

**Board of Public Works  
of the City of Onalaska**

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

1

1 The Meeting of the Board of Public Works of the City of Onalaska was called to order at 6:30  
2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. It was noted that the meeting had been announced and a notice  
3 posted at City Hall.

4

5 Roll call was taken with the following members present: Mayor Joe Chilsen, Ald. Ron Gjertsen,  
6 Ald. Kim Smith, Financial Services Director/Treasurer Fred Buehler, City Engineer Jarrod  
7 Holter

8

9 Also Present: City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, Ald. Jim Binash, Ald. Diane Wulf, Assistant  
10 Police Chief Jeff Cavender

11

12 **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from previous meeting**

13

14 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the minutes from the previous  
15 meeting as printed and on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

16

17 On voice vote, motion carried.

18

19 **Item 3 – Public Input (limited to 3 minutes/individual)**

20

21 Mayor Chilsen called three times for anyone wishing to provide public input and closed that  
22 portion of the meeting.

23

24 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

25

26 **Item 4 – Review and consideration of corrosion control within the water system, including**  
27 **presentation by Water Quality Investigations, LLC**

28

29 Jarrod introduced Andrew Jacque of Water Quality Investigations, LLC, noting that Andrew has  
30 worked on different well projects within the City of Onalaska for more than 10 years. Jarrod told  
31 board members the city began engaging in corrosion control discussions with the Wisconsin  
32 Department of Natural Resources in April 2018. Jarrod also reminded board members the city  
33 now includes orthophosphates within its water system. Jarrod said Andrew had collected  
34 samples and performed background work on its source water earlier Tuesday at Well No. 8.  
35 Jarrod said Andrew is examining how the biological activity would affect the copper corrosion  
36 within the city’s water system. This is in conjunction with the work Process Research Solutions  
37 is performing. Jarrod said there is neither a true agenda nor a formal presentation for this item;  
38 rather, Andrew will conduct a free discussion with the board.

39

40 Andrew told board members the work Water Quality Solutions is doing is part of a corrosion  
41 control study that the Wisconsin DNR has requested. Andrew assured board members the city is

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42 not out of compliance in terms of lead or copper and said, “This is part of a proactive measure to  
43 get a better handle as to what’s causing elevated copper in your drinking water.” Andrew said  
44 Water Quality Solutions examines water quality from a holistic perspective. This means  
45 regulations state there is a substance in the water, or that while problems have not yet arisen due  
46 to something in the water, the substance is due to an inorganic reaction or something that is  
47 always in the water. Andrew said it is his job to determine why a certain substance is in the  
48 water as then it will be easier to address the problem. Andrew explained that regulations in  
49 general assume a substance always will be in the water, or corrosion occurs because the water is  
50 corrosive. Andrew said Water Quality Solutions examines “the sciences behind water,” meaning  
51 the ground is the water’s origin and it comes from hydrogeology. Water flows through pipes,  
52 which is comprised of different manmade material, and it sits in different types of plumbing  
53 material. Andrew said there are items in the water that cause reactions, and also that it is crucial  
54 to not only examine one side of the equation (e.g. the inorganic reactions and chemistry). There  
55 also is a biological element, and Andrew told board members Water Quality Solutions often  
56 finds that the biofilm is always part of the water quality issue. Andrew said Water Quality  
57 Solutions tries to determine if biofilm is present. If there is no biofilm, then it is inorganic  
58 chemistry. If there is biofilm present, it is important to determine if it is the problem or the  
59 symptom of another problem.

60  
61 Andrew noted there is natural biofilm in the City of Onalaska’s water, and the water has been in  
62 contact with it. Andrew said that while biofilm might concern people, he described it as being  
63 beneficial in that humans cannot survive without it as it is present in their intestines and teeth.  
64 Biofilm also can be found in foods such as apples. Andrew said there are concerns about biofilm  
65 when it potentially could harbor a pathogen and cause an illness. Biofilm can cause corrosion  
66 and release metals that are contaminants to humans. Biofilm can cause disinfection byproducts  
67 to be formed, meaning carcinogens are created when an element mixes with chlorine in the  
68 water. Andrew said the water in the City of Onalaska contains natural biofilm, and it is more  
69 aggressive than it should be. Andrew said the goal is to determine why it is present, and also if  
70 something can be done to address it. Andrew said the first step of the process – sampling one of  
71 the wells – occurred earlier Tuesday. Andrew said whatever occurs in the plumbing systems will  
72 be based on what occurs in the distribution piping network in the streets. Whatever occurs there  
73 will happen because of the source water, meaning the wells. Whatever occurs in the wells will  
74 be based on what type of water is flowing to the well from the aquifer. Andrew said Water  
75 Quality Investigations examines this interconnected network to determine if there is lead or  
76 copper in the city’s water. Water Quality Investigations will examine the sample it took to  
77 determine if part of the natural biofilm that is in the water system is present due to the  
78 construction of the wells, or if it is present due to how the aquifer is flowing to it.

79  
80 Andrew said the national regulations on lead and copper in drinking water ignore the role of  
81 biofilm, and he told board members that in the past he would have been under the thought  
82 process to feed an orthophosphate to prevent the corrosion products from entering the water.

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83 The orthophosphate reacts with the copper, and it creates a protective film. Andrew said he also  
84 would have been of the mindset to adjust the PH levels in acidic waters so that the acid does not  
85 attack the copper so that there are corrosion products in the water. However, Andrew said  
86 testing has shown biofilm plays a role, “and we’re teasing out, what is that role, so that instead of  
87 just feeding a chemical ... The regulations totally ignore the role of biofilm in basically causing  
88 corrosion.” Andrew said Water Quality Investigations’ work connects the role of microbiology,  
89 noting microbes like to eat and also that different microbes will want different types of food.  
90 Andrew said Water Quality Investigations also performs tests that show another component will  
91 change if microbes are present. Andrew told board members Water Quality Investigations is  
92 examining four or five different tests that are all independent, but also are pointing to the same  
93 conclusion: There is a role of biofilm and biology that is natural in the environment in the lead  
94 and copper that is seen in a majority of the systems it tests.

95  
96 Andrew said, “We see that at play here. The goal behind this testing is to find out, what is that  
97 component so that we can control it. In my opinion, the worst thing we can do is what the EPA  
98 and the DNR regulations basically say, [which is], ‘You have a corrosion problem. Even though  
99 you’re not out of compliance, we can see that number is there.’ At any one time, it could go out  
100 of compliance. We’re trying to address it before that happens. What they basically say is, ‘You  
101 have elevated corrosion products in your water. You should feed a phosphate or do a PH  
102 adjustment.’ It’s like chasing the symptom; it’s the shiny object. We could throw a lot of money  
103 at feeding phosphate or putting in a PH adjustment, but the real problem is over here. The real  
104 problem is putting that laser pointer around and we’re throwing money while the cats are chasing  
105 it. We want to control that laser pointer, and that’s what we’re trying to get at. That’s what is  
106 causing the lead and copper corrosion. Once we identify its role and address it, then we see  
107 where the system settles at. We’ve done a lot of work in this area. ... The root thing we’re trying  
108 to do is find out who is controlling the laser pointer so we don’t chase the shiny object and have  
109 this community become out of compliance because we’re looking in the wrong direction. We’re  
110 starting at the source and working out.”

111  
112 Jarrod used an analogy of someone being diagnosed with having high cholesterol and the doctor  
113 gives him/her a pill to be taken daily to lower those levels. However, a person should address  
114 the root cause by losing weight, exercise, and/or watch his/her diet. Jarrod said that while the  
115 orthophosphate the Wisconsin DNR wants the city to add to its water system is a workable  
116 solution, the city is attempting to take a step back and also identify the root cause of the problem  
117 and obtain a deeper source so that the city may obtain a better understanding of what it is  
118 attempting to accomplish. Jarrod said the information Andrew presents to city staff is easy to  
119 comprehend, and also that he hopes Andrew’s conclusions from the testing will include other  
120 workable solutions on what the city should be doing, maintenance-wise, on its source water at its  
121 wells. Jarrod said Public Works Department employees Jim Prindle, Shane Stoner, and Ashley  
122 Kramer have all worked with Andrew on testing and Wisconsin DNR reporting. Jarrod said the  
123 amount of testing has increased significantly over the last year so that the city is being proactive.

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124 Jarrod said the city could have chosen to wait until the EPA mandated testing in the summer of  
125 2020 and reiterated the city is attempting to be proactive.

126

127 City Administrator Rindfleisch it is his understanding that while lead is not an issue in the city's  
128 water system, copper is.

129

130 Andrew told City Administrator Rindfleisch he is correct in that there are elevated copper levels,  
131 also telling him the city is in compliance.

132

133 City Administrator Rindfleisch said the city is being proactive in its efforts to determine what is  
134 occurring in its water system, and also looking beyond the symptoms. City Administrator  
135 Rindfleisch noted his daily vitamin includes copper, and he asked if he should cease taking it due  
136 to elevated copper levels. City Administrator Rindfleisch also inquired about current risks to  
137 citizens.

138

139 Andrew said the copper limits are set up for lifetime exposure to that amount. Andrew also  
140 explained that if there are elevated copper levels in the water, it would be prudent to examine  
141 whether or not a supplement that contains copper should be taken. Andrew also said he has not  
142 gotten far enough into the regulations to say if citizens who take multivitamins and have elevated  
143 copper is considered in the regulations. Andrew said Water Quality Investigations is examining  
144 the 1,300 milligrams per liter lifetime copper exposure, and he explained the regulations are set  
145 up so that either one in 100,000 or one in 1 million at that level could have a health issue.  
146 Andrew said the limits are not set up for zero health issues; rather, they are set up for minimizing  
147 health issues in the community. Andrew also said the risk on copper is significantly less than the  
148 risk on lead.

149

150 Mayor Chilsen inquired about chromium.

151

152 Andrew told Mayor Chilsen he does not know what chromium levels are in the city's water.

153

154 Mayor Chilsen asked if the city had had issues with chromium in its water.

155

156 Jarrod told Mayor Chilsen the city has tested for chromium and said it is well  
157 below the mandated levels. However, Jarrod also noted some states have other levels and he said  
158 the city does not have any chromium issues – regulatory or otherwise.

159

160 Mayor Chilsen asked if he had heard about chromium issues occurring in 2018.

161

162 Jarrod told Mayor Chilsen they had not occurred in the City of Onalaska.

163

164 Ald. Gjertsen asked Jarrod if the State of Wisconsin is not measuring chromium the way other

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165 states measure it.

166

167 Jarrod told Ald. Gjertsen he is correct, noting California has a significantly lower chromium  
168 level than the EPA level.

169

170 Andrew said Water Quality Investigations has seen chromium in wells with excess biofilm  
171 causing attack of the machinery, meaning the stainless steels shafts located in pumps.

172

173 Jarrod said he has not seen that occur in Onalaska.

174

175 Ald. Gjertsen asked if biology is a potential factor in the elevated copper levels.

176

177 Andrew said that is the case in Onalaska.

178

179 Ald. Gjertsen noted the city is treating the system with phosphate, and he asked if there is an  
180 understanding as to what the phosphate means to the microbiology, or if that is what the city is  
181 attempting to pinpoint.

182

183 Andrew said part of what is being done now is understanding where the phosphate fits into the  
184 diet. Andrew noted every living cell needs carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus to survive, and he  
185 said Water Quality Investigations has seen natural phosphorus coming from the aquafer.  
186 Andrew said, "It's already in the water, and we're enhancing it. What we don't know is what  
187 other nutrients are present. ... We're looking at the mix of nutrients that are in the water coming  
188 from each well. One well might be more problematic than another. We know phosphorus is  
189 there already. What we do know in the research we've done is that a lot of times when you feed  
190 the orthophosphate you do see less corrosion products in the water. The mechanism isn't fully  
191 teased out yet on what we're doing. But what we think is happening is that the corrosion is still  
192 occurring. It's just that the phosphate is interacting with the copper and keeping that copper  
193 bound up in the biofilm. At some point in time, though, if you had a disruption in the system  
194 you would have a massive release of copper because the biofilm would sluff. That to me is a  
195 greater risk."

196

197 Ald. Gjertsen asked if there potentially could be a large release of copper contaminate into the  
198 city's water system if the biofilm became less viable.

199

200 Andrew told Ald. Gjertsen that could occur.

201

202 Ald. Gjertsen said the phosphate should have the opposite effect of that if the biofilm is feeding  
203 on it. Ald. Gjertsen also pointed out it does not stop it from dying off.

204

205 Andrew told Ald. Gjertsen it is "a real delicate balance" and cited the example of population

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206 dynamics. Andrew said there is “a new pecking order” when a new species is introduced.  
207 Andrew also said when the Wisconsin DNR wanted phosphate to be fed into the city’s water  
208 system, Water Quality Investigations asked that it be added slowly so that a major disruption is  
209 not created. Andrew said where there is a major change in a nutrient such as phosphorus in the  
210 water, there can be a significant change in the natural biofilm that will be present. Andrew said  
211 Water Quality Investigations is not concerned about a pathogen, but rather the natural biofilms  
212 and attempting to change the pecking order in their release. Andrew said Water Quality  
213 Investigations has done a significant amount of work in the biofilm and told Ald. Gjertsen it is  
214 extremely difficult to remove. Andrew further stated it can never be eliminated; rather, it can be  
215 controlled. Andrew said the goal is to control it so that it can be a manageable thickness and a  
216 manageable occurrence. Andrew noted corrosion always will occur because of it and said, “We  
217 need to minimize it. The only way we can make any water have no biofilm in it would not be  
218 cost-effective. We have to basically remove everything out of it, sterilize it, and put it back in it.  
219 And even then, once it leaves the source and gets out into the piping there’s a lot of stuff that  
220 could happen. In your water here, I think you have less of a likelihood of having this loss of  
221 nutrients in die-over and sluffing. What we see in the water, there’s this low-level nutrient that’s  
222 always present. We want to control the dynamics so that it doesn’t create that sluffing event.  
223 Changing a chemical dose quickly can do that.”

224

225 Jarrod said this item is on this evening’s agenda because he knew Andrew would be conducting  
226 testing in the city Tuesday and would be able to provide an update on what Water Quality  
227 Investigations is attempting to accomplish. Jarrod said staff likely would be bringing forward  
228 recommendations on action items during the spring from some of the testing being conducted.

229

230 Mayor Chilsen said he will move up both Item 12 and Item 14 on this evening’s agenda so that  
231 Assistant Police Chief Cavender may leave to attend another event.

232

233 **Item 12 – Review and consideration of Police Department vehicle purchases**

234

235 Jarrod noted board members’ packets include a copy of an email from Police Chief Troy Miller,  
236 who is requesting to purchase two Ford Police Interceptor vehicles at a cost of \$33,112 each  
237 (\$66,224 total). Police Chief Miller also wishes to purchase an unmarked Ford Police  
238 Interceptor vehicle at a cost of \$33,117, bringing the total cost to \$99,341. Jarrod said the  
239 vehicles would be purchased from Ewald Automotive Group on the state bid contract from  
240 which the city has purchased for several years. Jarrod noted the 2019 Capital Improvements  
241 Budget included funds for these purchases, and he also noted the Police Department will be  
242 utilizing additional funds within the Capital Improvements accounts for outfitting the cars and  
243 installing upgrades.

244

245 Ald. Gjertsen inquired about the equipment that will be installed, asking if any of the old  
246 equipment will be utilized.

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247  
248 Assistant Police Chief Cavender's comments were inaudible on the recording.

249  
250 Ald. Smith asked how the prices compare to the budgeted amounts.

251  
252 Fred told Ald. Smith that \$40,600 was budgeted for the unmarked squad car, and \$106,200 was  
253 budgeted for the two squad cars.

254  
255 Jarrod noted a total of \$146,800 had been budgeted and told Ald. Smith the cost of the  
256 equipment for the vehicles is expensive. Jarrod also noted that either in 2011 or 2012 the Public  
257 Works Department used to perform the switchover of all the vehicles. However, the mechanic  
258 needed two consecutive weeks to switch over one vehicle, and Jarrod said the advances in  
259 technology for the computers and cameras have further complicated the situation. The Police  
260 Department now utilizes a specialized firm to perform the switchovers, and Jarrod said that is  
261 part of the price that must be paid out of that fund.

262  
263 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the purchase of three Police Department  
264 vehicles from Ewald Automotive Group at a cost of \$99,341.

265  
266 On voice vote, motion carried.

267  
268 **Item 14 – Review and consideration of traffic control at the following intersections:**

269  
270 a. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Green Street

271  
272 Jarrod noted board members' packets include a copy of a map showing where stop signs would  
273 be installed on 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue South at Green Street. Jarrod pointed out that Green Street is an  
274 east-west through street from 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South to State Trunk Highway 35. Jarrod noted the  
275 Stop Sign Evaluation Committee had been dissolved and said these proposals, which he  
276 described as a culmination of requests, now come before the Board of Public Works. Jarrod said  
277 city staff has received a few more requests that he has discussed with Police Chief Miller.  
278 However, Jarrod said that after he and Police Chief Miller had scored these requests, they did not  
279 believe it was prudent to bring forward those requests. Only the requests both Jarrod and Police  
280 Chief Miller believe could be approved have been brought forward. Jarrod said he and Police  
281 Chief Miller had examined the approach speed to the intersection and the number of accidents at  
282 the intersection. Jarrod noted there are hedges and trees located at one corner of the intersection  
283 that impair the sightline, and he told board members an accident had occurred at this intersection.  
284 Jarrod said he and Police Chief Miller had scored this intersection at 16 points, noting the  
285 threshold for the scoring system is 15 points. Jarrod said both he and Police Chief Miller are  
286 recommending installing a stop sign at this intersection.

287  
Reviewed 3/7/19 by Jarrod Holter

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288 Ald. Smith asked Jarrod if a stop sign had previously been at this intersection.

289

290 Jarrod told Ald. Smith there had not been one at this intersection.

291

292 Ald. Smith said she believes there had been a stop sign at the intersection.

293

294 Mayor Chilsen said the stop sign had been located at 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

295

296 Jarrod agreed that a four-way stop sign had been located at 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Green Street.

297

298 Ald. Gjertsen asked Jarrod if the city has an ordinance regarding foliage.

299

300 Jarrod told Ald. Gjertsen there is a vision triangle in the ordinance, and he noted some of the  
301 trees have grown inside the right-of-way. Jarrod said the city may physically remove anything in  
302 the right-of-way deemed to be impairing a motorist's vision. Jarrod also said the city may enter  
303 the vision triangle if foliage exceeds 30 inches in height. Jarrod noted he had spoken with Police  
304 Chief Miller and said that while it is possible to do a combination of both, he believes a stop sign  
305 is still warranted.

306

307 Ald. Gjertsen told Jarrod he is not speaking about this specific intersection and pointed out there  
308 are several intersections within the city that are similar to this one and need to be addressed.

309

310 Jarrod said city staff does not do any proactive pruning of foliage located in a right-of-way, but  
311 does for city-owned boulevard trees. Jarrod also said he agrees with Ald. Gjertsen there are  
312 locations within the city that need to be addressed.

313

314 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the installation of a stop sign at the  
315 intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Green Street.

316

317 On voice vote, motion carried.

318

319 b. Strawberry Road and Abbey Road

320

321 Jarrod said this area will be reconstructed this summer. The roadway currently has very little  
322 traffic on it as it is a dead end and there are few residential homes beyond this area. Jarrod noted  
323 board members' packets include a map showing the outlined area across from the Town of  
324 Onalaska park at Strawberry Road and Abbey Road where the stop signs would be installed.  
325 Board members' packets also include plan sheets showing the installation of the stop sign as part  
326 of the roadway project. Jarrod said he and Police Chief Miller had not completed a scoring sheet  
327 because the traffic count will change after the roadway opens. In addition, the Police  
328 Department was not performing the traffic control accident investigations at this intersection

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329 before the City of Onalaska took it over in July 2018. Jarrod said the intersection had been  
330 examined as part of the overall project scope, including traffic calming. Median islands for  
331 speed control will be installed. Jarrod said traffic will increase due to the connection of Abbey  
332 Road from East Avenue to County Trunk Highway OT. City staff recommends installing a  
333 three-way stop at this intersection.

334

335 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the installation of a three-way stop at  
336 the intersection of Strawberry Road and Abbey Road.

337

338 On voice vote, motion carried.

339

340 c. Rolling Oaks Drive and Oak Timber Drive

341

342 Jarrod referred to the stop sign request scoring sheet for this intersection and said the proposed  
343 stop signs would be installed on Oak Timber Drive at Rolling Oaks Drive. Jarrod told board  
344 members multiple citizens have requested that a stop sign be installed at this intersection. Jarrod  
345 said there have been issues at this intersection due to the geometry of the roadway with Rolling  
346 Oaks Drive coming through and Oak Timber Drive being at a skewed angle. Jarrod told board  
347 members there are trees located on the northwest side of the intersection and said staff is  
348 attempting to allow them to grow. Jarrod said staff is attempting to trim them in an attempt to  
349 have good visibility when there are leaves on them. Jarrod noted an accident had occurred at this  
350 intersection, and he said it had received a score of 15 points due to approach speed and the  
351 geometry of it. Jarrod said he and Police Chief Miller recommend installing a stop sign at this  
352 intersection.

353

354 Ald. Smith asked if motorists on Oak Timber Drive would stop, but motorists on Rolling Oaks  
355 Drive would continue.

356

357 Jarrod said motorists on Rolling Oaks Drive would continue and told Ald. Smith it would be a  
358 two-way stop sign.

359

360 City Administrator Rindfleisch noted that because Oak Timber Drive intersects with Rolling  
361 Oaks Drive twice, it is the eastern intersection to which is being referred.

362

363 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the installation of a two-way stop at  
364 the intersection of Rolling Oaks Drive and Oak Timber Drive.

365

366 On voice vote, motion carried.

367

368 d. Rolling Oaks Drive and Charles Avenue

369

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370 Jarrod noted board members' packets include a copy of a map depicting the intersection of  
371 Rolling Oaks Drive and Charles Avenue as well as a scoring sheet for the intersection. Jarrod  
372 said the map shows a three-way stop at the intersection. Jarrod also said motorists coming down  
373 Charles Avenue to Rolling Oaks Drive will see a retaining wall behind the sidewalk. This  
374 retaining wall is located outside the vision triangle, and Jarrod said that while it meets code it  
375 still hampers a motorist's vision going up the street. Jarrod said residents have inquired about  
376 traffic in this area, and he also said he will be one of the first proponents of not installing stop  
377 signs as a means of speed control. However, Jarrod also described this spot as being "unusual"  
378 and noted there a basketball court located approximately 40 feet from the sidewalk. Jarrod said  
379 he and Police Chief Miller had assigned this intersection 13 points, meaning it is two points less  
380 than what is mandated to install a stop sign. Jarrod said he and Police Chief Miller had decided a  
381 yield sign would not be appropriate at this intersection if the city were to install intersection  
382 control on Rolling Oaks Drive. There would be a three-way stop at this intersection primarily  
383 due to the proximity of the park.

384  
385 City Administrator Rindfleisch said he concurs with Jarrod that it is bad practice to utilize stop  
386 signs for speed control. City Administrator Rindfleisch referred to the map, noted it shows the  
387 park as it exists, and he asked board members to keep in mind that new, heavily utilized park  
388 equipment had been installed in 2018. City Administrator Rindfleisch said, "Because of the  
389 utilization, and there is no off-street parking for the park, there are a lot of cars that are parking  
390 within that intersection area as well that limits the vision that you have." City Administrator  
391 Rindfleisch said automobiles parked there narrow the traffic lanes, thus slowing down traffic.  
392 However, City Administrator Rindfleisch also said he has seen instances where traffic has  
393 slowed down, but children have exited the car from the wrong side. City Administrator  
394 Rindfleisch told board members he is an advocate for looking at solutions to assist with the speed  
395 of the traffic coming through this area.

396  
397 Jarrod said he believes there has been some speed enforcement in this area.

398  
399 Ald. Smith suggested perhaps continuing to monitor this area and seeing if there is an increase in  
400 traffic over time, or if it becomes more of a concern. Ald. Smith also suggested perhaps the  
401 Police Department could provide additional feedback either in April or May.

402  
403 Jarrod said monitoring the intersection this summer is a viable option, and that another  
404 recommendation to the board can be made once data has been compiled.

405  
406 Ald. Smith said she would like to take no action on this item at this time.

407  
408 Jarrod said staff will monitor the intersection and bring any pertinent data before the board at a  
409 future date.

410

411 **Item 5 – Review and consideration of 2019 Abbey Road Reconstruction bid**

412  
413 Jarrod said staff will be receiving the bids for the 2019 Abbey Road Reconstruction Project at 11  
414 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12. Those bids will be brought forward at that evening’s Common  
415 Council meeting. Jarrod noted the project had been advertised and told board members it  
416 appears there will be six bidders for the project. Jarrod also told board members there has been  
417 significant interest in the project and said he envisions the project getting favorable bids.

418  
419 **Item 6 – Review and consideration of Crestwood Lane Street and Utility Improvements bid**

420  
421 Jarrod told board members he had given them copies of the results of the bid opening that had  
422 occurred earlier Tuesday. There were five bidders (Haas Sons, Inc., A-1 Excavating, Inc.,  
423 McCabe Excavating, Inc., McHugh Excavating & Plumbing, Inc., Gerke Excavating, Inc.). A-1  
424 Excavating was the apparent low bidder at \$698,189.75. The engineer’s estimate for the project  
425 was more than \$800,000. Jarrod noted \$561,000 was budgeted for this project in the 2019 CIB,  
426 and he said when the project was scoped in July 2018, it was scoped with the installation of a  
427 rural street cross section because at the time staff did not believe the street would be coming into  
428 the city. The plan was to replace it, in kind, with a township cross section. Jarrod said the entire  
429 roadway came into the city since the annexation occurred, and the design was brought up to city  
430 standards by adding curb and gutter to the roadway, and also adding storm sewer to the roadway  
431 cross section. Those items increased the price to over what had been budgeted. However, Jarrod  
432 noted there are funds available in the Storm Sewer Capital Fund Balance to cover the storm  
433 sewer portion of the project (approximately \$70,000). For the curb and gutter, rock, and extra  
434 grading, there is the Water funding part of the General Fund due to the water extension to the  
435 future development site. Jarrod said there also are funds available in Other Projects that staff  
436 believes this project may be funded through the 2019 CIB. Jarrod said that although the cost  
437 exceeds what was budgeted due to a scope change, the city had received a good bid price.

438  
439 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve awarding the bid to A-1 Excavating,  
440 Inc. for the 2019 Crestwood Lane Street and Utility Improvements in an amount not to exceed  
441 \$698,189.75.

442  
443 On voice vote, motion carried.

444  
445 **Item 7 – Review and consideration of 2019 Urban Forestry Program bid**

446  
447 Jarrod noted he had distributed to board members copies of the bid tabulation from the bid earlier  
448 Tuesday for the 2019 Urban Forestry Program. There were two bidders for the project (Hoffman  
449 & McNanmara Co., Kreibich Holding, LLC). Hoffman & McNanmara Co. was the apparent low  
450 bidder at \$61,980. Jarrod noted Hoffman & McNanmara had performed the work in previous  
451 years and done well. The engineer’s estimate for the project was approximately \$68,000. Jarrod

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12

452 said \$50,000 was budgeted for the project within the 2019 CIB, with \$5,000 being funded via the  
453 2018 Utility Projects. Jarrod noted trees will be planted where road projects were performed the  
454 previous year. In addition, there is \$10,000 remaining in the 2018 Capital Projects.

455

456 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Smith, to approve awarding the bid to Hoffman & McNanmara  
457 Co. for the 2019 Urban Forestry Program in an amount not to exceed \$61,980.

458

459 On voice vote, motion carried.

460

461 **Item 8 – Review and consideration of 2019 Miscellaneous Concrete bid**

462

463 Jarrod said bids will be received at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12. The bid tabulation will be  
464 brought forward at that evening’s Common Council meeting. Jarrod said this is a “pretty  
465 standard” project with sidewalk replacement throughout the city for the yearly sidewalk  
466 program. It also involves miscellaneous concrete work throughout the year. Jarrod said staff  
467 expects two to three bidders, likely the same bidders the city usually sees. Jarrod also said he  
468 expects the project to come in at what has been budgeted for it.

469

470 **Item 9 – Review and consideration of construction engineering services – 2019 Abbey Road**  
471 **Reconstruction Project**

472

473 Jarrod said a copy of a quote from Short Elliott Hendrickson, which also designed the project,  
474 has been included in board members’ packets. Jarrod said staff did not have sufficient time to  
475 design the project, and he noted there are a variety of projects out for bid this summer, including  
476 Crestwood Lane, Abbey Road, the 2019 Utility Project (Troy Street), likely the Crestwood  
477 Booster Station, Miscellaneous Concrete, Urban Forestry, and the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North/Quincy  
478 Street Lift Station. Jarrod told board members staff is proposing that SEH stake ¾-miles of city  
479 street. There also is a proposal to utilize SEH’s services for 40 hours for supplemental resident  
480 project representative services. Jarrod said the cost is a not-to-exceed amount of \$34,600. Jarrod  
481 added the project budget could sustain this.

482

483 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve Short Elliott Hendrickson for  
484 construction engineering services – 2019 Abbey Road Reconstruction Project – at a cost not to  
485 exceed \$34,600.

486

487 On voice vote, motion carried.

488

489 **Item 10 – Review and consideration of 2019 chip seal pavement maintenance**

490

491 Jarrod said this is the city’s yearly pavement maintenance program, noting this is one portion of  
492 it and that other portions (crack filling, polyfiber purchase, joint sealing) will be coming forward

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13

493 at the April 2 Board of Public Works meeting. Jarrod noted the city participated with La Crosse  
494 County in the chip seal program for several years, and he said board members' packets include  
495 copies of maps of the proposed areas that would be chip sealed, and also a table outlining the  
496 streets that would be completed. Jarrod described the chip seal program as "probably the best  
497 dollars spent for life gain of our pavements."

498

499 Ald. Smith inquired about the estimated cost.

500

501 Jarrod referred to the table included in board members' packets and said the cost would be  
502 \$201,388 (127,461 square yards at \$1.58 per square yard). Jarrod noted the \$1.58 is an increase  
503 of 8 cents compared to 2018 and said the tackifier that is put down is increasing in cost.

504

505 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the 2019 chip seal pavement  
506 maintenance at a cost of approximately \$201,388.

507

508 On voice vote, motion carried.

509

510 **Item 11 – Review and consideration of professional engineering services for Green Coulee**  
511 **Road Intersection design**

512

513 Jarrod said staff is proceeding with the Green Coulee Road intersection design, noting staff has  
514 received a proposal of services from MSA Professional Services, which performed the initial  
515 work and submitted a proposal that includes a cost of \$49,730.47 for the design work. In  
516 addition, \$25,300 has been included for right-of-way services. Jarrod said he hopes the city will  
517 not require all the right-of-way services; however, he wants to include them due to the  
518 negotiations needed with adjacent landowners for temporary limited easements and changing  
519 access with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Jarrod said it will be easier to design  
520 the intersection than it will be to determine how to make everything work with WisDOT and the  
521 landowners. The total cost would be \$75,030.47. Funds for the project were included in both  
522 the 2018 and the 201 CIBs. Jarrod said the project would be bid in approximately October 2019.  
523 Construction would occur in the spring of 2020, and the project would be completed July 1, 2020  
524 if the process proceeds as it should.

525

526 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve MSA Professional Services for  
527 professional engineering service for Green Coulee Road Intersection design at a cost of  
528 \$75,030.47.

529

530 On voice vote, motion carried.s

531

532 **Item 13 – Review and consideration of fiber optic line installation by School District of**  
533 **Onalaska**

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of the City of Onalaska**

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14

534  
535 Jarrod noted board members' packets include copies of a map and a request from Livermore  
536 Technologies, LLC, the School District of Onalaska's engineering consultant. The map includes  
537 an outline of the city showing where the fiber optic line via a conduit would be run from  
538 Northern Hills Elementary School to Onalaska Middle School, then to Irving Pertzsch  
539 Elementary School and Main Street, then to the School District of Onalaska support offices (2<sup>nd</sup>  
540 Avenue and Hickory Street), then down East Main Street, beneath United States Highway 53, to  
541 Eagle Bluff Elementary School, and also down 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Onalaska High School. Jarrod said  
542 staff has reviewed this item and told board members the city would have the same set of  
543 conditions it has given on other projects of this nature for installation. It would follow  
544 WisDOT's recommendations in terms of indemnification and rights. Jarrod said that while there  
545 currently is no formal agreement in place, staff is hopeful there will be a joint project with the  
546 school district. The city would utilize part of the school district's conduit it will be installing.  
547 The city's fiber optic cable will connect with City Hall, which is located across the street from  
548 Irving Pertzsch, through Northern Hills, and to the Public Works Facility, Omni Center, and  
549 Aquatic Center. A cable likely also would run from Onalaska High School to the City Parks  
550 Maintenance Shop, which is located in Rowe Park. Jarrod said staff hopes this will be a joint  
551 project, telling board members discussions are ongoing.

552  
553 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve fiber optic line installation by the School  
554 District of Onalaska, with the condition of obtaining a Street Opening Permit, with conditions as  
555 listed by the Engineering Department.

556  
557 Ald. Gjertsen asked if the city and school district will share one conduit, or if the school district  
558 will install a separate conduit.

559  
560 Jarrod said the school district will install two conduits in most of the locations. Jarrod referred to  
561 the map included in board members' packets and pointed out two 1¼-inch ducts in the red areas,  
562 and there will be one duct in the black areas. Jarrod said the single ducts will run into the school  
563 district's buildings. Two ducts would be installed in almost all the locations along the street  
564 right-of-way. Jarrod also said the city's discussions with the school district involve how many  
565 pairs of fiber optic cable the district will be installing in its duct. Jarrod said the school district  
566 will be looking into possibly sharing the fiber optic strands that already are in the duct, or  
567 perhaps the city would utilize one of the other ducts and install its own cable.

568  
569 Jarrod told board members he likely will be bringing forward a recommendation from staff in the  
570 next month or two to hire Livermore Technologies to perform the city's engineering work so that  
571 the city may advance its fiber optic cable project to the point where it may make those decisions  
572 with the school district and start the agreements. Jarrod said the school district also is looking  
573 into potential partnerships with Altra Federal Credit Union and the School District of Holmen.  
574 Jarrod said staff met with school district officials in the summer of 2018 and a variety of partners

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15

575 who could participate in the project, and he told board members he will attempt to focus on a  
576 staff level of attempting to work with the school district and keeping things simplified once the  
577 city knows what its design will be. Jarrod said he hopes to utilize the school district's conduit  
578 and meet the city's needs. Jarrod told board members there could be some complicated  
579 agreements in the future; specifically, a consortium could run the fiber optic cable, or perhaps a  
580 single entity could own it.

581

582 On voice vote, motion carried.

583

584 **Item 15 – Review and consideration of purchase of confined space entry safety equipment**

585

586 Jarrod noted two quotes (Airgas of La Crosse, Verona Safety Supply, Inc.) had been received for  
587 confined space entry safety equipment. Jarrod also noted \$20,000 was budgeted for this  
588 equipment, and he said staff had chosen to keep some of the current equipment. Jarrod said staff  
589 recommends purchasing equipment from Airgas of La Crosse in the amount of \$12,191.42.

590

591 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the purchase of confined space entry  
592 safety equipment from Airgas of La Crosse in the amount of \$12,191.42.

593

594 On voice vote, motion carried.

595

596 **Item 16 – Review and consideration of professional engineering services for Court Street**  
597 **lift station reconstruction**

598

599 Jarrod said the Court Street lift station currently serves the Old City Shop site and nine  
600 residential units by the South Court Street area. Jarrod said with the redevelopment of the Cold  
601 City Shop into the Great River Residences, the city will be going from the City Shop to a  
602 proposed 101 residential units. The current City Shop has been in the CIB for replacement, and  
603 it is a 35-year-old Esemco Can Station that was not designed as a long-term solution. Jarrod said  
604 staff is proposing to have Strand Associates perform a redesign of the station so that there is a  
605 permanent lift station site that would be moved away from the redevelopment. The permanent  
606 site would have standby power, and the lift station would resemble others in the city. Strand  
607 Associates designed both the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Quincy Street and the South Kinney Coulee lift stations  
608 within the last three years. Strand Associates is proposing a fee of \$25,000. Jarrod said there is  
609 a tight schedule to reconstruct the Court Street lift station before the Great River Residences are  
610 constructed. Strand Associates would complete its services by May 31, with the goal being to  
611 bid the project in June.

612

613 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Jarrod, to approve Strand Associates for professional  
614 engineering services for Court Street lift station reconstruction at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

615

616 On voice vote, motion carried.

Reviewed 3/7/19 by Jarrod Holter

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16

**Item 17 – Pay Estimates: Strand Associates, Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc., MSA  
Professional Services, and any other contractor/developer**

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
MONTHLY ESTIMATES**

**March 5, 2019**

<b><u>Contractor</u></b>	<b><u>Original Contract Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Change Orders</u></b>	<b><u>Paid to Date</u></b>	<b><u>Due this Estimate</u></b>
<b>1. SEH INC.</b>				
Abbey Road Design Estimate #6	\$ 84,500.00	\$ -	\$ 76,907.86	\$ 7,530.75
<b>2. SEH INC.</b>				
Railroad Quiet Zone Study Design Estimate #9	\$ 11,900.00	\$ -	\$ 7,352.48	\$ 1,346.62
<b>3. HKGI INC.</b>				
Irvin Street Streetscaping Design Estimate #2	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,327.50	\$ 1,283.75
<b>4. STRAND ASSOCIATES</b>				
2018 SCADA Enhancements Design Estimate #8	\$ 19,000.00	\$ -	\$ 12,135.11	\$ 2,746.52
<b>5. SEH INC.</b>				
Green Coulee Reservoir Design Estimate #1	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 314.72
<b>6. MSA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b>				
Green Coulee Intersection Design				

Reviewed 3/7/19 by Jarrod Holter

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658 Estimate #3 \$ 41,728.43 \$ - \$ 18,288.41 \$ 9,963.89

659

660 **7. STRAND ASSOCIATES**

661 2018 SCADA Computer Install

662 Construction

663 Estimate #3 \$ 8,000.00 \$ - \$ 2,590.00 \$ 5,410.00

664

665 **8. STRAND ASSOCIATES**

666 6<sup>th</sup> & Quincy Lift Station

667 Design

668 Estimate #10 \$ 59,900.00 \$ 18,000.00 \$ 74,974.18 \$ 2,925.82

669

670 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to approve the eight pay estimates listed on a  
671 document dated March 5, 2019.

672

673 On voice vote, motion carried.

674

675 **Adjournment**

676

677 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Gjertsen, to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

678

679 On voice vote, motion carried.

680

681

682 Recorded by:

683

684 Kirk Bey