

**City of Oconomowoc
Utility Committee Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2020**

Alderman Kowieski called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Members Present: Alds. Kowieski, Zapfel and Mulder

Staff Present: Kevin Freber, Scott Osborn, John Schuh, Joe Pickart, Mark Frye, Ellen Schmidt, Ivan Lam and Tina Wallace

2. Minutes of May 26, 2020: Motion by Zapfel to approve the May 26, 2020 minutes as presented; second by Mulder. Motion carried 3-0.

3a. Consider/act on Approving Large Water Meter Evaluation, Testing, Calibration Services: Osborn stated this is for large meter testing. Following the City's purchasing policy, three quotes were received. The lowest Midwest Testing, LLC for \$13,655. Staff recommends awarding the contract to Midwest testing with a 10% contingency.

Motion by Mulder to approve the large water meter evaluation, testing, calibration Services for \$15,020 not to exceed lump sum with a base bid of \$13,655 as presented and requested; second by Zapfel. Motion carried 3-0

3.b. Presentation of Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program – Annual Program Update: Tom Steinbach and Darrel Smith, Ag Site Coordinator gave a power point presentation update on the Watershed Protection Program. Steinbach explained the program on where we stand, watershed health, what's been accomplished and why the City is involved in the program. The focus of this project is to reduce phosphorus levels in the Oconomowoc River to the extent that at the confluence with the Rocker River we meet the compliance level of .075 mg/l or less in year 15 of the program, which is around 2034. The present level is at .09mg/l. There are 3 impaired streams and 5 impaired lakes. The Oconomowoc Treatment Plant is the only treatment facility in the Watershed. In 2015 the City applied for Adaptive Management Program through the DNR in 2015 and was approved. The City was the first Adaptive Management Program approved in the state of Wisconsin and we were also the first Regional Conservation Partnership Program in the state. Darrell Smith gave an overview on the OWPP projects and how we address areas subject to erosion. He explained the buffers and filter strips; cover crops and scrapes; aerial seeding project; stormwater projects; and typical BMPs – animal control fencing. He stated the City's role is to provide encouragement and financial assistance to take land out of production which would preserve the topsoil and prevent phosphorus from entering the waterways. Members asked how the farmers get compensated. Steinbach stated an application has been submitted to the DNR for a Targeted Runoff Management System Grant for the Golf Course Creek Golf Course. This is a four-party project with the City, Village of Lac LaBelle, Lac LaBelle Management District and Prestwick. This will be about a \$230,000 grant with a matching 30% from the partners. Smith stated they are working on a new 8-acre ag project near Coney River. Steinbach summed up the agricultural side of North Lake. He stated in 2019 they held a Soil Health Field Day, a Paddle event, and hosted an Ixonia Summer Water Quality Program. The next annual Paddle event is on July 18, 2020 in Monches. A newsletter was started in October 2019. He thanked all the partners. Steinbach displayed a map of the projects.

4. Review Committee Reports: Utility Billing – Schuh referred to his report included in the packet. He noted recently the PSC voted to reestablish a process for reimplementing late fees and disconnections. This will start in mid-July. A courtesy reminder will be sent out to the customers. **Electric –** Pickart referred to his report included in the packet. He noted that the voltage conversion on Thompson street has been completed. Cable replacement on Second Street in the Industrial Park has been completed. Staff has started installing three phase power to The Evin. Forest street Circuit 84 is going from overhead to underground. Staff has started cable injection replacement on Westover, Frederic, and Bolson Drive that have had high fault rates. **Water –** Osborn referred to his report included in the packet. He noted staff has finished the spring hydrant flushing. Osborn stated staff the Water Quality Report has been sent out and delivered. **Wastewater Report –** Freber referred to his report included in the packet. He noted the WPDES permit is out for public notice. This means people can make comments on our permit prior to it being issued and the EPA needs to make comments. Staff is hoping for October 1st new permit with the adaptive management and chloride variance included.

5. **Staff and Committee Comments:** Kowieski thanked the committee for taking time to tour the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
6. **Adjourn:** Motion made by Zapfel to adjourn at 4:55 pm; second by Mulder. Motion carried 3-0.

Tina Wallace, Deputy City Clerk