



2023 Annual Budget - Overview and Highlights

Department/Division: Public Works Department Wastewater Treatment and Collection

Budget Owner: Director of Public Works, David H. Biebel and Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent, Jordan Skiff

Proposed Budget for 2023:

The Wastewater budget looks very different between 2022 and 2023, mostly because of almost \$8 million allocated in 2022 for a Lakeshore Interceptor project, offset by a very large use of fund equity. Both revenues and expenditures for 2023 are decreased by that amount, since that large project has already been budgeted.

At this time, revenues minus expenses shows that the Wastewater Fund will be reduced by \$124,206 in 2023. This is comparable to the reduction budgeted for 2022, and still leaves a healthy balance in the Wastewater Fund. Furthermore, sewer rates have yet to be finalized for 2023, which may be adjusted so that revenues match expenses.

Department Goals for 2023:

- 1 Continue to maintain environmental compliance below regulatory requirements.
- 2 Continue to operate the wastewater system in a fiscally sound manner for the benefit of our customers.
- 3 Continue to recruit, develop and adjust personnel at the WWTP to provide growth and learning opportunities for all employees
- 4 Continue to build relationships with key wastewater partners in and around the Sheboygan community, including the outlying communities we accept waste from, the Water Utility, and significant industrial users.
- 5 Evaluate wastewater infrastructure (collection system and treatment plant) for areas of insufficiency and develop an action plan to correct areas of concern.
- 6 Develop and implement a five-year capital improvements plan to address the maintenance needs of an aging wastewater infrastructure.

Highlights and Significant Changes

1 Wastewater personnel costs are projected to increase by \$56,560 in 2023, a 2.4% increase. The Wastewater budget includes staff at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as the sanitation crew within the Department of Public Works and the Clearwater inspector within Building Inspection.

2 Out of the budget line items used by Wastewater staff, our 2022 expenditures should finish within budget despite increased fuel costs, material costs, chemical prices, and lab expenses. This is largely due to less-than-expected contracted services and utility expenses.

3 For these same line items under WWTP discretion, the 2023 budget closely resembles the 2022 budget. The Water Utility has notified us that they plan to raise our expenses for shared billing services by 9% (\$65,000), lab supplies have been raised by \$10,000, and we expect to pay \$65,000 more for wastewater chemicals. We have been able to offset much of this increase by reducing our expenses for contracted services and an anticipated reduction in electricity usage.

4 The scope of the 2023 program is similar to that of 2022, and both include the annual mini-storm sewer program and \$1 million investment in Sheboygan's collection system (sewer pipe & manholes).

Thank you for your continued guidance and support