

## Department of Public Works

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John C. Rooney, P.E.  
Commissioner of Public Works

Ronald J. Pritzlaff, P.E.  
Asst. Commissioner of Public Works

### MEMO

To: Ald. Natalia Taft, Chair  
Finance & Personnel Committee

From: John Rooney *JR*  
Commissioner of Public Works

Date: April 7, 2022

Dear Ald. Taft,

After the recent departure of another electrician for a new opportunity, DPW now has three (3) vacant electrician positions. The authorized staffing level is five (5) full-time electricians. With a vacancy rate of 60% for this group of employees, DPW cannot ensure continual service provided and may result in unacceptable delay.

The City Electricians provide invaluable services to the citizenry. Their responsibilities are vast as they provide critical preventative, routine & emergency maintenance services. These services include, but are not limited to:

1. 3,600+ street lights on just under 100 circuits
2. 79 signalized intersections
3. 2 lift bridges
4. dozens of facilities under the purview of DPW – Building Complex
5. navigation aids under the purview of Racine Harbor Commission

DPW will utilize the Purchasing Agent to secure services through requisitions. DPW requests a \$100,000 transfer from the Contingency Fund to the accounts listed below for contractor work as needed.

Street Lighting – Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	14012 – 54200	\$50,000
Traffic Regulations – Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	14013 – 54200	\$50,000

We propose this as to ensure safety to our citizenry and provide essential services in a timely manner. If the committee agrees with the recommendation, then the appropriate action would be to authorize the Finance Director to transfer funds from the Contingency Fund to the aforementioned accounts as needed.

CC: Mayor Mason  
Paul Vornholt, City Administrator  
Kathleen Fischer, Finance Director  
Ron Pritzlaff, Asst. Comm. of Public Works  
Ara Molitor, City Engineer