



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Wastewater Commission

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 207 A/B

The meeting was called to order by President Taft at 4:53 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 6 - Natalia Taft, Claude Lois, John Tate II, Paul Vornholt, Anthony Beyer and Mollie Jones

EXCUSED: 7 - John Hewitt, Stacy Sheppard, Dean Rosenberg, Cory Mason, Jason Meekma, Terry McCarthy and Anthony Bunkelman

[0898-23](#)

Subject: Approval of Minutes for the August 15, 2023, Meeting

Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

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

[0904-23](#)

Subject: Election of Officers

Recommendation: To Approve all Officers as Constituted

Fiscal Note: N/A

*President: Natalia Taft
Vice-President: John Tate II
Secretary: Alder Mollie Jones*

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

[0899-23](#)

Subject: Authorization for the Utility to Accept the 2024 WI DATCP Household Hazardous Waste Grant

Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: \$46,818 to be used for HHW operations in 2024.

The Wastewater Utility Director requested authorization for the Utility to accept the Wisconsin DATCP HHW grant offer of \$46,818.84 for the year 2024.

A motion was made by Lois, seconded by Vornholt, that this file be Approved

[0900-23](#)

Subject: Authorization for the Wastewater Utility Director to execute Liability Insurance Policy Renewal for Wastewater Commissioners

Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Insurance premium of \$17,176, and broker fee of \$2,536.

The Wastewater Utility Director presented policy renewal proposal provided by Atlantic Specialty Insurance Co. at a cost of \$16,976.00 (plus \$200 service fee). The policy would provide \$1,000,000.00 officer liability and \$1,000,000.00 employment practices liability insurance for the inter-municipal Commission body.

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

[0891-23](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West, on behalf of the Wastewater Utility Director, regarding a Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$5,749,015 Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023a, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on

09-11-2023: Via resolution #0552-21 the Common Council approved the initial declaration of intent to reimburse using the Department of Natural Resources Clean Water Fund Loan Program for this project. Recommendation is to approve a Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$5,749,015 Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023a, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto, and have the Mayor and City Clerk sign and execute all necessary documents.

Recommendation of the Wastewater Commission on 09-19-2023:

To approve a Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$5,749,015 Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023a, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto, and have the Mayor and City Clerk sign and execute all necessary documents pending approval by Common Council.

Fiscal Note: The Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds (Clean Water Fund Loan) is in the amount of \$5,749,015. Loan is for 20 years and has an interest rate of 2.1450%.

The Wastewater Utility Director presented a Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) resolution needed to close out on a Clean Water Fund Loan (CWFL) for the Chicory Road Area Sewer Improvements Contract. This FAA is the final step for the Utility to

secure state funding with the City's backing.

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

[0906-23](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder McCarthy, on behalf of the Wastewater Commission, requesting approval of a Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$23,367,711 Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023b, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto.

Recommendation of the Wastewater Commission on 09-19-23: To Approve a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of up to \$23,367,711 Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023b, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto, with a referral to the Finance & Personnel Committee.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 09-25-2023: That the Wastewater Commission be granted approval to authorize the issuance and sale of up to \$23,367,711 Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds, series 2023b, and providing for other details and covenants with respect thereto.

Fiscal Note: The Wastewater Utility Revenue Bonds (Clean Water Fund Loan) is in the amount \$23,367,711. Loan is for 20 years and has an interest rate of 2.190% and (\$2,050,000) Principal Forgiveness.

The Wastewater Utility Director presented a Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) resolution needed to close out on a Clean Water Fund Loan (CWFL) for the 2020 Facilities Improvements Plan. This FAA is comprised of two loans; one for engineering and the other for construction related costs. One of the loans will reimburse the Utility for expenditures related to the planning, design, bidding, parts of the air permit modifications, and contract execution of the following three projects: UV Disinfection, Engines/Blowers, and Biogas Conditioning. The other loan will fund the construction of all three projects. This FAA is the final step for the Utility to secure state funding with the City's backing.

A motion was made by Lois, seconded by Vornholt, that this file be approved with a Referral to the Finance and Personnel Committee

[0908-23](#)

Subject: Approval of Change Order No. 1 on Contract D-22 Biogas Conditioning Project, Lee Mechanical (contractor)

Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: Contract change results in an increase of \$53,035.96, bringing the contract amount to \$1,906,035.96. This change order reflects an increase of 2.9% on the original contract amount.

The Wastewater Utility Director presented Change Order No. 1 for Contract D-22, Biogas Conditioning Project. This change order is necessary for the addition of upgraded equipment that will be compatible with the new system in order for it to operate safely and efficiently.

A motion was made by Vornholt, seconded by Alder Jones, that this file be Approved

[0901-23](#)

Subject: Approval of the Proposed 2024 Operations and Maintenance Budget, and the Proposed 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan

Recommendation: To Adopt the Operations & Maintenance Budget and the Capital Improvement Plan as presented with a referral to the Committee of the Whole.

Fiscal Note: N/A

A motion was made by Lois, seconded by Alder Jones, that the O&M Budget file item as well as the CIP Budget file item be approved and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

[0902-23](#)

Subject: Approval of the 2024 Sewer Service Rates

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Wastewater Utility Director submitted the 2024 Class I and Class II Sewer Service Rates, and recommended that they be approved as developed per Sewer Agreement methodology.

A motion was made by President Taft, seconded by Vornholt, that this file be Approved

[0903-23](#)

Subject: Approval of 2024 Household Hazardous Waste Rates

Fiscal Note: No rate change recommended

The Wastewater Utility Director recommended no rate changes for the year 2024.

A motion was made by Lois, seconded by Vornholt, that this file be Approved

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.