

To: Mayor Stocks & Members of the Finance Committee
From: Peter Hartz – Water Systems Manager

08/20/2025

Re: Water System agenda items for Finance committee meeting 08/25/2025

Dear Mayor Stocks & Committee Members:

Water Systems agenda item:

Review and take possible action – Approve 1 step adjustment for wastewater division employee

Background: Following the guidance listed in the City of Watertown Employee Handbook of Policy and Procedures, Section IV. Employment Compensation, Section G. Additional Job Compensation, is the following: Certifications, Non- exempt employees who complete professional certifications and/or licensing related to their job description will be eligible for a step placement review to be recommended by the Department Head to be determined by the Mayor and Finance Committee.

Jake Nehls of the wastewater team has met the above requirement for one additional step in the pay plan based on obtaining the wastewater Total Phosphorus certification offered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Budget Goal: Supports employee retention and growth and works to address critical staffing areas.

Financial impact: The 2025 budget accounted for these steps when approved in the budget cycle.

Recommendation: I recommend approving Jake Nehls to move from Grade H Step 8 (\$29.01/hr.) to a Grade H Step 9 (\$29.70/hr.). This step would be retroactive to August 20, 2025, the current pay period beginning date.

Sincerely,
Peter Hartz
Watertown Water Systems