
To: Chairman Board and members of the Public Works Commission
From: Peter Hartz – Water Systems Manager

November 6, 2024

Re: November 12, 2024, Public Works Commission agenda items

Water Systems:

1. **Review and take possible action** Presentation and summary of phase 2 findings of Water Rate application prepared by Ehlers and submittal to PSC.

Background:

- On July 23, 2024, this commission approved moving forward with phase 1 and having Ehlers begin the study of the water rates and provide a review of said rates that were last adjusted in April of 2017. For the water utility to continue with our private lead service replacement program, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin requires a review of the water rates as part of our Safe Drinking Water loan application, no funds will be awarded without the review and study of the water rates to assure adequate revenue is available for operations, capital projects, and debt service payments.
- On October 8, 2024, this commission approved having Ehlers continue with the next steps in having Ehlers complete the PSC application (phase 2).

Budget goal: Aligns with investments and infrastructure planning.

Financial Impact: An increase in water revenue is estimated to increase by 16.22% +/- , however there is no certainty about the PSC's findings or recommendations.

Recommendation: Submit and file PSC conventional rate case application for test year 2025.

2. **Review and discuss** Presentation of final Wastewater Facilities Plan Engineering Report by Applied Technologies and approval to move forward with the plan implementation of recommendations.

Background:

- On June 13, 2023, this commission approved hiring Applied Technologies to update the wastewater facilities plan as our previous plan was outdated, and we had a mandate from WDNR to address influent BOD loadings to the wastewater treatment plant as we were noted to be consistently over the design loadings.
- On May 14, 2024, with the presentation of the Compliance Maintenance Annual Report, this commission was updated on the progress with our wastewater facilities plan, it was delayed due to the sensitive nature of working with future growth projections from some businesses in the city.

Budget Goal: Aligns with investments and infrastructure planning.

Financial Impact: Near term improvements are estimated at \$9,098,000, Mid term improvements are estimated at \$10,261,000, and Long Term improvements are estimated at \$14,063,000.

Recommendation: Discuss taking action on facilities plan recommendations.

3. **Review and take possible action** Approve wastewater plan implementation option(s) as discussed.

Background:

- On June 13, 2023, this commission approved hiring Applied Technologies to update the wastewater facilities plan as our previous plan was outdated, and we had a mandate from WDNR to address influent BOD loadings to the wastewater treatment plant as we were noted to be consistently over the design loadings.
- On May 14, 2024, with the presentation of the Compliance Maintenance Annual Report, this commission was updated on the progress with our wastewater facilities plan, it was delayed due to the sensitive nature of working with future growth projections from some businesses in the city.

Budget Goal: Aligns with investments and infrastructure planning.

Financial Impact: Near term improvements estimated at \$9,098,000, Mid term improvements estimated at \$10,261,000, and Long Term improvements estimated at \$14,063,000.

Recommendation: Approve implementation of plan recommendations as presented in option(s).

Option A – Do nothing

Option B – Approve breaking out immediate process needs using cash investments from the identified Near Term improvements to include: Engineering design and construction related services for Influent screens, grit removal system, ultraviolet disinfection, and centrifuge controls following the schedule below:

Verify DNR review is not needed for the immediate equipment upgrades – November 2024
Begin Design – November 2024
Bidding – December 2025
Award of Contract – January 2025
Begin Construction – March 2025
Final Completion/Startup of Facilities – April 2026

Option C – Approve the remaining process improvements identified as Near Term improvements following the schedule below.

Conduct public hearing – November 2024
Submit Facility Plan to DNR – December 2024
DNR Approval of Facilities Plan – March 2025
Near – Term Improvements
Begin Design – January 2025
Submit Plans and Specifications to the DNR – September 2025
Bidding – November 2025
DNR Approval of Plans and Specifications – December 2025
Submit Clean Water Fund Loan Application – December 2025
Award of Contract – January 2026
Begin Construction – March 2026
Final Completion/Startup of Facilities – May 2027

Option D – Approve the wastewater facilities plan improvements identified to include all immediate, near, mid and long term process needs following the schedule below:

Conduct public hearing – November 2024
Submit Facility Plan to DNR – December 2024
DNR Approval of Facilities Plan – March 2025
Near – Term Improvements
Begin Design – January 2025
Submit Plans and Specifications to the DNR – September 2025
Bidding – November 2025
DNR Approval of Plans and Specifications – December 2025
Submit Clean Water Fund Loan Application – December 2025
Award of Contract – January 2026
Begin Construction – March 2026
Final Completion/Startup of Facilities – May 2027
Mid – Term improvements – January 2028
Long – Term improvements – January 2030

Option E – approve separate plan identified and discussed as follows:

Commissioners to include language of action item

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, or need further clarification please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,
Peter Hartz

Water Systems Manger