

PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES (PWUC) COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 12th, 2025 5:30 pm, Parkview Room

1. Roll call.

Meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm by Mr. Schindler

Present: Mr. Schindler (via Zoom), Mr. Koleski, Mr. Eull, Ms. Schneider, Mr. Zwirlein, Mr. Harley and Mr. Olson

Absent: None

Also Present: Mr. Harrigan & Mr. Paul and Nicci Sternitzky of the Beautification Committee.

2: Review and act on minutes from December 8th 2025 Meeting

Mr. Olson moved and Mr. Zwirlein seconded to approve the December 8th, 2025 minutes with minor edits. Motion carried 7-0.

3: Review and possible action on potential meter installation for reporting sewer usage. (Request to take up this item upon arrival of Village Clerk.)

Village Clerk Crystal Turner requested support to move forward with an automated meter program that was originally ready to implement back in 2021, but was delayed with the transition of the clerk at that time. This program would provide staff with the ability to gain actual usage data remotely that would be consistently accurate for billing purposes. Currently, the self-reporting has caused issues with improper meter readings and when trying to reconcile accounts properly due to improper readings or non-reporting, estimation and improper readings have lent to disputes with billing.

Mr. Olson moved to recommend to the Board moving forward with the remote meter reading installation project. Mr. Eull seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

4: Review and possible recommendation to proclaim January 26th, through January 30th as "Winter Salt Week" in the Village of Elm Grove

Ms. Nicci Sternitzky provided a presentation on her efforts to educate the community, as well as contractors that work in the community, on the impacts of chlorides in our waterways. Ms. Sternitzky has requested a proclamation to make January 26th to the 30th, 2026 as Winter Salt Week that coincides with an educational presentation by Milwaukee Riverkeepers, Fresh Coast Guardians, Sweetwater, SEWRPC and MMSD at the Elm Grove Public Library on Saturday, January 31st, 2026.

The committee was in full support. Mr. Eull moved and Mr. Zwirlein seconded. Motion carried. 7-0

5. Update on Underwood Creek Daylighting Project

Mr. Harrigan informed the committee that the project is out for bid as of January 6th, 2026 and is live on the Quest platform. As of this date, there are 6 plan holders, 4 of which are prime bidders. Bidders from the last round whom are currently on the list include CW Purpero, Edgerton and Walbec Group. There will be a pre bid meeting on Thursday, January 15th, with a bid opening on Tuesday, January 27th, 2026.

Mr. Harrigan also added that the property owner and Sendik's operator are all in on working together and continue to be supportive of the project. There is still litigation with the railroad, but at this time, the Village is the owner of the parcel that was procured via eminent domain.

6: 2025 Public Works Projects close out review

Mr. Paul provided the committee with a summary of the totals and overages for the 2025 Paving Project. During the discussion, members requested a breakout of the line items which will be available at the next PWUC Meeting in February.

7. Update on Wauwatosa Water extension along Watertown Plank Rd

Mr. Harrigan informed the committee that staff met with Wauwatosa representatives to discuss steps forward with the water main extension along Watertown Plank Rd from where it ended near St. Mary's Visitation Cemetery down towards the Elm Grove Terrace Condominiums just east of the railroad tracks. Process for amending the service agreement and timelines as noted in the attached meeting notes were discussed. Wauwatosa will handle design, bidding and construction oversight. The project is tentatively scheduled for spring of 2027.

8: Update on 2026 Highland Dr Pathway

Mr. Harrigan and Mr. Paul shared the progress update from Travis Brush of KL Engineering. Included in the packet were sign in sheets and notes from residents whom attended the Public Information as well as a drawing of a potential modification to the existing pathway plan at 1255 that relocated the pathway to the backside of some very large trees. This modification would place the pathway on private property, but the resident who requested the modification is willing to provide an easement in order to save the trees that would otherwise be impacted. Mr. Brush and Mr. Paul have been in communication and have met with some of the property owners along the current pathway.

Mr. Koleski shared that he felt Mr. Brush did a great job with the visuals and the presentation at the Public Information Meeting and that there was a positive tone for the pathway, as well as constructive discussion on the goal to save as many mature trees as possible.

The committee further discussed other items to provide direction for Mr. Brush to deliver the 60% plans for the February Public Works Utilities Committee Meeting. After reviewing the slope of a handful of concrete driveways that had been requested to stay in place, only two are likely to meet that criteria. The committee decided that if an existing concrete driveway approach was less than 2 years old, met the slope requirements, was in good condition, then the Village can choose to allow for that portion of the driveway to stay in place, but the Village should retain the rights to make that decision.

The committee was ok moving forward to pursue the easement at 1255 Highland to preserve the larger trees as noted. Relative to 14800 Juneau Blvd, the committee preferred to avoid adding a retaining wall unless it was required and to try and make it work without it.

In regards to private drain discharges in the ROW that may impact the construction of the pathway, the committee agreed that it must be removed from the ROW by the owner to meet the requirements of the most current ordinance, which is to discharge 10' back from the property line.

The last discussion dealt with the traffic control options and whether to do a soft closure or offer a one-way option. Pros and cons were discussed but the committee wanted to know how it would impact the price of the overall project. Once they can be given some direction, they can better make a decision. The committee asked that Mr. Travis provide some projections or perhaps bid them as alternatives.

9. Update on Public Works Projects

Mr. Paul also informed the committee that the main focus right now for the DPW continues to be snow removal, tree removal/pruning and x-mas tree pick up.

Procurement of the 2026 DPW equipment is underway and have so far been in line with the projected budgets.

10. Other Business

Mr. Koleski inquired if there were any more update son the procurement of the Fire Truck from Butler. Mr. Harrigan stated that Butler is still working through the details of the FEMA grant concerns that they used to assist in the purchase of the truck.

11: Adjourn

**MR. ZWIRLEIN MOTIONED AND MR. HARLEY SECONDED TO ADJORN. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.
7:44 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted
Richard Paul, Jr.
Public Works Director

DRAFT