



**CITY OF NEW BERLIN
UTILITY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
Tuesday, October 25, 2022**

Regular Meeting

Zoom Meeting

4:45 PM

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Utility Committee at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Utility Committee has satisfied the requirements as directed by the Common Council on June 22, 2021 and Ordinance No. 2651 to hold this meeting via electronic means. The full text of this ordinance and the minutes from the above mentioned meeting can be viewed at www.newberlin.org

To participate in the meeting, view the meeting, and/or ask questions, the public was able to do so by downloading the ZOOM app located at <https://zoom.us/> and utilize Meeting ID # 853 8179 7127 to join.

All votes were taken via a voice roll call vote.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Alderman Harenda called the meeting to order at 4:45PM

ROLL CALL; DECLARATION OF QUORUM; PUBLIC NOTICE

ITEM: **Present:** Alderpersons, Harenda, Garrigues and Commissioner Nissen

Excused: Commissioner Anderson

Also Present: Utility Manager Jim Hart, Utility Supervisor Mark Welch, Accounting Supervisor John Sughrue and Deputy City Clerk Sherri Hanson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ITEM: Approval of August 23, 2022 Utility Committee Minutes

MOTION: **Motion to approve the August 23, 2022 Utility Committee Minutes as presented.**

VOTE: Motion by: Alderman Garrigues
 Second by: Alderman Hopkins
 Motion passed 4-0

COMMUNICATIONS

ITEM: Milwaukee Water Works rate case communication.

Intent to raise rate 2 and 1/2 % of term PSC will determine the final rate

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM: UT 20-22 Requested Action Statement: To grant the Utility permission to petition the Public Service Commission (PSC) to pursue a rate case.

Accounting Supervisor John Sughrue stated again that the rates will be going up due to costs in infrastructure. Haven't raised rates since 2017. Rates will be determined by the PSC.

MOTION: Motion to grant Utility permission to petition the PSC to pursue a rate case.

VOTE: Motion by: Hopkins John
Second by: Garrigues Chuck
Motion passed 4-0.

ITEM: UT 21 -22 Discussion and possible approval on the proposed 2023 Water Utility Operating Budget.

Accounting Supervisor did a quick overview of the proposed 2023 Water Utility Operating Budget

There will be a 6% increase to the water rates dependent on what the PSC determines.

Milwaukee Water is raising their rates in June or July by approximately 7%

Labor rates will be consistent with the citywide raises which is about 2.25% with 1.5% in January and 1.5% in July

John will now be at the Utility Department full time as the Utility Finance Coordinator

Health Insurance did not have much of an increase compare to what was budgeted last year

Slight increase in WRS which increased the Retirement Account

Hydrant painting schedule for this Fall was not done due to it being a colder than expected so it was move to next Spring

Supplies accounts have gone up due to inflation

Tax equivalent is staying very similar to last year

Advance that was taken from the Sewer Utility to fund the Moorland Road project which added \$167,000 interest into this years budget

Net income we are expecting for 2023 budget with that increase is currently \$21,271.

Utility Manager Jim Hart added that hydrants as well as hydrant parts are going up in price considerably and they need to order earlier and stock more than normally due items not be readily available for long periods of time.

MOTION: Motion to approve the 2023 Water Utility Operating Budget

VOTE: Motion by: Alderman Hopkins
Second by: Commissioner Nissen
Motion passed 4-0

ITEM: UT 22 -22 Discussion and possible approval on the proposed 2023 Water Utility CIP Budget.

Information included in the 2023 Water Utility Operating Budget.

The meters are on there as normal and there is one vehicle which is on the normal vehicle rotation

There is on major project scheduled which is the Fiber Optics Project to provide more reliable communications between our pump houses and the SCADA system

MOTION: Motion to approve the 2023 Water Utility CIP Budget.

VOTE: Motion by: Alderman Garrigues
Second by: Commissioner Nissen
Motion passed 4-0

ITEM: UT 23-22 Discussion and possible approval on the proposed 2023 Wastewater Utility Operating Budget.

There is little change in the Wastewater Utility Budget and we are not increasing rates

MMSD decreased from the estimated cost of 2022

The operating cost is estimated to increase by 4% around \$165,000

Budget numbers come directly from MMSD and out of our control.

In the future there may be a slight increase in MMSD rates

Labor is consistent with the rest of the City, 1.5% in January and 1.5% in July

50% of salary for John Sughrue instead of 30% and the addition of the Utility Operator position.

Health and WRS are the same as the Water Utility Budget

I&I expenses has increased to \$300,000 with the expectation of spending \$200,000 for relining project.

Supplies have gone up due to inflation

MOTION: Motion to approve the 2023 Wastewater Utility Operating Budget

VOTE: Motion by: Alderman Hopkins
Second by: Commissioner Nissen
Motion passed 4-0.

ITEM: UT 24-22 Discussion and possible approval on the proposed 2023 Wastewater Utility CIP Budget.

Information included in the 2023 Wastewater Utility Operating Budget.

Flow Monitors and equipment replacement

Fiber Optics for Lift Stations, there are more Lift Stations which is why it is about \$500,000 more than the water budget

MOTION: Motion to Approve the 2023 Wastewater Utility CIP Budget.

VOTE: Motion by: Alderman Garrigues
Second by: Alderman Hopkins
Motion passed 4-0

UPDATES

ITEM: Moorland Road Water Main Project

Utility Manager Jim Hart reported that the Moorland Road Water Main Project was completed almost a month early and did come in at budget. It cost a little less for inspection of the consultant which saved money.

91 pits were done. We relined and replaced valves and hydrants in sections from roughly a spot over by Heatherly and Moorland Road and from Mark Drive all the way to Ryerson Road. We also added the two mains on the West side of the road which will save us from a leak down the road.

Overall the project went well and was the biggest project in Wisconsin relining wise.

ADJOURN: Motion to Adjourn at 5:10PM

VOTE: Motion by: Alderman Hopkins
Second by: Commissioner Nissen
Motion passed 4-0.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Sherri L Hanson
Deputy City Clerk*