubon Arboretum Subdivision - Phase 1

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director presented the sewer extension for the Audubon Arboretum development within the Village of Caledonia, which will serve 22 new residential lots. Per Sewer Agreement Section 3.3a, the Commission is required to approve all SSR party sanitary sewer extensions provided they meet the requirements detailed in the section. The extension entails approximately 1,637.5' of 8" PVC sanitary sewer. The anticipated average daily flows are expected to be well within the allocated conveyance and treatment capabilities.

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

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

A motion was made by Washburn, seconded by Sullivan to enter into Closed Session. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 11 - Taft
Tate II
Bunkelman
Jorgensen
Sullivan
Washburn
Harmon
Barootian
Thomas
Feiner
Mason

EXCUSED: 3 - Lois
Salb
Beyer

It is intended that the Wastewater Commission will convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes section 19.85(1)(g) to discuss strategy for litigation in which the City of Racine is or is likely to be involved.

[0133-26](#)

Subject: Communication from the Wastewater Utility Director and the City Attorney's Office Requesting to Present a Proposed Settlement for the Claim of Erie Insurance Company, on behalf of its insured, Ann-Louise (Ahn) Peterson, in the amount of \$23,086.25.

Staff Recommendation: To Approve, Subject to the Common Council's Approval to Pay Half of the Settlement Amount.

Fiscal Note: To be Discussed

The Commission intends to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of properties, the investing of public funds, and conducting other public business because competitive and bargaining reasons require a closed session; also pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g) to confer with the Commission's legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Commission with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

[0134-26](#)

Subject: Update on Communication Sponsored by Commissioner Taft Requesting that the Wastewater Commission Meet Regarding a City Notice of Claim Regarding Shared Revenue Calculations

Staff Recommendation: To Receive and File

Fiscal Note: N/A

It is intended that the Wastewater Commission will convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(e), to address matters that, for competitive or bargaining reasons, require a closed session, and which, if publicly noticed, would compromise such negotiation, and bargaining strategy.

[0135-26](#)

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

Staff Recommendation: To Receive and File

Fiscal Note: N/A

OPEN SESSION

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

AYES: 11 - Taft
Tate II
Bunkelman
Jorgensen
Sullivan
Washburn
Harmon
Barootian
Thomas
Feiner
Mason

EXCUSED: 3 - Lois
Salb
Beyer

A motion was made by Washburn, seconded by Tate II, that item #0133-26 from the Closed Session be Approved subject to the approval by the Common Council to pay half of the settlement amount. The motion **PASSED** by a Voice Vote.

A motion was made by Thomas, seconded by Harmon, that item #0134-26 from the Closed Session be Received and Filed. The motion **PASSED** by a Voice Vote.

A motion was made by Washburn, seconded by Tate II, that item #0135-26 from the Closed Session be Received and Filed. The motion **PASSED** by a Voice Vote.

Adjournment

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