

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

Tuesday, July 2, 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, July 2, 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. Diane Wulf,  
6 Ald. Kim Smith, City Engineer Jarrod Holter, Financial Services Director/Treasurer Fred  
7 Buehler

8

9 Also Present: City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, Ald. Boondi Iyer

10

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

12

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

15

16 On voice vote, motion carried.

17

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

19

20 Ald. K. Smith called for anyone wishing to provide public input.

21

22 **Dean Dickinson**

23 **No address given**

24

25 “I own the property at 301 Main Street. We’ve had an ongoing issue with regard to parking and  
26 the lack of restriction on parking, both in front of the building on Main Street and on 3<sup>rd</sup>  
27 [Avenue], which is on the west side of the building. It’s been an issue for a couple of years, but  
28 it has been exacerbated by David Reay’s Restaurant and the amount of business and parking  
29 that’s required for that facility. I have no argument with Dave and Barb [Skogen] and David  
30 Reay’s, but I do have an issue with how the parking is being handled. We actually have people  
31 coming and parking on the west side of our building, sometimes for hours. Other times there are  
32 people in that vicinity who will park there all day long. We had a daycare in part of that building  
33 for a while, and Mike Volden ... I wanted to express his concerns, because [parents] couldn’t  
34 drop their infants off unless they walked half a block or a block. Sometimes in the winter that  
35 was just bad. I am asking for the [Board of] Public Works to consider – especially on the west  
36 side of that building – extending the 15-minute parking restriction all the way from the sidewalk  
37 to the driveway into the parking lot. Here is a classic example of some of the issues. Today,  
38 FedEx made a delivery there and had to double-park on the street. I’ve seen UPS and USPS both  
39 double-park on the street because there’s no parking there. I think it would help a lot, both for  
40 the businesses that we have in that building, and also maybe for other businesses in the area. I  
41 have with me Bruce Barge from Barge Supply, who is one of the tenants in that building. I know

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

2

42 he's expressed himself on many occasions about the issue that's there. With all due respect to  
43 [the Board of] Public Works, we just ask that you give some consideration to creating a 15-  
44 minute parking zone on the west side of that building. It would help a lot. I know there's no  
45 room for discussion [this evening], but there you go. I have addressed my concerns. I think I  
46 sent a letter to [Mayor Chilsen], and also to Planning. I didn't understand what the process was,  
47 and [I] also [sent a letter] to the Police Department. On occasion, I've called the Police  
48 Department and asked them for enforcement. [An officer] came down and wrote a warning  
49 ticket on people. That lasts for about one day, and then the next thing you know, people are  
50 parking and walking down to David Reay's. Or in the case of some of the businesses on the  
51 street, [including] one insurance office, he and his secretary will park there all day long. It just  
52 doesn't work, and it's impacting my ability to derive income out of that building. That's part of  
53 my retirement plan, and I would just simply point out it's cost me about \$200 a month because I  
54 have to get another tenant in there and I have to reduce the rent after I lost the daycare. With all  
55 due respect, please give that some consideration. Thank you very much."

56  
57 Jarrod noted he had both received correspondence from and spoken with Dean Dickinson, and he  
58 told board members this item will be placed on the August 6 Board of Public Works meeting  
59 agenda.

60

61 **Bruce Barge, owner of Barge Nutrition & Supply**  
62 **305 Main Street**  
63 **Onalaska**

64

65 "I just want to say I think it would benefit the whole area there if that was made a 15-minute  
66 parking place. It would just make sense to make that a 15-minute parking place there for  
67 everybody there. It would make things easier for Pappas, [and] for me for sure. I'm agreeing  
68 with Dean 100 percent on everything."

69

70 **Scott Arenz**  
71 **1134 Aspen Valley Drive**  
72 **Onalaska**

73

74 "I was at the last Common Council meeting [June 11], and a topic of discussion was the  
75 sidewalks above and below me and not just my issue that we have with the raising and the  
76 lowering of the water that's going underneath the sidewalks for the two houses above me, and  
77 the maybe three houses below me. We don't really know what's going on, and I appreciate  
78 Jarrod's help in looking into it further because it's going to take more than just one person to do  
79 this. Like I said, I replaced the whole sidewalk and the apron on my driveway. I've done some  
80 different landscaping there to divert water so it doesn't continue to be a problem. I replaced it  
81 six, seven years ago, and I don't want to do it again until the stuff above me is fixed as well.  
82 Like I said, I do appreciate Jarrod's help with that and his team looking at it because there

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

3

83 probably are several options that we're going to have to look at as a neighborhood, whether it's  
84 getting rid of the sidewalk completely or whatever it might be. It's a pretty steep hill, so there  
85 are definitely some issues there from a safety standpoint, because one chunk of my driveway  
86 probably sunk another six inches since the last meeting three weeks ago. If you haven't seen it,  
87 you should check it out [because] it's pretty cool. But Jarrod, thanks again. I just wanted to let  
88 them know that. Obviously it's still an issue, and it's definitely a safety concern for the city and  
89 the neighbors. Thank you."

90

91 **Brian Van Riper**  
92 **1122 Aspen Valley Drive**  
93 **Onalaska**

94

95 "I'm the neighbor just below Mr. Arenz, who just spoke. The big concern is the water  
96 penetrating underneath the sidewalk. My story is that I was like the last buildable lot out there  
97 when I moved to Onalaska five years ago. The house is 4½ years old, and already the sidewalk I  
98 have that connects to Mr. Arenz is heaved up probably nine inches where the sidewalk pieces  
99 come together. Then on the opposite side of my driveway – that's the one section just above the  
100 driveway – there's about a 12-foot section on the other side of the driveway that now has been  
101 inundated and has a cavern under the sidewalk that's probably 12 inches deep and goes virtually  
102 the whole length. Now, my sidewalk is actually caving in after only 4½ years. My story is I  
103 spent the last 14 years living in Seattle. I was a homeowner, and I learned a little bit about water  
104 mitigation. When we built this house, I paid special attention to how they were mitigating the  
105 water, whether it was berms, whether it was every downspout I have is connected underground.  
106 It doesn't just go to a popup in the boulevard; rather, somehow my builder was able to get  
107 approval from [the city] to cut sections out of the curb and actually install. ... My water mitigates  
108 all the way out to the street, and still I've had this much damage in such a short period of time.  
109 Now, let's just fast-forward a minute, and now unfortunately I have to move again because my  
110 company has promoted me and I have to move out of town. My house goes on the market  
111 officially [Wednesday]. Now it's a deterrent against me being able to sell my property. It's  
112 difficult to measure, and I appreciate that, but it's definitely going to damage the value of my  
113 property. I don't know how many buyers will be unwilling to even look at it when they see that,  
114 but I know through my knowledge that if I saw that I would turn and run away. Now I'm going  
115 to be financially damaged in that way.

116

117 I haven't heard anybody who has actually proposed that the city pays for this stuff, but we  
118 certainly need some help because my problems are actually the problems [Scott Arenz] has, and  
119 compounded by the person above him. I could bring a guy in to mudjack this, but it doesn't fix  
120 anything, and so now I've actually had to list this on my official property condition report. I  
121 would just thank you for your time and ask you for your consideration to give us some  
122 assistance. I have some ideas, but I'm not an engineer. If you're interested and you want to see  
123 it, please reach out to me. I'm happy to show it to you. If you have comments for me or

124 questions, I don't believe that's part of this period right now ... Thank you very much.”

125

126 Ald. K. Smith called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that  
127 portion of the meeting. Ald. K. Smith said Item 8 will be addressed next.

128

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

130

131 **Item 8 – Review and consideration of Sustainable La Crosse Commission Report including**  
132 **possible Strategic Plan Development**

133

134 Ald. K. Smith said she asked that this item be placed on this evening's agenda as she has served  
135 as the City of Onalaska's representative on the Sustainable La Crosse Commission since being  
136 elected Third District Alderperson in April 2018. Ald. K. Smith told board members she had not  
137 been aware of the Sustainable La Crosse Commission and its mission prior to her election, and  
138 so she spent her first year on the commission listening and learning. Ald. K. Smith noted the  
139 commission is comprised of representatives from the City of La Crosse, La Crosse County, the  
140 City of Onalaska, the local healthcare industry and educational institutions. The commission is  
141 comprised of elected officials and community members at large. Ald. K. Smith estimated that  
142 approximately half of the committee members reside in the City of Onalaska, and she said it is  
143 her goal this year to bring some of the items she is observing before the Board of Public Works  
144 “to see what we're doing here and what [others] are doing and maybe come up with our  
145 Onalaska version of it that can be even better.” Ald. K. Smith then introduced former City of  
146 Onalaska Mayor Mike Giese and said he will discuss the Sustainable La Crosse Commission.

147

148 **Mike Giese**

149 **1067 Lauderdale North**

150 **Onalaska**

151

152 Mike described the City of Onalaska's involvement with the Sustainable La Crosse Commission  
153 as being “extensive, collaborative, [and] synergistic” that involves one individual. Mike said he  
154 was that individual when the commission was first formed, noting he brought back information  
155 from the meetings to the City of Onalaska. Mike noted former Third District Alderperson  
156 Harvey Bertrand served as the city's next representative, and he also noted Harvey's degree in  
157 engineering proved to be beneficial. Mike complimented Ald. K. Smith for being an “excellent  
158 representative on the commission,” and he told board members the commission was formed by a  
159 group of citizens “as an outgrowth from natural steps, which was an environmental advocacy  
160 philosophy brought from Scandinavian countries.” Mike explained that citizens had developed  
161 the “Natural Steps Plan” that was outside of government, and he said, “They, I think by their  
162 own recognition, were aware that that activity and interest would wane, and they came up with  
163 an objective to have a Sustainable La Crosse Commission formed.”

164

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

5

165 The commission was enabled by an ordinance from the City of La Crosse, the City of Onalaska,  
166 and La Crosse County, and Mike said tremendous effort went into getting the verbiage and the  
167 practices of the three government entities to sync together. Mike also said “nurturing and tender  
168 care” has been required to ensure that the commission continues to exist. Mike said that over the  
169 last two years commission members have organized functions under rules of procedure. This  
170 allows the commission to manage this internally within the commission and not between the two  
171 cities, nor between the cities and La Crosse County. Mike assured board members the City of  
172 Onalaska will have adequate representation and the commission will function well “without a  
173 great deal of attention to what’s going on year to year.” Mike said the hosting of the  
174 commission, which involves providing building space, administrative staff, and legal counsel, is  
175 facilitated on two-year alternating schedules. La Crosse County is hosting and facilitating the  
176 Sustainable La Crosse Commission for the balance of 2019. The City of La Crosse will host and  
177 facilitate the commission beginning in April 2020.

178  
179 Mike next addressed the commission’s role, stating the duties and powers of the commission are  
180 to: “*regularly review progress of implementation of City and County of La Crosse Strategic Plan*  
181 *for Sustainability.*” Mike told board members that strategic plan is being updated in 2020 for La  
182 Crosse County and the City of La Crosse, and it will be coordinated. Mike said it becomes a  
183 guiding document for what the commission’s objectives will be for the next five years. Mike  
184 said while it was expected it would be every two to five years, in reality the adjustment is made  
185 every five to 10 years. Mike said he is inviting the City of Onalaska to participate, if it so  
186 chooses, and he told board members to inform either him or La Crosse County Planner Charlie  
187 Handy if there is something they would like to see done so that it may be included in the work  
188 documents that will be built into the strategic plan going forward for the next five to 10 years.

189  
190 Mike said the commission also “*make[s] recommendations on funding related to sustainability*  
191 *initiatives during the annual budget process.*” Mike said this is how the commission is able to  
192 assert its influence most effectively, noting he serves on the La Crosse County Board, and also  
193 that he and others contact La Crosse County Administrator Steve O’Malley about possibly  
194 including line items in the budget that allow the commission to accomplish some of its  
195 objectives. Mike told board members this process has evolved into a standard operating  
196 procedure, citing the La Crosse County Sheriff’s Department as an example as something that  
197 works to the benefit of La Crosse County. Mike described the jail as a secure environment that  
198 was constructed prior to LED lighting, and he said a line item in the budget allowed new  
199 lightbulbs to be purchased and installed in the secure area of the jail. Mike said the payback  
200 from this action occurred in weeks. Mike said the commission also “*make[s] policy*  
201 *recommendations and provide[s] general support for sustainability efforts.*” This occurs both  
202 within the jurisdictions and the communities at large. The commission “*network[s] with*  
203 *community members, business, private citizens, government entities, and nonprofit groups,*” and  
204 it “*coordinate[s] educational opportunities for the community at large,*” and its goal is to  
205 “*continue to expand enhancement and public awareness and utilization of [a] sustainability*

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

6

206 *website.”*

207

208 Mike told board members there have been a number of examples in which the government  
209 entities have been able to collaborate with utilities and the State of Wisconsin through the  
210 Sustainable La Crosse Commission, and he noted the City of Onalaska has a presence with the  
211 Green Tier Legacy Communities through involvement with the Sustainable La Crosse  
212 Commission. This allows opportunities for the private and public sectors to gain an advantage in  
213 seeking government grants and other opportunities. It also provides awareness of what others  
214 are doing. Mike told board members that while he does not believe any significant changes need  
215 to be made, “I would bring forward an invitation that a more dynamic relationship, collaboration  
216 and purchasing, and plans of what’s going on certainly would be an advantage through active  
217 involvement in the Sustainable La Crosse Commission.” Mike noted the 2018 Indicator Report  
218 was recently released and said it will be presented to the La Crosse County Board and the City  
219 Council during the July cycle of meetings. Mike said the report serves as a checklist as to how  
220 the commission is performing, and he told board members the City of Onalaska accomplishes  
221 goals “through the normal course of business.” Mike said, “The objective may have been for  
222 sustainable reasons. The job gets done, the expense line goes down, and we kind of forget about  
223 it. With this indicator report, it’s a way of pointing to where we’ve been successful, and by  
224 inference, where we’re not so successful. The City of Onalaska certainly may be able to be  
225 advantaged by asking the Sustainable La Crosse Commission to help with creating some type of  
226 data points within the county, or even special items for the City of La Crosse to be able to track  
227 sustainability as we go forward.”

228

229 Mike told board members Steve O’Malley had told him earlier Tuesday there are private entities  
230 such as Organic Valley and Gundersen Health System that are striving to be 100-percent “green”  
231 from an energy source by 2040, 2050, or whichever date they choose. Mike told board members  
232 it could be said “we are 100-percent ‘green’ right now” based on the collaboration that already  
233 has occurred within the region. Mike said, “If you take the amount of money we’re spending on  
234 electricity as the county government – and I would suggest if you roll in the city governments –  
235 we are generating waste energy 100 percent of our electricity use as government entities. ... The  
236 same is happening with natural gas use at the [La Crosse County] Landfill. By recapturing that  
237 gas, our governmental entities are 100-percent ‘green’ right now. Those are results of  
238 collaboration, and hopefully there are other opportunities out there we haven’t quite advantaged  
239 yet.”

240

241 Ald. K. Smith noted she also had invited La Crosse County Sustainability Coordinator Nick  
242 Nichols to this evening’s meeting, and she thanked both Mike and Nick for attending.

243

244 **Item 4 – Review and consideration of chemical rehabilitation of well and gravel pack at**  
245 **Well #8**

246

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

7

247 Jarrod noted Andrew Jacque of Water Quality Investigations had spoken to the Board of Public  
248 Works at its March 5 meeting and at that time gave an update on some of the testing and water  
249 quality items being performed at various parts of the city's system. Jarrod said the aquifers and  
250 well packs at Well Nos. 7, 8, and 10 have never been treated, noting Well No. 7 was installed in  
251 approximately 1972; Well No. 8 was installed in 1979; and Well No. 10 was installed in 2007.  
252 Jarrod reminded board members Andrew had conducted tests and noted a copy of a report  
253 outlining the results has been included in board members' packets. Jarrod said the report states  
254 the wells should be chemically rehabilitated to reduce the presence of biofilms in the well pack  
255 in the column. Jarrod said a backfeed would be installed into the well, and fresh water would be  
256 fed back into the well. The project also would provide a location where staff could conduct  
257 maintenance. Jarrod noted staff had contacted Municipal Well & Pump, which performs the  
258 city's well work, and said Municipal Well & Pump has done satisfactory work. Jarrod told board  
259 members the funds needed for this project are not budgeted, and funds from the Water Utility  
260 would be utilized. Jarrod said staff is proposing to address one well (Well No. 8) this autumn,  
261 and then budget for other wells in future years. Municipal Well & Pump would perform the  
262 rehabilitation at Well No. 8 at a cost of \$29,530, should the board approve the project.

263

264 Jarrod said, "As you know, we have the ongoing corrosion study going on in the City of  
265 Onalaska that we are proceeding with. We're trying to narrow down spots that we are looking  
266 for things that could contribute to our corrosion within our water system, and this is one of the  
267 spots that we feel it could be. With it not having been done for so many years, I thought I would  
268 bring it forward because we really feel as a staff that it should be done yet this year and [we  
269 should] not wait for the next budget cycle, [which would mean] probably waiting nine months  
270 from now."

271

272 Fred asked Jarrod what his forecasted amount for 2020 would be if the project is completed in  
273 2019.

274

275 Jarrod asked Fred if he means for other wells.

276

277 Fred said yes.

278

279 Jarrod said, "I would envision that if we would do one well a year, it would be the same – about  
280 \$30,000, give or take. Each well is a little bit different, but the treatment process that Mr. Jacque  
281 is outlining here is probably going to be pretty close at each well. I think it's going to be pretty  
282 close going to each well. You wonder when you look at this and you think, 'one page of work  
283 and it's \$29,000.' But if you go through there, [you will] see these are long sessions of chemical  
284 treatment. They're letting the acid treatment sit in there for eight hours. They come back and  
285 surge the well, and they do it for two hours. It's a long process. It isn't something where  
286 someone is coming out and dumping a five-gallon bucket of something into the well and walking  
287 away and coming back two days later. I don't want to oversimplify it or overcomplicate the

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

8

288 processes, but it is one where it does take quite a bit of work to get this done. We really feel this  
289 would help the stability of our water at our wells.”

290

291 Ald. K. Smith asked Jarrod how long Municipal Well & Pump will need to complete the process,  
292 start to finish, and also if the city will need an alternative water source while the work is being  
293 performed.

294

295 Jarrod told Ald. K. Smith the project likely would not begin until September 1 as the city  
296 currently is in what he called “prime pumping season.” Jarrod also told Ald. K. Smith the well  
297 pump would not get pulled as part of the process, and he said the well likely could be put back  
298 into service within two days if there were an emergency. By comparison, the well would be out  
299 of service for weeks if the well pump were removed and taken offsite. Jarrod noted the city has  
300 four operating wells, and he said per Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources code the city  
301 must commit firm supply with one pump down. Jarrod said, “Even with that firm supply with  
302 one down, we are well above what we need to pump within the city. As long as we didn’t have  
303 another well go down during that time, I would feel very comfortable we could pump what we  
304 needed to pump.” Jarrod estimated the project could be completed in approximately one week,  
305 or five working days, and he asked Fred if there are any complications associated with funding  
306 the project via the Water Utility.

307

308 Fred told Jarrod that each year the City of Onalaska has an Equipment Replacement Fund  
309 Balance in the Water Utility and the Sewer Utility.

310

311 Jarrod noted the balance in the Sanitary Sewer Equipment Replacement Fund is \$425,000.

312

313 Fred said the balance in the Sanitary Sewer Equipment Replacement Fund is \$475,000, and he  
314 told board members if Equipment Replacement funds are utilized the city would replenish those  
315 funds up to \$25,000 a year, up to \$475,000.

316

317 Ald. Iyer noted she had read this treatment addresses biofilm, and she said she believes the city  
318 should give serious consideration to doing this project as there are concerns associated with  
319 biofilm. Ald. Iyer said, “Knowing that that will take care of what grows in that system, I’ll be  
320 happy if we do this.”

321

322 City Administrator Rindfleisch said, “I know our peak pumping season under normal  
323 circumstances, but with all the rain we have we may not be pumping as much for lawns that we  
324 normally would do. ... It may be an opportune time to do so with all the rain we’ve been  
325 having.”

326

327 Jarrod assured board members the city is within all Wisconsin DNR limits and constraints, and  
328 he said the goal of this project is to be proactive.

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

9

329  
330 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Jarrod, to approve Municipal Well & Pump for chemical  
331 rehabilitation of well and gravel pack at Well #8 in an amount not to exceed \$29,530 for Sections  
332 I through IV.

333  
334 On voice vote, motion carried.

335  
336 **Item 5 – Review and consideration of Court Street lift station construction engineering**  
337 **services**

338  
339 Jarrod noted a copy of Task Order 19-04 has been included in board members' packets. The task  
340 order outlines construction services for the Court Street lift station project, which has been  
341 awarded to Gerke Excavating. Jarrod noted Strand Associates had designed the well and said  
342 Strand would provide shop drawing assistance, site visits once the project commences, and also  
343 examination of the electrical and pumping systems. The funding source for the project would be  
344 the budgeted amount in the Sanitary Sewer portion of the project, meaning it is not to exceed  
345 \$24,300.

346  
347 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Wulf, to approve Task Order 19-04 for Strand Associates for  
348 Court Street lift station construction engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$24,300.

349  
350 On voice vote, motion carried.

351  
352 **Item 6 – Review and consideration of 2019 Urban Forestry Program Change Order #1**

353  
354 Jarrod noted a copy of Change Order No. 1 has been included in board members' packets, and he  
355 told board members 16 more trees had been added, per citizen request, since the project was bid  
356 out. Jarrod noted Urban Forestry funds were included in the 2019 Capital Improvements Budget.  
357 Funding also is available in the 2018 Capital Improvements Budget from projects that involved  
358 planting trees. Jarrod said staff recommends approval of Change Order No. 1 in the amount of  
359 \$5,472.

360  
361 Fred asked Jarrod asked if the \$5,000 the city had received for the trees in one of the  
362 developments could be applied in this instance.

363  
364 Jarrod said it could.

365  
366 Fred told board members someone had removed trees without authorization, and he suggested  
367 that the motion state funds will be utilized from funds the city had received totaling \$5,000.

368  
369 Jarrod noted those trees had been replaced as part of this project.

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

10

370  
371 Ald. Wulf told Jarrod she does not recall the additional citizen request trees, and she asked him  
372 how this process works.

373  
374 Jarrod told Ald. Wulf that citizens call to request trees, which are budgeted for in the CIB, and  
375 their names are placed on a list if they wish to have a tree planted in the city right-of-way and  
376 city staff determines it is an acceptable area on which to plant a tree. Jarrod told Ald. Wulf  
377 citizens had called requesting trees after the project was bid, and he also said trees are planted in  
378 projects that were completed the year before, citing the Holiday Heights project as an example.  
379 Jarrod said, “We shuffled things around a bit, and we actually planted more trees than what we  
380 had bid out.”

381  
382 Fred said he is aware there are instances in which trees are destroyed when struck by  
383 automobiles, and he noted the city is reimbursed between \$400 and \$500 when this occurs. Fred  
384 said those funds also may be utilized for this process.

385  
386 Jarrod said, “Those would be good funds to use. We’ve had at least three or four trees hit within  
387 the last 12 months.”

388  
389 Mayor Chilsen said he believes the motion needs to be restated to reflect all the funding sources.

390  
391 Ald. K. Smith said she does not believe there is a motion on the floor as of yet.

392  
393 Mayor Chilsen inquired about the motion for \$24,300.

394  
395 Ald. K. Smith said that was for the previous item and told Mayor Chilsen the total for this item is  
396 \$5,472.

397  
398 Motion by Fred, second by Ald. Wulf, to approve 2019 Urban Forestry Program Change Order  
399 No. 1 in the amount of \$5,472, with funds coming from a \$5,000 contribution and payments  
400 made due to trees being damaged by vehicles.

401  
402 On voice vote, motion carried.

403  
404 **Item 7 – Review and consideration of fiber optic cable install along East Main Street and**  
405 **Theater Road by Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company**

406  
407 Jarrod told board members their packets include copies of an overview map that includes the  
408 area where Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company is requesting the installation of a fiber optic  
409 cable. Lemonweir Valley will be connecting to the State of Wisconsin fiber optic system that  
410 runs along Interstate 90. Lemonweir Valley will go into the La Crosse Industrial Park and along

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

11

411 State Trunk Highway 16, and Jarrod noted those areas will require permits, but not from the City  
412 of Onalaska. Jarrod noted the city has in recent years allowed other fiber optic cable installations  
413 for the Onalaska School District and Altra Federal Credit Union. Jarrod said that when he issued  
414 the permit to allow these entities into the right-of-way, there has been a condition stating the  
415 permits are revocable at any time by written notice, if the city so chooses. In addition, because  
416 Wisconsin Department of Transportation permits are being obtained, Jarrod said he also cites  
417 WisDOT's permit process so that all the conditions that go with the WisDOT permit also are  
418 attached to the city's permit. Jarrod said he believes Lemonweir Valley eventually will bid to  
419 provide services to the Onalaska School District.

420

421 Ald. Wulf asked Jarrod if he is seeking approval of the plan route, or if he is presenting it so  
422 board members are aware of what is happening.

423

424 Jarrod said the board should approve allowing Lemonweir Valley to install the cable, as outlined  
425 in board members' packets.

426

427 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Wulf, to approve a fiber optic cable install along East Main  
428 Street and Theater Road by Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company.

429

430 On voice vote, motion carried.

431

432 **Item 9 – Review and consideration of State/Municipal agreement for State Trunk Highway**  
433 **16 project**

434

435 Jarrod told board members a copy of a proposed State/Municipal agreement for the State Trunk  
436 Highway 16 project has been included in their packets. WisDOT will be doing traffic signal  
437 improvements as part of the project in the area of Theater Road, Braund Street, and East Main  
438 Street. Jarrod said this includes the addition of an overhead sign support for directions to access  
439 Interstate 90 across from Blain's Farm & Fleet, and next to where Fauver Hill School was  
440 located before being razed. Jarrod told board members this was bid out into a project in  
441 approximately 2017. However, WisDOT discovered the sign would be installed on top of the  
442 city's watermain, and WisDOT then installed smaller signage. WisDOT indicated it still wanted  
443 to install the overhead sign, and Jarrod said, "Since we're in their right-of-way with our utility  
444 facility of the watermain, we are responsible for moving the watermain when they inform us of  
445 such. That's what this is. This is basically telling us that we're going to cost-share for our  
446 watermain, which right now they've estimated at \$14,066. That would be our contribution  
447 toward the project. There's no funding toward the roadway. There's no funding toward the sign  
448 support. There's no funding toward any of the traffic signal improvements because it's not our  
449 roadway. But this would be to move our watermain for the sign to go in. This is pretty typical  
450 of other agreements we've seen before, so I don't see anything wrong with this. We'll have to  
451 budget the monies in the proposed Capital Improvements Budget coming up to fund this."

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

12

452  
453 Ald. K. Smith asked Jarrod if the project will occur in 2020.

454  
455 Jarrod told Ald. K. Smith this project would occur in 2021.

456  
457 Ald. Wulf inquired about the funding source.

458  
459 Jarrod said it will need to be funded through the 2020 CIB process.

460  
461 Ald. Wulf said safety is the primary reason WisDOT is making this request.

462  
463 Jarrod told Ald. Wulf she is correct, noting the intention of the project is to direct motorists from  
464 STH 16 and onto I-90. Jarrod estimated the cost of the sign will be between \$50,000 and  
465 \$60,000.

466  
467 Ald. K. Smith asked Jarrod if relocating the watermain will have an effect on the efficiency of  
468 the distribution system.

469  
470 Jarrod said it will not and told Ald. K. Smith it is a 12-inch watermain. Jarrod also said 45-  
471 degree bends will be installed, adding the friction loss will be very minimal in that section.  
472 Jarrod said, "I don't envision any problems."

473  
474 Ald. K. Smith asked, "Would be something that, if we're going to move forward with this well  
475 rejuvenation project, to maybe not do that well in that same year? Or, conversely, to do it just so  
476 that we don't have multiple things going on with the same well?"

477  
478 Jarrod explained that this is a watermain located on STH 16 that is not located near a well, and  
479 he told Ald. K. Smith, "Those two would not be tied together."

480  
481 Motion by Jarrod, second by Ald. Wulf, to approve the State/Municipal agreement for State  
482 Trunk Highway 16 project.

483  
484 On voice vote, motion carried.

485  
486 **Item 10 – Review and consideration of La Crosse Wastewater Treatment Plant Strategic**  
487 **Plan**

488  
489 Jarrod told board members a copy of Technical Memorandum No. 7 has been included in their  
490 packets. The seven-page memorandum is part of the 447-page strategic plan, and it outlines a  
491 variety of items at the La Crosse Wastewater Treatment Plant to be worked on. Jarrod told board  
492 members he had attended a meeting pertaining to this plan in June in the City of La Crosse. The

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

13

493 meeting included a presentation, a discussion of the projects, and an outline of what is being  
494 proposed. Jarrod noted the plan outlines \$50 million in projects, and he noted the pie chart on  
495 page 4 shows \$8,580,000 is slated for phosphorus improvements; \$7,270,000 is slated for energy  
496 improvements; \$12,300,000 is slated for solids improvements; and \$21,400,000 is slated for  
497 reliability improvements. Jarrod said solids are part of the reliability improvements, noting the  
498 City of La Crosse is having a difficult time taking biosolids to farmers' fields for disposal and  
499 adding the time to perform this work is very limited. Jarrod said the cost to address this will be  
500 nearly \$20 million. Jarrod noted some of the phosphorus improvements would be to meet  
501 incoming Department of Natural Resources regulations. Energy improvements would include  
502 attempting to capture methane gas at the plant and have a generator be involved more of the  
503 electrical processes.

504  
505 Jarrod noted the treatment plant currently has no debt, and he said, "They're looking at having  
506 user charges pay for a Clean Drinking Water Loan that would be paid for over 20 years." Jarrod  
507 noted the City of Onalaska currently pays per million gallons of sewerage that has to be treated,  
508 and he also noted the city has a meter pit that calculates the number of gallons that travel to the  
509 City of La Crosse. Jarrod said that while the report states the City of Onalaska currently pays  
510 \$870,000 per year, he estimated that amount to be closer to \$930,000 per year. Jarrod told board  
511 members it would cost the city "tens of millions of dollars" to activate a treatment plant, and  
512 there would be debt service and employee costs. Jarrod said the city benefits from having its  
513 sewerage treated at the La Crosse Wastewater Treatment Plant, and he complimented the plant's  
514 staff. Jarrod noted the plant was constructed in 1936, and he said there still are concrete  
515 structures from the 1930s at the plant. Upgrades were completed in 1952 and 1972.

516  
517 Jarrod told board members the City of Onalaska has been a user for a long time, and he said,  
518 "We've gotten our money's worth out of what's been at the plant. But in order to do \$50 million  
519 in improvements, you have to have impacts to rates. Currently we pay \$1,638 for every million  
520 gallons of treated sewerage. They're looking at raising it over a three-year period. That would  
521 go up approximately 50 percent. I think the number they had in the report was 54 percent. They  
522 are looking at the wholesale costs in that range. If you project that out figuratively at about an  
523 18-percent rate increase for each year, you go from \$1,638 to \$1,933 to \$2,281 to \$2,691 per  
524 million gallons. It would be a large rate increase for our users. The City of La Crosse has  
525 proposed that it would go across the board to all users of the treatment plant, including the City  
526 of La Crosse, Town of Shelby, Town of Campbell, and the City of La Crescent. They are  
527 looking at doing some things with their rates for some of their hauler users that are dumping  
528 industrial waste at the site, and some of their industrial users that use the plant." Jarrod noted  
529 some of the biggest users in terms of biological oxygen demand, which creates sludge and  
530 necessitates an increase in capacity at the plant, include Great Lakes Cheese, City Brewery, and  
531 Kwik Trip. Jarrod told board members the plant currently has treatment capacity regarding flow.  
532 However, the plant is looking to increase its BOD capabilities. Jarrod noted this is an  
533 information item and told board members there will be a meeting with City of La Crosse staff

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

14

534 once a month during the summer and fall. City of La Crosse staff is proposing to have  
535 something in place by this December to bring forward for a rate study.

536

537 Mayor Chilsen said he wants City Administrator Rindfleisch to explain what would occur if  
538 there was a sewer district.

539

540 City Administrator Rindfleisch said, “The conversations we’ve had over the past year about  
541 extending the Sewer Service Agreements, which have expired and put up for one-year renewals  
542 every time, some of the topics of those issues are really distinct and separate from the cost of the  
543 plant upgrade. I don’t think it’s ever been claimed that all users of the plant should not pay for  
544 the upgrades of the plant [for] the long-term health of the utility. Really, with a metropolitan  
545 district versus a regional district that we have, or a continuation of the extension of the  
546 agreements, I think it’s understood that those costs would be bore equally amongst everybody. I  
547 think the major difference would be instead of having weekly meetings where the city alone is  
548 making these decisions as to the upgrades, the district itself would all have a seat at the table to  
549 discuss upgrades. Questions about sustainability and questions about rates for hauled in would  
550 be answered by all partners and not just by one entity. The one entity would be the metropolitan  
551 district.”

552

553 Mayor Chilsen asked City Administrator Rindfleisch which one he believes would be more  
554 efficient.

555

556 City Administrator Rindfleisch said, “I would say one entity making decisions is probably faster  
557 and more efficient. But the district itself making decisions on behalf of the entire plant over the  
558 entire region is probably making I would say wiser decisions on behalf of all parties.”

559

560 Fred noted he also had attended the meeting in the City of La Crosse and said it was obvious to  
561 him there will be several informational meetings. Fred said, “They’re going to take any and all  
562 advice from all parties that participate.”

563

564 Jarrod said City of La Crosse Utilities Manager Bernard Lenz had emphasized the City of La  
565 Crosse is seeking input. Jarrod described the last meeting as being “rather abrupt,” noting he and  
566 Fred had had little advance notice about it (a little more than one week). Jarrod expressed hope  
567 he and Fred can keep attending the meetings and said, “We will keep participating.”

568

569 City Administrator Rindfleisch said he believes the engineering “will speak for itself” regardless  
570 of who is doing it, and he told board members, “It would not be a question of, are they doing  
571 something above and beyond, or are they buying the Cadillac versus the Chevy version of the  
572 wastewater treatment plant? ... I’m not challenging the science behind the upgrade to the plant.  
573 But I would suggest when you look at the \$50 million value just to upgrade the plant, it does  
574 speak exactly to the concern we had on the original trilogy study, which indicated a plant in

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

15

575 value of [approximately] \$149 million of total asset valuation of the entire plant, which is  
576 ridiculous because it should have been depreciating. It's closer to \$30 million where their own  
577 accounting measures show that it's worth. It will be worth more once we spend the investment  
578 in that, but then you have rates adjusting and paying for that. I think some of the concerns I had  
579 with the agreements are coming out through the science and through the finances of how you  
580 fund these kinds of improvements that way. As Fred pointed out, there are a lot of meetings, and  
581 facts will come out that way. The catch is making sure that those facts are in line with their  
582 request to fund it down the road either through hookup fees or through an equitable sharing of  
583 rates." City Administrator Rindfleisch noted one of the pie charts shows the City of Onalaska is  
584 a 13-percent user and said it is important to ensure that the city pays 13 percent of the upgrade.

585

586 Mayor Chilsen said, "I think we need to make sure we keep them honest because they have  
587 proven on this whole sewer deal not to be so honest. I think we need to make sure we keep their  
588 ducks in a row, and we keep them answering the questions that we want answered – not the ones  
589 they want to answer."

590

591 City Administrator Rindfleisch addressed the metropolitan district and said the one complication  
592 is the impact to the city would be seen. City Administrator Rindfleisch noted the utility is  
593 supported by tax dollars of the City of La Crosse, whereas a metropolitan district would mean  
594 the district would borrow money and pay for the district. This would relieve the City of La  
595 Crosse taxpayers from fully funding and issuing it.

596

597 Ald. K. Smith revisited Jarrod's point that the last upgrade at the plant had occurred in 1972 and  
598 said, "An entity taking good care of their assets would be putting money into it as they went so it  
599 didn't result in a major impact on all of us. It seems to be very parallel to what happened with  
600 the La Crosse Center where it hadn't been maintained over a long period of time and now it  
601 needs a major renovation."

602

603 Jarrod told Ald. K. Smith the City of La Crosse has been "picking away at projects" over the last  
604 decade. However, the cost of these projects have ranged from \$1 million to \$3 million to aid  
605 ratepayers.

606

607 **Item 11 – Pay Estimates: Strand Associates, Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc., Mathy**  
608 **Construction, Gerke Excavating, HSR Associates, Fowler and Hammer, A-1 Excavating,**  
609 **Hoffman and McNamara Nursery, Olympic Builders, La Crosse County Highway**  
610 **Department, State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Davy Engineering, MSA**  
611 **Professional Services, and any other contractor/developer**

612

613 **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
614 **MONTHLY ESTIMATES**

615

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

16

**July 2, 2019**

| <u>Contractor</u>   | <u>Original<br/>Contract<br/>Amount</u> | <u>Change<br/>Orders</u> | <u>Paid to<br/>Date</u> | <u>Due this<br/>Estimate</u> |
|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>1. SEH INC.</b>  |   |                          |                         |                              |
| Green Coulee Reservoir<br>Design<br>Estimate #5                         | \$ 25,000.00                            | \$ -                     | \$ 12,419.13            | \$ 1,064.39                  |
| <b>2. DAVY ENGINEERING</b>  |   |                          |                         |                              |
| French Rd. Booster Station/Crestwood Ln.<br>Design<br>Estimate #9       | \$ 126,490.00                           | \$ 76,010.00             | \$ 186,600.70           | \$ 12,271.41                 |
| <b>3. SEH INC.</b>  |   |                          |                         |                              |
| Abbey Road<br>Construction<br>Estimate #3                               | \$ 34,600.00                            | \$ -                     | \$ 4,806.64             | \$ 17,194.51                 |
| <b>4. SEH INC.</b>  |   |                          |                         |                              |
| Railroad Quiet Zone Study<br>Design<br>Estimate #12                     | \$ 11,900.00                            | \$ -                     | \$ 10,890.99            | \$ 1,074.86                  |
| <b>5. GERKE EXCAVATING, INC.</b>  |   |                          |                         |                              |
| Abbey Road Project<br>Construction<br>Estimate #3                       | \$ 1,536,651.19                         | \$ -                     | \$ 731,416.80           | \$ 89,273.88                 |
| <b>6. OLYMPIC BUILDERS GENERAL CONTRACTORS</b>                          |   |                          |                         |                              |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> & Quincy Pumping Station<br>Construction<br>Estimate #3 | \$ 989,678.00                           | \$ -                     | \$ 80,765.20            | \$ 137,655.00                |
| <b>7. FOWLER &amp; HAMMER INC.</b>                                      |   |                          |                         |                              |
| 2019 Misc. Concrete<br>Construction<br>Estimate #2                      | \$ 109,838.75                           | \$ -                     | \$ 9,500.00             | \$ 14,660.16                 |

Reviewed 7/8/19 by Kevin Schubert

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

17

|     |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
|-----|---|-----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| 657 | <b>8. STRAND ASSOCIATES INC.</b>          |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 658 | Court Street Lift Station                 |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 659 | Design                                    |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 660 | Estimate #3                               | \$ 25,000.00    | \$ -        | \$ 21,732.28  | \$ 3,267.72   |  |
| 661 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 662 | <b>9. STRAND ASSOCIATES</b>               |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 663 | 6 <sup>th</sup> & Quincy Lift Station     |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 664 | Construction                              |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 665 | Estimate #12                              | \$ 33,000.00    | \$ -        | \$ 8,837.94   | \$ 8,336.82   |  |
| 666 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 667 | <b>10. A-1 EXCAVATING</b>                 |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 668 | Crestwood Lane Utilities                  |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 669 | Construction                              |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 670 | Estimate #1                               | \$ 698,189.75   | \$ -        | \$ 184,299.05 | \$ 296,832.25 |  |
| 671 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 672 | <b>11. HOFFMAN &amp; MCNAMARA NURSERY</b> |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 673 | 2019 Urban Forestry                       |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 674 | Construction                              |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 675 | Estimate #2                               | \$ 61,980.00    | \$ 5,472.00 | \$ 46,901.00  | \$ 19,450.60  |  |
| 676 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 677 | <b>12. MATHY CONSTRUCTION</b>             |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 678 | 2019 Pavement Project                     |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 679 | Construction                              |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 680 | Estimate #1                               | \$ 1,082,820.45 | \$ -        | \$ -          | \$ 42,777.61  |  |
| 681 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 682 | <b>13. LA CROSSE COUNTY HWY DEPT</b>      |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 683 | Main Street Crackfill                     |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 684 | Construction                              |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 685 | Estimate #1                               | \$ 8,580.00     | \$ -        | \$ -          | \$ 18,235.59  |  |
| 686 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 687 | <b>14. SEH INC.</b>                       |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 688 | Abbey Road                                |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 689 | Design                                    |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 690 | Estimate #8                               | \$ 84,500.00    | \$ 8,500.00 | \$ 92,075.57  | \$ 787.76     |  |
| 691 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 692 | <b>15. HSR ASSOCIATES</b>                 |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 693 | PWF Addition                              |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 694 | Design                                    |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 695 | Estimate #2                               | \$ 81,500.00    | \$ -        | \$ 4,075.00   | \$ 36,675.00  |  |
| 696 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |
| 697 |   |                 |             |               |               |  |

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

Tuesday, July 2, 2019

18

|     |                                      |               |      |               |             |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---------------|------|---------------|-------------|
| 698 | <b>16. MSA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b> |               |      |               |             |
| 699 | Green Coulee Intersection            |               |      |               |             |
| 700 | Design                               |               |      |               |             |
| 701 | Estimate #4                          | \$ 41,728.43  | \$ - | \$ 28,252.30  | \$ 9,285.00 |
| 702 |                                      |               |      |               |             |
| 703 | <b>17. STATE OF WIDOT</b>            |               |      |               |             |
| 704 | I-90/STH 35                          |               |      |               |             |
| 705 | Sanitary Sewer Install               |               |      |               |             |
| 706 | (Project #1071-06-89)                |               |      |               |             |
| 707 | Estimate #5                          | \$ 72,000.00  | \$ - | \$ 46,104.29  | \$ 5,363.84 |
| 708 |                                      |               |      |               |             |
| 709 | <b>18. STATE OF WIDOT</b>            |               |      |               |             |
| 710 | Riders Club Road                     |               |      |               |             |
| 711 | Construction                         |               |      |               |             |
| 712 | (Project #5991-02-57)                |               |      |               |             |
| 713 | Estimate #4                          | \$ 294,911.00 | \$ - | \$ 300,076.58 | \$ 551.61   |
| 714 |                                      |               |      |               |             |
| 715 | <b>19. STATE OF WIDOT</b>            |               |      |               |             |
| 716 | PH/Braund Street                     |               |      |               |             |
| 717 | Construction                         |               |      |               |             |
| 718 | (Project #5991-02-55)                |               |      |               |             |
| 719 | Estimate #5                          | \$ 233,326.00 | \$ - | \$ 237,486.55 | \$ 174.33   |
| 720 |                                      |               |      |               |             |

721 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Jarrod, to approve the 19 pay estimates listed on a document  
722 dated July 2, 2019.

723  
724 On voice vote, motion carried.

725  
726 **Adjournment**

727  
728 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Jarrod, to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.

729  
730 On voice vote, motion carried.

731  
732  
733 Recorded by:

734  
735 Kirk Bey