



Wastewater Facility
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The Wastewater Treatment Commission met at 1:34 p.m. on October 13, 2021, at City Hall, 444 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids. The following members were present: David Laspa, David Yonkovich, Joe Terry, Tammy Steward, Jim Neitzel, Peter Jennings (via video), and Ryan Austin.

- 1. Minutes of the September 8, 2021 meeting:** A motion was made by Ryan Austin and seconded by Tammy Steward to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2021, Commission meeting as written. **Motion Carried.**
- 2. RAS Fermentation Pilot Project Update.**
Presentation by Wastewater Superintendent Ryan Giefer outlining the fermentation pilot project.
- 3. Supervisory Report:**
 - a. Monthly Plant Report: All plant operations were within the WDNR Discharge Permit ranges.
- 4. Bills and Revenues:** A motion was made by David Laspa and seconded by Jim Neitzel to accept the bills and revenues for September 2021. **Motion Carried.**
- 5. Referrals:** Inflow & Infiltration Study Relating to Sump Pumps, Develop Job Description for Additional 2022 Summer Intern, Discuss Biron Contract Negotiations
- 6. Presentation from Director of Public Works Joe Terry regarding the City's wastewater agreement with the Village of Biron:** Joe Terry presented Commissioners with information regarding the current agreement with the Village and the City's proposed new agreement with the Village, along with an analysis of why the agreement needs to be revised to more fairly treat all ratepayers.
- 7. Discuss and consider approving a revised wastewater rate schedule which sets a municipal connection minimum monthly charge, effective January 1, 2022:** A motion was made by Jim Neitzel and seconded by David Yonkovich to adopt a minimum municipal connection monthly charge of \$500 per connection per month. **Motion carried 4-2.**
- 8. Presentation from the Village of Biron regarding the City's wastewater agreement with the Village of Biron:** Village of Biron President Jon Evenson presented Commissioners with the Village's positions on continuing with the old agreement with revisions, rather than having a new agreement. He requested that because of meter issues, that invoiced charges for 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 be reviewed; that the Village of Biron be invoiced for 2020; that the termination letter be rescinded; and that the 1991 agreement be used as basis for a new agreement rather than the City's proposal.
- 9. Closed session:** A motion was made by Ryan Austin and seconded by Jim Neitzel to go into closed session pursuant 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".

Roll call vote was taken. Terry, Austin, Neitzel, Laspa, Yonkovich, and Jennings voted in the affirmative. Steward voted in the negative. **Motion carried 6-1.**

In closed session, the Commission discussed negotiation strategy and the status of negotiations regarding the wastewater agreement with the Village of Biron.

A motion was made by Dave Yonkovich and seconded by Ryan Austin to go into open session. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dave Laspa and seconded by Jim Neitzel to affirm the direction the Commission had previously given to City staff and continue negotiating with the Village of Biron based upon the City's most recent proposal. **Motion carried.**

10. Adjourn: A motion was made by David Yonkovich and seconded by Jim Neitzel to adjourn the meeting at 3:56 p.m. **Motion Carried.**