

**City of Stevens Point
Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners
March 13, 2023 - 12:00 PM**

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

OR

Zoom Teleconferencing

Meeting ID: | 820 26885705

By Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82026885705>

By Phone: (303) 715-8592

MINUTES

I. Discussion and Possible Action on:

1. Roll Call.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Joel Lemke, Mary Klesmith, Chris Lefebvre, Eric Southworth, Jason Draheim and Jaime Zdroik

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Ray Schmidt, seconded by Carl Rasmussen to approve the February 13, 2023 meeting minutes of the Board of Water & Sewerage Commission.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Department Claims

Motion made by Mae Nachman, seconded by Carl Rasmussen to approve the department claims for the month of February as audited and read.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

4. Update on rate adjustments - Joel Lemke

The memo from January's meeting was included in this month's packet with corrected/updated rate percentages. The SRC (simplified rate case) through the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) allowed for a 4.5% rate increase last year. This year the increase is 8.0% because the PSC is recognizing inflationary rates.

In January, the Commission approved filing for a simplified rate case with the understanding that the PSC was allowing a 4.5% increase. The Commission approved a 4.5% rate increase for Water and Sewer and an 11% increase for Storm back in January. Now the department is requesting the Commission approve filing the SRC with the new allowed rate increase of 8% instead of 4.5%, which is no longer available.

Joel explained this would be the last simplified rate case that can be filed with the PSC. Next time, we will have to file a full rate case. He explained that even though the SRC

rate is 8% and that increase is larger than originally anticipated, it will help keep rate increases lower in the future.

If approved, the rates would go into effect either May or June of 2023.

Paul requested to see rate comparisons of other utilities at next month's meeting.

Motion made by Ray Schmidt, seconded by Carl Rasmussen to approve filing a simplified rate increase with the PSC and implement an 8% increase for Water and Wastewater Utilities and 11% for the Stormwater Utility.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

5. Water Supply and Distribution Reports - Eric Southworth

Eric stated the new GIS Technician starts this week. The Water Street water tower and the Well 11 clear well are both scheduled to be inspected at the end of the month. This is required by the DNR to be done every 5 years.

Joel added that awhile back we got into a scope of services with the City for broader East Park Commerce Center planning and we are in the middle of discussing and designing the second pressure zone for the City. As we go east, the land goes up and our pressure drops. They want to be able to meet the needs of any big developer that might want to come into the City.

6. Sewage Treatment Operations Report - Chris Lefebvre

Chris stated the WWTP met all permit requirements for the month of February. We produced 50% of our own heat utilized onsite. Chris stated we were nominated for the ACEC Award for 2023 for best of state for our dryer/garage project. There is an awards banquet at the end of April where the winner will be announced.

7. Construction and Maintenance Report - Craig Czaikowski

The Commission reviewed the report included in the packet.

8. Directors Report - Joel Lemke

Joel stated there was some questioning about payment of claims. The payment of claims detail might need to be included for Council approval in the future.

9. Adjournment.

Motion made by Mae Nachman to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:20PM