



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wastewater Commission

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

5:30 PM

City Annex Bldg, Rm. 130

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 9 - Natalia Taft, John Tate II, Anthony Bunkelman, Jens Jorgensen, Jim Sullivan, Nancy Washburn, Nick Barootian, Tony Beyer and Cory Mason

EXCUSED: 5 - Claude Lois, Marlo Harmon, Rosalind Thomas, Jack Feiner and Kevin Salb

[0269-26](#)

Subject: Approval of Minutes for the March 18, 2026, Wastewater Commission Meeting

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

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

[0270-26](#)

Subject: Request by the Village of Mount Pleasant for a Sanitary Sewer Extension for 2235 Newman Road

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director presented the sewer extension request for 2235 Newman Rd. The Village of Mount Pleasant is formally requesting an exception to the sewer connection moratorium in Meter Area 11 on behalf of the Village property owner. The connection would involve a single-family residence located at the aforementioned address within the Village limits. The property owner is currently experiencing failure of their septic drain field, which is thereby causing "potential contamination" of their well, which currently provides water to their home. The property also "pre-dates the implementation of the sewer moratorium in this area." The anticipated average daily flows are expected to be negligible to flow totals in this area.

A motion was made by Barootian, seconded by Washburn, that this file be Approved. One nay vote was recorded.

[0291-26](#)

Subject: Request by the Village of Mount Pleasant for a Sanitary Sewer Extension for Pike River Subdivision

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director presented the sewer extension request for the Sanctuary at Pike River Subdivision located in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The extension will serve 95 single-family parcels within this proposed new subdivision. 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 4,142 L.F. of 8" diameter 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 Bunkelman, seconded by Washburn, that this file be Approved.

[0292-26](#)

Subject: Communication Sponsored by Commissioner Jorgensen, regarding consideration of Sewer Ordinance Amendments

Recommendation of the Wastewater Commission on 4-15-2026: To Recommend Approval of Ordinance 0002-26, and Refer the Recommendation to the Finance and Personnel Committee for Consideration

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 05-11-2026: To Approve.

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director presented proposed amendments that would amend City of Racine ordinances that pertain to wastewater on the topics of General Pretreatment Requirements, making the code more enforceable. These changes would also serve to harmonize the language between the code, Enforcement Response Plan (ERP) and current industrial permitting.

Discussion ensued amongst the Commission regarding the desire to amend the "General Manager" language on the ordinance to "Utility Director;" however, it was pointed out by the City Attorney that in an effort to remain synonymous with the language of the original Sewer Agreement, that it should preferably stay as is for now.

A motion was made by Jorgensen, seconded by Tate II, that this file be Approved and Referred to the Finance and Personnel Committee.

[0293-26](#)

Subject: Communication from Utility Director Regarding Facility Plan Amendment Study Updates

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: N/A

The Utility Director reminded the Commission of the Utility being previously approved to embark on a Facility Plan amendment study in 2025 to facilitate pre-engineering for future plant expansion. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that was formed, together with the consulting engineering firms (Strand Associates, Inc. as well as Brown & Caldwell), then met with the WI-DNR. The DNR recommendation was to continue with I/I plans as well as examining capacity allocations. The Utility Director relayed that the new intent of the TAC would be to pivot the focus of the study to follow suit with the DNR's recommendation.

Discussion ensued amongst the Commission with concerns that all of the time and research spent looking at avenues to pursue the facility plant expansion option, and the time spent negotiating over the last 9 years would be wasted if the study's focus were to be pivoted.

A motion was made to defer this item for a month in order to allow the consulting firm, Strand Associates, Inc. to be present at the next meeting to discuss the ramifications and consequences of pivoting at this point in time with regard to the progress made with negotiations.

A motion was made by Mason, seconded by Jorgensen, that this file be Deferred.

[0294-26](#)

Subject: Consideration of Professional Services Agreement with Applied Technologies for 2026 CIPP Lining and CCTV Project Management

Staff Recommendation: To Approve

Fiscal Note: \$11,200 and CIPP costs from Interceptor Maintenance Account and Interceptor Improvements CIP.

The Utility Director presented a proposed agreement for Applied Technologies that would assist with the Utility's efforts in following a CMOM program (Capacity, Management, Operation, and Maintenance). Currently, the Utility is on a 10-year televising schedule that started in 2021, but due to CCTV activities falling behind the last two budget cycles, the Utility is in danger of not meeting the DNR requirements. The proposed agreement would allow Applied Technologies to manage the CMOM activities for the Utility in 2026.

A motion was made by Jorgensen, seconded by Mason, that this item be Deferred. The motion FAILED by the following vote:

AYES: 3 - Tate II
Jorgensen
Mason

NOES: 6 - Taft
Bunkelman
Sullivan
Washburn
Barootian
Beyer

EXCUSED: 5 - Lois
Harmon
Thomas
Feiner
Salb

A motion was made by Washburn , seconded by Bunkelman, that this item be Approved. The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 6 - Taft
Bunkelman
Sullivan
Washburn
Barootian
Beyer

NOES: 3 - Tate II
Jorgensen
Mason

EXCUSED: 5 - Lois
Harmon
Thomas
Feiner
Salb

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.