



AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DATE: 7/31/2025

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Jordan Skiff, Wastewater Superintendent

SUBJECT: Resolution 80-25-26 – A resolution authorizing a 2025 budget amendment and the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order for the purchase of Two Isolation Gate Gearboxes for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ISSUE

Should the Public Works Committee recommend approval of a purchase (including a budget amendment) from Rodney Hunt of two additional gearboxes for isolation gates at the Sheboygan Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)?

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The WWTP has six large aeration basins which are critical to Plant operations, providing oxygen to microorganisms in order to remove nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen from the water. Four of these basins have large openings between them to allow water to serpentine through the process. These openings have gates which initially could be closed to isolate one basin from the others to complete maintenance while continuing treatment in the remaining basins. Unfortunately, these gates are old and inoperable, not allowing basins to be isolated from each other. The key piece to rehabilitating these gates is to replace the large gearbox that turns the screw raising and lowering each gate.

Two such gearboxes were purchased earlier this year, using a \$50,000 line item in the WWTP capital plan. At \$23,000 each, we only purchased two of the four gearboxes we need. The vendor has confirmed there are significant advantages to getting all four gearboxes ordered this year, including consistency in manufacturing and possible lower costs for shipping. Rather than budget for the second set of gearboxes in 2026, we hope to complete the order now.

FUNDING IMPACT

We have a quote from Rodney Hunt for \$23,000 per gearbox. The rehabilitation work will be completed by our crew, and some associated material costs may be encountered.

IF APPROVED, NEXT STEPS:

Assuming the City Council approves the budget amendment on 8/18, a purchase order would be issued and Rodney Hunt can add two gearboxes to the order that has already been placed. Installation will likely be completed in 2026, both due to lead times for complex equipment like this and the impact of cold temperatures on wastewater treatment.

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