

**City of Stevens Point
Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners
February 14, 2022 - 12:00 PM**

**Stevens Point Public Utilities
300 Bliss Avenue, Stevens Point WI 54481**

OR

Zoom Teleconferencing

Meeting URL to connect: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82026885705>

Dial in number: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 820 26885705

MINUTES

Discussion and Possible Action on:

1. Roll Call.

PRESENT: Paul Adamski, Carl Rasmussen, Anna Haines, and Ray Schmidt

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Mae Nachman

STAFF PRESENT: Joel Lemke, Chris Lefebvre, Craig Czaikowski, Mary Klesmith, Jason Draheim and Jaime Zdroik

ALSO PRESENT: Dick Packard-resident, Dean Shuda-resident

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Carl Rasmussen, seconded by Ray Schmidt to approve the January 10, 2022 meeting minutes of the Board of Water & Sewerage Commission.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Department Claims

Motion made by Anna Haines, seconded by Carl Rasmussen to approve the department claims for the month of January 2022 as audited and read.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

**4. Additions and corrections to Capital Operations and Maintenance Plan -
Joel Lemke**

Joel stated he wrote a memo to clarify some of the items in question that were on the Capital Operations and Maintenance Plan that was approved last month. If the Commissioners approve the changes, he will add/amend the items on the previously approved Capital Operations and Maintenance Plan.

Vac-truck purchase:

The vac-truck was listed with purchase price of \$450,000 with a trade-in of \$125,000.00. The total equipment purchase is \$513,390.00. We currently have two vac trucks. The newest one is used on the WWTP side of things and the newer one will get recycled down to Stormwater Utility, then the Stormwater Utility pays WWTP for the newer equipment. The Stormwater vac-truck will be traded in, so what they pay WWTP for the newer vac-truck is the difference between the market value of the new truck and the trade-in. So there's a net cost to the Stormwater Utility of \$115,000 and the WWTP expense is \$273,390.00.

Drainage pump replacement:

This is a new item to add to the Capital Operations and Maintenance Plan. The drainage pump that failed was part of the 1992 plant upgrade. The failed pump was inspected by Flygt and they determined that it needs a complete rebuild or replaced. The cost to rebuild the pump was \$8,027 and the price for a brand new pump was \$10,680. Staff does not feel rebuilding a 30 year old pump is a wise investment. Therefore they are requesting approval to purchase a replacement for a total of \$10,680.

Metering pilot projects:

The utility would like to pilot two or three different technologies for metering. The cost of performing these pilots could range from \$20,000 to \$30,000. We are currently using an AMR system. The new system is an AMI System. Meters would then be read all of the time, instead of every three months, and either staff or customers could see readings/usage etc to keep track of consumption. The pilot would last about a year so we can get through a few billing cycles. The Commission asked how we'd determine which residents would be in the pilot program. Joel explained we'd probably choose homes at the perimeter of the City, the farthest away from the collector unit. That way we'd know the distance we can get away from the unit and still get readings. The Commission wanted to know if it is common for utilities to change meters/meter reading systems approximately every 20 years. Joel said we've changed meter types several times. The most consistent meter type used is Neptune. We would not be changing all meters at one time, it would be over a period of time. We exchange residential meters every 10 years, so approximately 10% of our meters every year.

Motion made by Carl Rasmussen, seconded by Anna Haines to add these three items to the Capital Operations and Maintenance Plan.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

5. Summary of Stormwater Utility funds used for street tree and street sweeping efforts - Joel Lemke

Joel provided the Commission with the annual report of Stormwater Utility funds provided to other departments that are relevant to stormwater management.

Parks – Street Trees from 2013 – 2021: Total deposits were \$210,000, Total Expenses were \$199,479.20, Balance is \$10,520.80.

The Stormwater Utility also pays invoices on behalf of the Parks Department for activities that are relevant to street trees. The annual contribution to these efforts is \$25,000.

Streets- Street Sweeping from 2013 to 2021: Total deposits were \$640,000. The money for street sweeping is paid annually to the City. The annual amount is currently \$70,000.

Joel explained that street sweeping is important because it gets the pollutants off the roads. This benefits the Stormwater Utility in regard to being able to meet our permit requirements for the DNR. The Commissioners would like to know what the total amount is that is spent on street sweeping by Public Works. He also explained that the trees planted in the right-of-way help control rainfall by not overloading the system and maintaining water quality.

6. Water Supply and Distribution Reports - *Eric Southworth*

Eric stated usage is up for January. This is due to the paper mill using more water. We received a couple of quotes for the air mixer. So Joel and Eric will be going over those to determine who will be installing the air mixer. They are also working on year-end information for Mary because the auditors will be here in March. The contractor is onsite today for test Well 12. They are hoping to start drilling tomorrow.

Joel also pointed out the new spreadsheet showing Well 11 pumpage history. As part of our agreement with the Town of Hull, we have to show them we aren't varying from the 2,000 gpm limit. This report will be included in the monthly packet so it is easily accessible by everyone who needs it.

Paul Adamski invited others in attendance to speak in regards to the test well drilling for Well 12. No one wished to address the Commission.

7. Sewage Treatment Operations Report - *Chris Lefebvre*

Chris stated the WWTP met all permit requirements for the month of January. The phosphorus levels in January were the best they have been since he started working here. Andritz our dryer company is onsite to do some investigation and warranty repair on the biosolids dryer. They are hoping to have repairs done and start testing tomorrow. Then start running it again.

The Stormwater crew hauled biosolids for them while the dryer was not working. Ray asked if we could have done land application. Chris said it depends on the time of year but because the ground is frozen we could not do that this time. Joel stated if dryer is working there is no need for hauling biosolids or land application.

8. Construction and Maintenance Report - *Craig Czaikowski*

Craig stated we had one crew member helping out the WWTP hauling biosolids. The crew is finishing up hydrant maintenance for the year and watching the frost levels.

9. Community Area Network Report - *Joel Lemke*

Joel stated last Monday they took to Plan Commission an easement to assist us in having the path needed to extend conduit and fiber from the Plover Municipal Building

to the Portage County Highway Facility. This was approved. This project will be awarded in spring.

10. Directors Report - Joel Lemke

Joel stated the test well company on site on Ridge Court. We are in the process of hiring a Utility Operator and Equipment Operator. We are reviewing applications.

Joel stated there was an article in the news on the Wausau PFAS levels being under the EPA level requirement and above what the DNR is going to propose in the future. Those numbers are 20ppt and 70ppt so Wausau had samples had results between those two. This was voluntary testing as requested by the DNR. We are in the UCMR 5 list, unregulated contaminant testing that the EPA puts out every three years. The EPA picks a new panel of constituents. They pick 20 or 30 PFAS to test for starting in 2023 and to be completed by 2025. A lot of communities in our area will be doing this. We had no detect the last time we tested for this.

11. Adjournment.

Motion made by Ray Schmidt to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:44pm