



**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WISCONSIN RAPIDS COMMON COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023**  
**5:00 P.M.**  
**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Notice is hereby given of a special meeting of the Wisconsin Rapids Common Council to be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 444 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be streamed live on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page and will also be broadcast live on Charter Cable Channel 985 and Solarus HD Cable Channel 3. If a member of the public wishes to access this meeting live via Zoom conferencing, you must contact the City Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting to coordinate your access. This meeting is also available after its conclusion on the City's Facebook page and Community Media's YouTube page, which can be accessed at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org). It is possible that members of the Council may appear remotely via video or audioconferencing for this meeting.

**AGENDA**

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Consider for Adoption the Actions of the Finance and Property Committee at its meeting held on October 26, 2023:**
  1. Call to Order
  2. In open session, the Committee may vote to go into closed session under Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes, which reads: "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session".  
In closed session, the Committee may discuss and consider for approval Agreements for EMS services with the Town of Saratoga and the Village of Port Edwards
  3. The Committee will return to open session
  4. In open session, the Committee may take action regarding the approval of an Agreement for EMS services with the Town of Saratoga
  5. The Committee may take action regarding the approval of an Agreement for EMS services with the Village of Port Edwards
  6. Adjournment.
- 4. Consider for Adoption the Actions of the Committee of the Whole of the Common Council at its meetings held on October 5, October 10, October 12, October 19, October 24, and October 26, 2023:**
  - a. October 5 meeting:
    1. Call to Order
    2. Discussion of the Utilization of ARPA / FEMA Funds
    3. Adjourn.
  - b. October 10 meeting:
    1. Call to Order
    2. Review and Discuss the 2024 Budget
    3. Adjourn.
  - c. October 12 meeting:
    1. Call to Order
    2. Discussion Regarding the 2024 Budget
    3. Adjourn.
  - d. October 19 meeting:

1. Call to Order
  2. Review and Discuss the 2024 Budget
  3. Adjourn.
- e. October 24 meeting:
1. Call to Order
  2. Review and Discuss the 2024 Budget
  3. Adjourn.
- f. October 26 meeting:
1. Call to Order
  2. Review and Discuss the 2024 Budget
  3. Adjourn.
5. **Continued discussion regarding the 2024 City of Wisconsin Rapids budget**
6. **Confirm a tentative 2024 budget to be considered at the Public Hearing and Common Council meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2023. Final adoption of the budget is anticipated at the Common Council meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2023**
7. **Adjournment.**

The City of Wisconsin Rapids encourages participation from all its citizens. If participation at this meeting via audioconference is not possible due to a disability or other reasons, notification to the city clerk's office at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. Call the clerk at (715) 421-8200 to request accommodations.



Report of the Finance and Property Committee

Matt Zacher, Chairperson  
Dean Veneman, Vice-Chairperson  
Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 26, 2023  
Reported to Council: November 14, 2023

The Finance and Property Committee met at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. All members of the Finance and Property Committee were present.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Zacher called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.**

2. In open session, the Committee may vote to go into closed session under Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin Statutes, which reads: "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session".

**It was moved by Veneman, seconded by Bemke to go into closed session. Roll call vote was taken. All members voted in the affirmative. Motion carried, 3-0, and the Committee went into closed session.**

In closed session, the Committee may discuss and consider for approval Agreements for EMS services with the Town of Saratoga and the Village of Port Edwards

**In closed session, the Committee discussed Agreements for EMS services with the Town of Saratoga and the Village of Port Edwards.**

3. The Committee will return to open session

**It was moved by Bemke, seconded by Veneman to return to open session. Motion carried, 3-0, and the Committee returned to open session.**

4. In open session, the Committee may take action regarding the approval of an Agreement for EMS services with the Town of Saratoga

**It was moved by Bemke, seconded by Veneman to approve an Agreement for EMS services with the Town of Saratoga as presented. Motion carried, 3-0.**

5. The Committee may take action regarding the approval of an Agreement for EMS services with the Village of Port Edwards

**It was moved by Veneman, seconded by Zacher to approve an Agreement for EMS services with the Village of Port Edwards as presented. Motion carried, 3-0.**

6. Adjournment.

**It was moved by Bemke, seconded by Zacher to adjourn. Motion carried, 3-0, and the meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Gossick, City Clerk

**EMERGENCY SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS AND TOWNSHIP OF SARATOGA  
2024-2027**

This Agreement is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2023, by and between the City of Wisconsin Rapids, a Wisconsin municipal corporation (hereinafter referred to as “City”), and the Township of Saratoga (hereinafter referred to as “Saratoga”).

WHEREAS, the parties have the authority to provide emergency ambulance service within their respective governmental jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, City operates its emergency ambulance service under the authority of §62.133, Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, Saratoga can contract with an ambulance service provider under the authority of §60.565, Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, Saratoga wishes to contract with City for exclusive emergency ambulance services in Saratoga, and City wishes to provide exclusive emergency ambulance services to Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, the parties are authorized to contract with each other for ambulance services under §66.0301, Wis. Stats.;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals and the mutual covenants and promises hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto have agreed and hereby agree as follows:

1. TERM:

The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of four (4) years, commencing January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2027.

2. PAYMENT:

In consideration of the services to be provided by City to Saratoga pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, Saratoga shall pay to City \$25.00 per capita in 2024, \$25.00 per capita in 2025, \$26.00 per capita in 2026, and \$26.00 per capita in 2027. The figures used to determine the population of Saratoga shall be as estimated for January 1 of each year by the Wisconsin Department of Administration’s Demographic Services. Payments for each year shall be made in two equal installments, due on January 1 and July 1 of each year. If payment is not made, a late fee of 1.5% of the unpaid balance will be assessed monthly.

3. SERVICES PROVIDED:

- a. City shall provide Advanced Life Support emergency ambulance services twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, to responses within the boundaries of the Township of Saratoga. Each responding ambulance will be staffed with a minimum of two (2) Paramedics.

- b. City shall be the designated primary EMS response agency to provide emergency ambulance service within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Township of Saratoga. Saratoga agrees that it will not contract with or allow any other emergency medical service or emergency ambulance service, municipal or private, to provide or duplicate the emergency ambulance services provided herein for the duration of the time period that this Agreement is in effect. All 911 and emergency ambulance calls to the Wood County Dispatch Center for the Township of Saratoga shall be relayed to the City of Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department.
- c. City must provide and pay for all administration, insurance, professional expertise, labor, materials, vehicles and equipment necessary to respond to all emergency calls.

4. RESPONSE TIME

Average response time is expected to be six (6) to eight (8) minutes, with an expected response time of eight minutes or less 80% of the time.

5. RATES FOR SERVICE:

City shall directly bill a “user fee” to the patient (or the appropriate person or payer who is responsible for payment) for all emergency ambulance services provided in Saratoga. These rates will be set by the City’s Common Council. All Saratoga residents shall receive the City of Wisconsin Rapids resident rate. Ambulance services for patients who are not Township of Saratoga residents will be billed at a non-residential rate, even if the call occurs within the Township of Saratoga limits. Saratoga shall have no financial responsibility associated with patient care or uncollected debts.

6. EMS TRAINING:

City will provide a three hour EMS training session to Saratoga First Responders each month to assist the responders in working with City staff and help them meet their refresher training hours. Times for the training will be mutually agreed upon by City and Saratoga First Responders. City will provide Saratoga a \$10 stipend per ambulance call when at least two First Responders arrive to assist City. These payments shall be made quarterly. Saratoga First Responders shall be added to the City’s Fire Department’s State of Wisconsin EMS roster.

7. OPERATIONAL REPORTS:

City will present an operational report to Saratoga at a regular Township meeting in October of each year. This meeting is intended to provide a forum for Saratoga to receive information and inquire about the operations and practices of the City’s ambulance service, and review the previous year’s activities and statistics.

8. LEGAL RELATIONSHIP:

The legal relationship of the parties shall be that of an Independent Contractor. City’s ambulance employees shall at all times be employees of the City of Wisconsin Rapids and not of the Township of Saratoga.

9. LIABILITY INSURANCE:

City shall maintain throughout the term of this Agreement liability insurance covering emergency ambulance services provided by City of the following coverage types and policy limits:

- a. Vehicle liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage with a combined single limit of \$1,000,000 per vehicle and \$6,000,000 occurrence.
- b. General liability and Professional Liability insurance for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage with a minimum \$1,000,000 per occurrence, claim, or incident and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate.
- c. Worker's Compensation insurance as required under Wisconsin Statutes.

10. NO WAIVER:

Nothing contained within this Agreement is intended as a waiver or estoppel of the City of Wisconsin Rapids or its insurer to rely upon the limitations, defenses, and immunities contained within Wisconsin Statutes §345.05 and §893.80. To the extent that indemnification is available and enforceable, the City of Wisconsin Rapids or its insurer shall not be liable in indemnity, contribution or otherwise for an amount greater than the limits of liability of municipal claims established by Wisconsin law.

11. NO ASSIGNMENT:

This Agreement may not be assigned by either party.

12. FORCE MAJEURE:

Neither party shall be responsible nor deemed to be in default on account of delays in performance of this Agreement due to causes beyond the party's control and not occasioned by its fault or negligence, including but not limited to acts of God, civil war, insurrections, strikes, sabotage, riots, fires, floods, explosions, earthquakes, hazardous radiation, serious accidents, any act of government (provided that a party is not excused by its own acts), failure of transportation, failure of machines or equipment, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, failure of vendors (due to causes similar to those within the scope of this section) to perform their contracts or labor troubles causing cessation, slow-down or interruption of work, provided such cause is beyond the party's control.

13. AMENDMENTS:

No amendment, modification, termination, or waiver of any provisions of this Agreement, nor consent to any departure from this Agreement shall in any event be effective unless the same shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and such waiver and consent shall be effective only in the specific instance and only for the specific purpose for which given.

14. SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND CONSTRUCTION:

The terms of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin. If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, to any extent, be invalid, unenforceable, or otherwise not in conformity with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, then the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby and each provision of the Agreement shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City of Wisconsin Rapids has caused this agreement to be executed in its name by its Mayor and countersigned by its Clerk; and the Township of Saratoga has caused this Agreement to be executed by its Board.

CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS

TOWNSHIP OF SARATOGA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shane E. Blaser, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer M. Gossick, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS AND VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS  
2024-2027**

This Agreement is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2023, by and between the City of Wisconsin Rapids, a Wisconsin municipal corporation (hereinafter referred to as “City”), and the Village of Port Edwards (hereinafter referred to as “Port Edwards”).

WHEREAS, the parties have the authority to provide emergency ambulance service within their respective governmental jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, City operates its emergency ambulance service under the authority of §62.133, Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, Port Edwards can contract with an ambulance service provider under the authority of §61.64, Wis. Stats.; and

WHEREAS, Port Edwards wishes to contract with City for exclusive emergency ambulance services in Port Edwards, and City wishes to provide exclusive emergency ambulance services to Port Edwards; and

WHEREAS, the parties are authorized to contract with each other for ambulance services under §66.0301, Wis. Stats.;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals and the mutual covenants and promises hereinafter set forth, the parties hereto have agreed and hereby agree as follows:

1. TERM:

The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of four (4) years, commencing January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2027.

2. PAYMENT:

In consideration of the services to be provided by City to Port Edwards pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, Port Edwards shall pay to City \$25.00 per capita in 2024, \$25.00 per capita in 2025, \$26.00 per capita in 2026, and \$26.00 per capita in 2027. The figures used to determine the population of Port Edwards shall be as estimated for January 1 of each year by the Wisconsin Department of Administration’s Demographic Services. Payments for each year shall be made in two equal installments, due on January 1 and July 1 of each year. If payment is not made, a late fee of 1.5% of the unpaid balance will be assessed monthly.

3. SERVICES PROVIDED:

- a. City shall provide Advanced Life Support emergency ambulance services twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, to responses within the boundaries of the Village of Port Edwards. Each responding ambulance will be staffed with a minimum of two (2) Paramedics.



- b. City shall be the designated primary EMS response agency to provide emergency ambulance service within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Village of Port Edwards. Port Edwards agrees that it will not contract with or allow any other emergency medical service or emergency ambulance service, municipal or private, to provide or duplicate the emergency ambulance services provided herein for the duration of the time period that this Agreement is in effect. All 911 and emergency ambulance calls to the Wood County Dispatch Center for the Village of Port Edwards shall be relayed to the City of Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department.
- c. City must provide and pay for all administration, insurance, professional expertise, labor, materials, vehicles and equipment necessary to respond to all emergency calls.

4. RESPONSE TIME

Average response time is expected to be six (6) to eight (8) minutes, with an expected response time of eight minutes or less 80% of the time.

5. RATES FOR SERVICE:

City shall directly bill a “user fee” to the patient (or the appropriate person or payer who is responsible for payment) for all emergency ambulance services provided in Port Edwards. These rates will be set by the City’s Common Council. All Port Edwards residents shall receive the City of Wisconsin Rapids resident rate. Ambulance services for patients who are not Village of Port Edwards residents will be billed at a non-residential rate, even if the call occurs within the Village of Port Edwards limits. Port Edwards shall have no financial responsibility associated with patient care or uncollected debts.

6. EMS TRAINING:

City will provide a three hour EMS training session to Port Edwards First Responders each month to assist the responders in working with City staff and help them meet their refresher training hours. Times for the training will be mutually agreed upon by City and Port Edwards First Responders. City will provide Port Edwards a \$10 stipend per ambulance call when at least two First Responders arrive to assist City. These payments shall be made quarterly. Port Edwards First Responders shall be added to the City’s Fire Department’s State of Wisconsin EMS roster.

7. OPERATIONAL REPORTS:

City will present an operational report to Port Edwards at a regular Village meeting in October of each year. This meeting is intended to provide a forum for Port Edwards to receive information and inquire about the operations and practices of the City’s ambulance service, and review the previous year’s activities and statistics.

8. LEGAL RELATIONSHIP:

The legal relationship of the parties shall be that of an Independent Contractor. City’s ambulance employees shall at all times be employees of the City of Wisconsin Rapids and not of the Village of Port Edwards.

9. LIABILITY INSURANCE:

City shall maintain throughout the term of this Agreement liability insurance covering emergency ambulance services provided by City of the following coverage types and policy limits:

- a. Vehicle liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage with a combined single limit of \$1,000,000 per vehicle and \$6,000,000 occurrence.
- b. General liability and Professional Liability insurance for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage with a minimum \$1,000,000 per occurrence, claim, or incident and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate.
- c. Worker's Compensation insurance as required under Wisconsin Statutes.

10. NO WAIVER:

Nothing contained within this Agreement is intended as a waiver or estoppel of the City of Wisconsin Rapids or its insurer to rely upon the limitations, defenses, and immunities contained within Wisconsin Statutes §345.05 and §893.80. To the extent that indemnification is available and enforceable, the City of Wisconsin Rapids or its insurer shall not be liable in indemnity, contribution or otherwise for an amount greater than the limits of liability of municipal claims established by Wisconsin law.

11. NO ASSIGNMENT:

This Agreement may not be assigned by either party.

12. FORCE MAJEURE:

Neither party shall be responsible nor deemed to be in default on account of delays in performance of this Agreement due to causes beyond the party's control and not occasioned by its fault or negligence, including but not limited to acts of God, civil war, insurrections, strikes, sabotage, riots, fires, floods, explosions, earthquakes, hazardous radiation, serious accidents, any act of government (provided that a party is not excused by its own acts), failure of transportation, failure of machines or equipment, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, failure of vendors (due to causes similar to those within the scope of this section) to perform their contracts or labor troubles causing cessation, slow-down or interruption of work, provided such cause is beyond the party's control.

13. AMENDMENTS:

No amendment, modification, termination, or waiver of any provisions of this Agreement, nor consent to any departure from this Agreement shall in any event be effective unless the same shall be in writing and signed by both parties, and such waiver and consent shall be effective only in the specific instance and only for the specific purpose for which given.

14. SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS AND CONSTRUCTION:

The terms of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin. If any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall, to any extent, be invalid, unenforceable, or otherwise not in conformity with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, then the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby and each provision of the Agreement shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City of Wisconsin Rapids has caused this agreement to be executed in its name by its Mayor and countersigned by its Clerk; and the Village of Port Edwards has caused this Agreement to be executed by its Trustees.

CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shane E. Blaser, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer M. Gossick, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

W I S C O N S I N



**Report of the Committee of the Whole**

Dean Veneman, Chairperson  
Matt Zacher  
Tom Rayome  
Ryan Austin  
Jake Cattanach  
Dennis Polach  
Patrick Delaney  
Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 05, 2023  
Reported to Council: November 2, 2023

The Committee of the Whole met at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was LIVE on Wisconsin Rapids Community Media (WRCM) Spectrum Channel 985 and Solarus Channel 3, online at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org) or via WRCM's Roku app and was streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

All members of the Committee of the Whole were present except Alderperson Delaney who was excused.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Veneman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.**

2. Review and discuss the 2024 Budget

Finance Director, Tim Desorcy, presented a status on the FEMA / ARPA funds available for future projects.

**It was moved by Cattanach, seconded by to Austin, to use the FEMA / ARPA funds for a equipment storage facility at the City Garage and the remaining funds for street construction. Motion carried.**

3. Adjournment

**It was moved by Veneman, seconded by Zacher to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.**

W I S C O N S I N



**Report of the Committee of the Whole**

Dean Veneman, Chairperson  
Matt Zacher  
Tom Rayome  
Ryan Austin  
Jake Cattanach  
Dennis Polach  
Patrick Delaney  
Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 10, 2023  
Reported to Council: November 2, 2023

The Committee of the Whole met at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was LIVE on Wisconsin Rapids Community Media (WRCM) Spectrum Channel 985 and Solarus Channel 3, online at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org) or via WRCM's Roku app and was streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

All members of the Committee of the Whole were present.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Veneman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

2. Review and discuss the 2024 Budget

Finance Director, Tim Desorcy, presented an overall view of the 2024 Budget. No action was taken.

3. Adjournment

**It was moved by Veneman, seconded by Zacher to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.**

W I S C O N S I N



**Report of the Committee of the Whole**

Dean Veneman, Chairperson  
Matt Zacher  
Tom Rayome  
Ryan Austin  
Jake Cattanach  
Dennis Polach  
Patrick Delaney  
Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 12, 2023  
Reported to Council: November 2, 2023

The Committee of the Whole met at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 12, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was LIVE on Wisconsin Rapids Community Media (WRCM) Spectrum Channel 985 and Solarus Channel 3, online at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org) or via WRCM's Roku app and was streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

All members of the Committee of the Whole were present.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Veneman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.**

2. Review and discuss the 2024 Budget

Jake Klingsforth, Park Superintendent, reviewed the 2024 Park and Recreation Budget with the Committee.

Katherine Elchert, Library Director, reviewed the 2024 McMillan Library Budget with the Committee.  
Adjournment

Mayor Blaser, discussed the possibility of incorporating a bridge lighting project into the budget that would be funded from Tax Incremental District No. 7.

No action was taken.

3. **It was moved by Patrick, seconded by Bemke to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.**

W I S C O N S I N



**Report of the Committee of the Whole**

Dean Veneman, Chairperson  
Matt Zacher  
Tom Rayome  
Ryan Austin  
Jake Cattnach  
Dennis Polach  
Patrick Delaney  
Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 19, 2023  
Reported to Council: November 2, 2023

The Committee of the Whole met at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was LIVE on Wisconsin Rapids Community Media (WRCM) Spectrum Channel 985 and Solarus Channel 3, online at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org) or via WRCM's Roku app and was streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

All members of the Committee of the Whole were present.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Veneman called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.**

2. Review and discuss the 2024 Budget

Todd Eckes, Fire Chief, reviewed the 2024 Fire Department / EMS Budget with the Committee.

Daniel Hostens, Police Chief, reviewed the 2024 Police Department Budget with the Committee.

No action was taken.

3. **It was moved by Bemke, seconded by Rayome to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.**



**Report of the Committee of the Whole**

Dean Veneman, Chairperson  
Matt Zacher  
Tom Rayome  
Ryan Austin  
Jake Cattnach  
Dennis Polach  
Patrick Delaney  
Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 24, 2023  
Reported to Council: November 2, 2023

The Committee of the Whole met at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was LIVE on Wisconsin Rapids Community Media (WRCM) Spectrum Channel 985 and Solarus Channel 3, online at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org) or via WRCM's Roku app and was streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

All members of the Committee of the Whole were present.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Veneman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.**

2. Review and discuss the 2024 Budget

Tim Kriz, Board President, and Madison Rafter, Executive Director from the South Wood County Humane Society presented the proposed 2024 Humane Society contract/

Joe Eichsteadt, City Engineer, reviewed the 2024 Engineering Budget and the Public Works Construction Fund Budget with the Committee.

Paul Vollert, Public Works Superintendent, reviewed the 2024 Public Works Budget with the Committee.

Staci Kivi, President / CEO, from the Chamber of Commerce addressed the Committee on the 2024 Heart of Wisconsin 2024 Budget request.

No action was taken.

3. **It was moved by Bemke seconded by Cattnach to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.**





## Report of the Committee of the Whole

Dean Veneman, Chairperson  
 Matt Zacher  
 Tom Rayome  
 Ryan Austin  
 Jake Cattanach  
 Dennis Polach  
 Patrick Delaney  
 Jay Bemke

Date of Meeting: October 26, 2023  
 Reported to Council: November 14, 2023

The Committee of the Whole met at 5:01 p.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2023, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was LIVE on Wisconsin Rapids Community Media (WRCM) Spectrum Channel 985 and Solarus Channel 3, online at [www.wr-cm.org](http://www.wr-cm.org) or via WRCM's Roku app and was streamed LIVE on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page.

All members of the Committee of the Whole were present except for Alderperson Austin who was excused.

1. Call to Order

**Chairperson Veneman called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.**

2. Review and discuss the 2024 Budget

Tim Kriz and Madison Rafter presented information on the proposed 2024 \$86,500 Humane Society contract.

**It was moved by Delaney, seconded by Zacher to contract with the South Wood County Humane Society in the amount of \$26,250. This will cover up to 350 "strays" picked up or dropped off from the city. The city will only accept responsibility for dogs and cats. Motion carried with 4 ayes and 3 nays. Alderperson Rayome, Polach and Bemke voted in the negative.**

Tyler Mickelson, IT Manager, reviewed the 2024 Information System Budget with the Committee.

Jem Brown, General Manager and Jeff Kuhn, Director of Finance from Water Works & Lighting Commission (WWLC) presented the 2024 WWLC Budget.

**It was moved by Bemke, seconded by Zacher to approve the Water Works & Lighting Commission Budget. Motion carried with Delaney and Cattanach voting in the negative.**

Ryan Hartman, HR Manager, reviewed the 2024 Human Resources Budget with the Committee.

Kyle Kearns, Community Development Director, reviewed the 2024 Community Development Budget and Inspection Services Budget with the Committee.

Derek Budgsberg, Wastewater Superintendent, reviewed the 2024 Sewer Utility Budget with the Committee.

Tim Desorcy, Finance Director, reviewed the 2024 Finance Department Budget with the Committee.

3. Adjournment

**It was moved by Veneman, seconded by Zacher to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.**