

1.32 Utility Commission

1. *Construction; definition.* This section shall be liberally construed to affect its purpose. As used in this section, the term "management and control" or "management and operation" shall be construed broadly and shall include, without limitation by enumeration, all authority related to purchasing, acquiring, leasing, constructing, adding to, improving, conducting, controlling, operating, or managing the city's electric, water, and communications utilities, except as specifically withheld by statute.
2. *Creation.* There is hereby created an independent and nonpartisan utility commission to manage and operate the electric, water, and communications utilities of the city.
3. *Membership; terms.* The utility commission shall consist of seven commissioners. The mayor shall serve as one of the commissioners for a term that coincides with his term of office. The alderperson who is elected as chairperson of the board of public works shall also serve as a commissioner for a term that coincides with his term as chairperson of the board of public works. The mayor ~~and the alderperson member~~ shall serve on the commission without additional compensation. The remaining five commissioners shall be residents of the city, who shall each serve a five-year term. These terms shall be staggered so that no more than one commissioner's term shall expire each year. The salary of the members of the commission, except the mayor ~~and alderperson~~, shall be such amount as is fixed by the council from time to time.
4. *Appointments.* Except for the mayor and alderperson members, the common council shall elect the commissioners at its second regular meeting in September for terms to commence on October 1 following election. In the case of a vacancy on the commission, the common council, at a regular meeting, may appoint a commissioner to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.
5. *Powers of commission.*
 1. *Charge and management.* The commission shall take entire charge and management of the city's electric, water, and communications utilities and any other public utility as authorized by the common council. The commission shall have full authority to supervise the operation of such utilities, subject only to the general control and supervision of the common council, such control and supervision to be exercised through the enactment and amendment of this section.
 2. *Manager.* The commission shall appoint a utility manager, fix his compensation and duties and provide for the authority of the manager to act on behalf of the commission.
 3. *Other employees; consultants.* The commission may employ and fix the compensation of such other employees as the commission deems necessary or convenient for the management and operation of the city's electric, water, and communications utilities. The commission also may employ the services and fix the compensation of such other

agents or consultants as the commission deems necessary or convenient for the operation and management of the utilities.

4. *Rates, rules, and regulations.* The commission shall have the authority to fix rates and establish rules and regulations for the governance, management, and operation of the utilities, subject to the jurisdiction of the applicable governmental regulatory bodies or agencies, and establish rules for the governance of its own proceedings.
5. *Contract.* The commission shall have full authority to let bids and enter into contracts in the name of the city, provided that such contracts are necessary or convenient to the management and operation of the electric, water, and communications utilities.
6. *Other powers.* The commission shall have such other powers as are necessary or convenient to the management and operation of the city's electric, water, and communications utilities and shall have full authority respecting such utilities, unless that authority is specifically withheld by statute.
6. *Organization.* The commissioners shall choose, from among their number, a president and secretary.
7. *Utility expenses.*
 1. Payment of all financial claims against city utility, other than claims subject to Wis. Stats. § 893.80, may be made from the city treasury after the general manager and the director of finance of the utility audit and approve each claim as a proper charge against the treasury and endorse their approval on the claim after having determined that the following conditions have been complied with:
 1. That funds are available therefor, pursuant to the budget approved by the utility commission.
 2. That the item or service covered by such claim has been authorized by the proper official, department head, board, or commission.
 3. That the item or service has been actually supplied or rendered in conformity with such authorization.
 4. That the claim is just and valid, pursuant to law.
 2. The general manager shall file with the utility commission, on a monthly basis, a list of the claims approved, showing the date paid, name of claimant, purpose, and amount.
 3. The utility commission shall authorize an annual detailed audit of its financial transactions and accounts by a public accountant, licensed under Wis. Stats. ch. 442 and designated by the utility commission.
 4. The general manager, in conducting his activities, pursuant to this section, shall be covered by a fidelity bond in the sum of \$1,000,000.00 or by the applicable utility insurance policy that provides no less coverage than that afforded by the fidelity bond. Payment of regular wages and salaries of city utility officials and employees, pursuant to

the budget and salary schedules adopted by the utility commission, shall be paid by utility payroll, verified by the proper utility officials and filed with the utility finance department in time for payment on the regular payday.

8. *Receipts.* All utility receipts shall be paid to the utility accounting department, who shall deposit them with the authorized utility depository bank and reconcile to the general ledger at least once a month. Utility funds shall be separately accounted for by the water, electric, sewer and storm sewer utilities and any other charges that may be placed on the utility bill shall be subject to disposition as the commission shall direct.

(Code 2011, § 1.32)

Wisconsin Statutes

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION OF KAUKAUNA UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, has ordained Kaukauna Utility Commissioners except for the Mayor and aldermanic appointee shall receive compensation for acting as such; and

WHEREAS, the compensation for Kaukauna Utility Commissioners was established at \$240.00 per quarter effective January 1, 2009;

WHEREAS, the compensation for Kaukauna Utility Commissioners was established at \$300.00 per quarter effective January 1, 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordained by the Common Council of the City of Kaukauna, Wisconsin:

Compensation of each Kaukauna Utility Commissioner except for the Mayor and aldermanic appointee is hereby established at \$400.00 per quarter. The aldermanic appointee to the Kaukauna Utility Commission is also the Chair of the Board of Public Works and shall receive an additional \$100 per quarter for serving on the Kaukauna Utility Commission. It is also ordained that the three Kaukauna Utility Commissioners that sit on the Kaukauna Utility Finance & Personnel Committee shall receive an additional \$100 per quarter. For occasional ad hoc committees formed, Kaukauna Utility Commissioners that sit on such ad hoc committees shall receive \$100 per meeting attended. All these expenses will be paid out of the Kaukauna Utilities budget and are effective January 1, 2023.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and publication.

*Current ordinance
for Commission
compensation*

ORDINANCE NO. 1709

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION OF
KAUKAUNA UTILITY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, has ordained Kaukauna Utility Commissioners except for the Mayor and aldermanic appointee shall receive compensation for acting as such; and

WHEREAS, the compensation for Kaukauna Utility Commissioners was last established at \$240.00 per quarter effective January 1, 2009;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is ordained by the Common Council of the City of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, that compensation of each Kaukauna Utility Commissioner except for the Mayor and aldermanic appointee is hereby established at \$300.00 per quarter, effective January 1, 2015.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and publication.

APPROVED: _____
Eugene J. Rosin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Susan J. Duda, Clerk/Treasurer

Adopted: _____
Published: _____