

November 18, 2025

President Debra Brown called the monthly meeting of the Eagle River Light, Water and WWTP Commission to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Dan Dumas, Dan Grosskopf, Walt Gander and David Eibner.

Others in attendance: Mike Sanborn, Jesse Roberts, Robin Ginner and John Laszczkowski.

Motion by Walt Gander, second by Dan Grosskopf to approve the agenda. Carried.

Motion by Dan Dumas, second by Walt Gander to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Carried.

Motion by Walt Gander, second by Dan Grosskopf to approve payment of the accounts payable bills. Roll call vote: Gander, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Dumas, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

Motion by Dan Grosskopf, second by Walt Gander to approve October's electronic payments/manual checks. Roll call vote: Grosskopf, aye; Gander, aye; Dumas, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

President Debra Brown opened for comments on any correspondence included in the agenda package: No additional comments or discussion.

President Debra Brown opened for discussion of staff reports:

Jesse Roberts gave updates on customer incentives programs, WPPI's contribution to Northland Pines for a completed energy audit and reviewed results from a Focus on Energy report.

John Laszczkowski discussed financial results through October. At this point, strong year-to-date sales in the electric and water utilities continue to benefit our profitability level. The electric utility will have a rate review with WPPI by June 2026. The water utility rates were increased by 3% on November 1. The sewer utility remains a significant challenge with no landfill revenue and a growing list of PFAS-related expenses. A sewer rate recommendation is included as an action item this month. As a percent of YTD sales, our final tax liens were incredibly low again this year. Lastly, our cash position continues to be stable.

Mike Sanborn discussed his operational report in additional detail, including further details on the drilled well at the new apartment complex and a brief update on applications received for the apprentice lineman position.

Motion by Dan Dumas and second by Dan Grosskopf to adjourn to Closed Session according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (c); Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Roll call vote: Dumas, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Gander, aye; Eibner, aye. Carried.

- i. Foreman position – retirement and approval of a replacement.
- ii. Hiring of an apprentice lineman.

Motion by Walt Gander and second by Dan Grosskopf to return to open session to act on matters discussed in closed session if any action is needed. Roll call vote: Gander, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Dumas, aye; Eibner, aye. Carried.

**Approve/accept the retirement of Bob Mignon as Utility Foreman.**

Motion by Dan Dumas and second by Dan Grosskopf to approve/accept the retirement of Bob Mignon as Utility Foreman. Roll call vote: Dumas, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Gander, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

**Approve the replacement of Bob Mignon as Utility Foreman.**

After a discussion, and contingent on a satisfactory discussion with our City Attorney, motion by Dan Grosskopf and second by Dan Dumas to approve Cole Sanborn as the new Utility Foreman. Roll call vote: Grosskopf, aye; Dumas, aye; Gander, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

**Approve the hiring of an apprentice lineman.**

After a discussion, and contingent on a satisfactory discussion with our City Attorney, motion by Dan Dumas and second by Dan Grosskopf to approve the hiring committee offering the position to a candidate after completion of the interview process. Roll call vote: Dumas, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Eibner, aye; Gander, aye; Carried.

**Review sewer rates and propose a recommendation to the City Council.**

After a detailed discussion and review of the multiple financial concerns on the profitability of the sewer utility, motion by Dan Grosskopf and second by Walt Gander to approve recommending a 12% sewer rate increase to the City Council. Roll call vote: Grosskopf, aye; Gander, aye; Dumas, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

**Transfer partial funds from the sewer replacement account for the repair invoice from New Restoration and Recovery Services of \$75,757.40.**

After a detailed discussion on the balance and funding of the sewer replacement account, motion by Walt Gander and second by Dan Dumas to transfer half of the repair cost invoice from New Restoration and Recovery Services to fund this payment. Roll call vote: Gander, aye; Dumas, aye; Eibner, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Carried.

**Review cost options and accept a proposal from Caselle software to convert from Microsoft Dynamics SL. A signed Master Service Agreement is required to confirm an implementation timeline.**

After a detailed discussion on our lengthy history with Microsoft Dynamics SL and the research/recommendation of WPPI's committee on the Caselle software, motion by Walt Gander and second by Dan Grosskopf to approve accepting the proposal (without prepayment of license fees) from Caselle software and to sign the Master Service Agreement. Roll call vote: Gander, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Dumas, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried

**Approval for Kozar Technologies to install and maintain a panic button system in the L&W office for \$2,126.20, along with the annual monitoring cost of \$43 each for five units (\$215 annually).**

After a discussion regarding improving safety at City Hall, motion by Dan Dumas and second by Walt Gander to approve Kozar Technologies installing and maintaining the panic button system in the L&W office for \$2,126.20, along with the annual monitoring cost of \$43 each for five units (\$215 annually). Roll call vote: Dumas, aye; Gander, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

**Approval of disposal of aged equipment:**

- Two military generators.
- Electric wire windup rig.
- Other miscellaneous items.

After a brief discussion regarding the aged equipment and scrap options, motion by Dan Dumas and second by Walt Gander to approve disposal of the listed aged equipment. Roll call vote: Dumas, aye; Gander, aye; Grosskopf, aye; Eibner, aye; Carried.

Motion by Dan Grosskopf, second by Walt Gander to adjourn at 2:21 P.M. Carried.

John Laszczkowski  
Recording Secretary

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