



AGENDA ITEM MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/22/2026

TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Jordan Skiff, Wastewater Superintendent

SUBJECT: Resolution 157-25-26 – Approving Engineering Contract—Old Digester Area Demolition Design (Donohue Associates)

ISSUE

Should the Public Works Committee recommend approval of a proposed agreement and budget amendment for a WWTP design contract?

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

At the February 2nd City Council meeting, I am requesting approval of an engineering design contract with Donohue Associates for the demolition of the 1930s digester area at the wastewater plant. Donohue's contract is based on a proposal they provided in response to an RFP (request for proposals) process.

This area was part of the 1930's vintage WWTP, and presents structural and environmental concerns. Two of the four digesters were used to store high-strength waste in the 2000's until 2017, leading to degradation of the concrete tank bottoms and leaving large quantities of organic matter that had congealed.

The only current use of this area are two water-bearing lines and some electrical conduit that still pass through it. WWTP staff proposes to relocate these active lines while the demolition design is being done to minimize contractor costs. Donohue's design will result in the current structures—and any residual organic matter—being demolished and/or removed in a safe, cost-effective and environmentally-responsible manner.

The design cost is higher than budgeted, so a budget amendment will be requested as part of City Council approval.

IF APPROVED, NEXT STEPS

This contract will be entered with Donohue, who will complete plans, specifications and bidding documents for the demolition to be bid out. A 2027 or 2028 demolition project is anticipated.

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

2026 NEW JERSEY AVE.
SHEBOYGAN, WI
53081

920/459-3440
sheboyganwi.gov