



MINUTES OF THE IMPROVEMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022, 5:00 PM
Immediately following Parks Committee.

In person at City Hall, Room 207
Virtual attendance also available via Zoom.

A. ROLL CALL.

Present: Mark Steuer, Chris Wery, Melinda Eck, Steven Campbell

Excused: Present:

Excused:

I. This item contains Zoom information, instructions, and a link to the Virtual Comment Form.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Ald. Melinda Eck, seconded by Ald. Steven Campbell to approve the agenda for December 14, 2022 Improvement & Services Committee. Motion carried.

Yes- Steven Campbell, No- None, Abstain- None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Moved by Ald. Melinda Eck, seconded by Ald. Chris Wery to approve the minutes of November 30, 2022 Improvement & Services Committee. Motion carried.

Yes- Steven Campbell, Melinda Eck, Chris Wery, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

D. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I. Consideration with possible action on the 2023 proposed vegetation maintenance at the City's stormwater ponds and facilities.

Moved by Ald. Chris Wery, seconded by Ald. Steven Campbell to approve the 2023 proposed vegetation maintenance at the City's stormwater ponds and facilities. Motion carried.

Yes- Steven Campbell, Melinda Eck, Chris Wery, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Consideration with possible action on a request by Department of Public Works to adopt the Proposed 2023 Sanitary Sewer Rates.

Moved by Ald. Chris Wery, seconded by Ald. Steven Campbell to approve the request by Department of Public Works to adopt the Proposed 2023 Sanitary Sewer Rates. Motioned carried.
Yes- Steven Campbell, Melinda Eck, Chris Wery, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

3. Consideration with possible action on a request by Department of Public Works to adopt the Proposed 2023 Storm Sewer Rates.

Moved by Ald. Chris Wery, seconded by Ald. Steven Campbell to approve the request by Department of Public Works to adopt the Proposed 2023 Storm Sewer Rates. Motion carried.
Yes- Steven Campbell, Melinda Eck, Chris Wery, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

E. INFORMATIONAL.

1. Director's Report on recent activities of the Public Works Department.

Moved by Ald. Melinda Eck, seconded by Ald. Chris Wery to receive and place on file the Director's Report on recent activities of the Public Works Department. Motion carried.
Yes- Steven Campbell, Melinda Eck, Chris Wery, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

2. The next Improvement & Services Committee meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2023.

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ald. Melinda Eck, seconded by Ald. Steven Campbell to adjourn. Motion carried.
Yes- Steven Campbell, Melinda Eck, Chris Wery, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

VERBATIM

- Sorry.

- Ready? Are we ready?

- Are we ready?

- That didn't take long to upload. then. I guess 'cause it was short.

- All right, we're on?

- Yep.

- All right. Welcome to Improvement and Services Committee for Wednesday, December 14th. Roll call. We are all here. Alder Steuer, Alder Wery, Alder Eck and Alder Campbell. I would entertain a motion for the approval of the agenda.

- Motion to approve.
- Motion by Eck. Do we have a second?
- Second.
- Second by Campbell. All in favor, please say aye.
- Aye.
- Aye.
- Aye. All opposed? That passes unanimously. Approval of the minutes. A motion for that.
- Motion to approve.
- Motion by Eck.
- Second.
- Second by Wery. Any other discussion? All in favor, please say aye.
- Aye.
- All opposed?
- Oh!
- Okay. We're moving forward. Regular business. Number one, consideration with possible action on the 2023 proposed vegetation maintenance at the city's stormwater ponds and facilities. Director?
- Okay. We have included in the packet supporting documentation from Northern Ecological Services and McMahon Architects. These are the two service providers that we have historically used for maintenance on our stormwater facilities. Primarily, what they're doing is making sure that we don't have invasive species coming in and overtaking the vegetation that actually does the treatment of the water around the perimeter of the ponds. And then also making sure that the ponds continue to function the way they were intended. The NES proposal, as indicated on the first page, is for the Royal Woods pond, Barina Creek, Berger Street, Huron-Sitka, McAuliffe Park, Juza-Shorewood, Eaton Heights, Mossy Oak, and Voyager Drive ponds. They provided a pretty detailed identification of tasks and associated costs that they will be doing at those facilities. Overall cost expenditure for 2023 is expected to be in the neighborhood of \$51,350. Additionally, they have talked about some sediment investigation out in Barina Creek. There's a second proposal in there discussing that in the amount of \$2,200 for sampling and then \$600 worth of lab fees. The next item that's in the packet is the proposal from McMahon. McMahon taking a look at the Baird Creek northwest and northeast ponds, the Larscheid Pond facility, our Mills Street pond, Basten Street, Excalibur subdivision, and Superior Pond. Smaller facilities and more upland-type vegetation around the perimeter. So less work that needs to be done. We're expecting an expenditure about 7,600. These are annual contracts. They are paid for under the operating budget of the stormwater facility. Stormwater utility staff is in support of awarding all three of the contracts as identified.
- I was gonna ask that. They're all, okay, it's all kind of lumped together-
- Correct.

- For all of this?
- Yes.
- Okay. Committee? Go ahead, Alder Eck.
- Something that stood out for me when I read this prior to coming today was the spot herbicides being used. I see that as a chemical. So-
- Yes.
- You know...
- The firms that we are using are ecologically minded firms. So they're not going out and spraying herbicide. It's spot application of herbicide on the invasive when they find it. So for instance, with the phragmites, if they were to encounter phragmites, they would cut the phragmites off, and then on the open stock, that's where they do the, it's hand-applied herbicide directly to the plant to try to kill the roots. So they're not just going out and spraying herbicides on large areas.
- Think about it like attacking dandelions in your yard, where you're going in and you're attacking a single dandelion. That's what they're doing, is they're targeting a set species and a lot of times they'll do the spraying and then they might do hand removal as well, so.
- Is it a Roundup type of thing?
- It's not necessarily Roundup. I'm not sure exactly what they're using. But we do make them aware of our concerns with certain products. And again, the firms themselves, the ecological restoration is what they do. So they're not going to use chemicals that are harmful to the environment if they don't have to either.
- Okay. Well, I ask 'cause at home, I use, you know, salt and vinegar and put it right out the dandelion, you know. Anyway, so just wanted to ask. Thank you.
- That's a good question.
- Good question.
- Anyone else while we're here?
- No, looks good.
- Alder Campbell?
- What about that vegetation area on Register Avenue? The bottom strip of it.
- That, we actually talked about.
- That is an independent-
- 'Cause there's people that are gonna get a petition.
- Study that we're looking at.
- We just talked about that. We had a separate meeting, like two days ago.

- Yep. Just kidding.

- And they are working. We have NES, the same company, is working up a proposal. They started with a test segment out there and I've asked them for a proposal to do the whole thing. So we are working on that proposal.

- I know I've asked if we could put a few native flowers in there to make it look like it actually is trying to look like something.

- Correct.

- 4 K project.

- 4 K? In the middle of this, in Webster?

- Motion to move? Come on.

- Oh no, I was just gonna say that, you know, especially on Webster Avenue, I've driven by there a number of times too and you look at it and it's one of those where you kind of look and go, "I want it to look like you're trying."

- Yeah. Because it's on the way to Bay Beach.

- Yeah. So anyway, we appreciate you bringing that point up. We're all concerned about it.

- Okay. Motion to approve by Wery. Do we have a second?

- Second.

- Second by Campbell. Any other discussion? All in favor, please say aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- All opposed? That passes unanimously. Number two, consideration with possible action on a request by the Department of Public Works to adopt the proposed 2023 sanitary sewer rates. Correct?

- Okay. Back in November, we passed the sanitary utility budget. Now what we have to do is take that budget and convert it into the rates that people are actually charged. So there's two parts, two components to the sanitary sewer rates. There's the local collection rate that the city controls and then there's the treatment rate that comes from Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, who are doing business as NEW Water. NEW water had their budget approved late last week. I think it was Thursday.

- Yep.

- So when they approved their budget, they were able to provide their rates to us. So in the packet, there is a document that starts off, the heading on the top is "Proposed 2023 sewer service charges." If you look at the bottom of that page, under section I.d., "Volume charge," right below that it says, "The GBMSD rates for the period are," and it gives the volume rate, the BOD, the TSS, the phos and the TKN. Those are the numbers that come from GBMSD when they passed their budget. So we got those numbers in, we're then able to plug that into our equations. And what winds up coming out are two factors. Number one, on the top of the next

page, the GBMSD charge is \$3.83 per 100 cubic feet. And the city's charge for collection is \$2.29 per 100 cubic feet for a total of \$6.12. What does that mean? That number then also gets pumped into an equation and comes out with the billing parameter or the minimum charges and charge per meter size that you see in the middle of page one. So that's what actually goes forward. If you have a one-inch line going into your house, a one-inch water line, you get 900 cubic feet of sewer as an allowance. And that will charge, that will cost you \$80.20 cents per quarter. So depending on your meter size, as long as you don't have a volume charge exceeding the allowance, which is pretty rare on a residential property, this is the bill you pay or that's the sewer charge that gets paid on your water bill. So the whole first page is all relative to what we call "non-monitored users" or people who don't have a meter or sewer, which is mostly residential. We have a few monitored customers like Georgia Pacific, Proctor and Gamble, high volume users with high strengths. Those are our monitored customers, which are on the next page under section 2 or "abnormal strength sewer." What we have is a service charge, which is the monthly customer charge plus quantity plus a sampling. The monthly customer charge is 239 per month. The quantity charges, again, there's a component there from GBMSD from their rates. The volume charge, we add our city collection, our volume charge at 2.29 that I was talking about before to come up with a total rate. Then there's a sampling charge. So we've got the sample charges in the bottom and that comes out as a pass-through cost that we bill back directly to those monitored users. And if you remember, when we were doing the budget last month, in our expenditures for the sanitary sewer, one of the expenditures was payment to NEW Water for non-monitored and then payment to NEW Water for monitored customers. So we even tracked that in the payment. A lot of information to process. Again, the biggest things are the volume or what the billing rates are for the customer. Then we go to the next page, which is the rate history going back to 1979, and I call particular attention to the bottom of that sheet. Last year, or 2022, our current year, GBMSD'S rate was \$3.52 cents per 100 cubic feet. And that went up to 3.83. So that's an 8.8% increase. Our rate stayed the same. So it's a composite 5.34% increase. But all of that is attributed to cost increases through GBMSD.

- So, Paul, a word?

- Sure.

- Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Director, I remember back, you know, 10, 12 years ago when it started to really ramp up. I know that they're doing a lot of infrastructure work at the plant, like a lot. I mean... 'Cause it was tough, I mean, when it started going up, people noticed it and it's still ramping up.

- Correct. And the short version of that, the projects that they completed starting in that time period, that's what they refer to as their R2E2 program. That was on the solids end of things. So after you treat the wastewater, there's a liquid that goes off to the river and then there's a solid that needs to be disposed of. That took care of all the solids, that was on the solid end of things. They're now going into a new program, it's another infrastructure program, but that's on the liquid end or the in-feed end of the plant. So the pumps that bring the water, 'cause everything that enters the plant has to be pumped. When it comes down North Quincy Avenue, it's 35 feet underground at that point. So everything that enters the plant, you have to pump from underground up. So starting with the pumps and the lipid clarifiers and everything up to the point that the solids fall out, that all needs to be upgraded now. That infrastructure's 50 years old.

- Alder Eck?

- Is there a point where it maybe will even out once that infrastructure is taken care of?

- We're hopeful of that. Yes.

- I mean, I know you don't have a crystal ball, but just wondering because it is, the blue part is basically the, what is it called again? GBMSD, and then the purple is like, the city.

- Yeah.

- Yeah, I mean...
- Yeah, there is increases and I don't know if that's just-
- It went up 30 cents this year instead of 20.
- Correct.
- It was kinda consistent.
- They told us they expect anywhere from 7 to 15% increases per year over the next seven years.
- How much?
- Over the next seven years.
- How much?
- Seven to 15% per year.
- What percent is that?
- Seven to 15.
- Per year?
- Per year over the next seven years.
- We really, no, that's a good question. And I think if it'd be good if you answered it.
- Yeah, I asked-
- Well, we've asked it.
- What if we don't approve it? What happens then?
- What's that?
- If it comes to us and we're saying, "Well, we don't wanna approve it," what happens then? We have a choice.
- Well, you wouldn't be passing the treatment costs onto the consumer. The city, the utility would be responsible for those costs.
- But we-
- So we'd have to-
- Well, yeah.
- They're still paid.
- Somebody has to pay GBMSD.

- Which, the city of Green Bay is paid for by the residents so...
- Well-
- Right?
- The utility pays the bill and then we charge the residents back to make it a pass-through cost. The utility would have to absorb all of that.
- I did have, if it's okay-
- Go ahead, yes.
- Their board. Do you remember, it was a couple years ago, I think. I was messaged or sent a letter from someone asking, "Who's the makeup of this board and, you know, what kind of input do we have on the projects they do to make sure we have good oversight, that they're not just going crazy with the projects?"
- Yeah, there was a effort that was largely started by Suamico where they wanted to get a municipality on the board of directors. That effort largely has not followed through because listening to the concerns that the municipalities have, GBMSD staff and their board have opened up, become a lot more transparent and a lot more engaging with the municipalities. So we are involved in those discussions We're meeting with them pretty much monthly at this point.
- And I think if there would be, if you had red flags, any of the cities, you'd say, "Hold on right here."
- Yep.
- "This project is not remotely qualified."
- All the municipalities are looking and making sure that what they have are needs, not wants.
- Also, just to bring a little light to it, you know, my business has been on the west side for 15 years and I was on the city of Green Bay and then I moved to Howard. So they bill you monthly. Green Bay is cheap compared to Howard. So Howard, I'm not .
- Well, they get their water, they don't get their water from Lake Michigan.
- It's like \$42 a month. I don't use no water in my shop. That's like, the beginning charge every month. Whether you use it or not. That's like the set fee. I mean, I flush the toilet, what, twice a day, you know? That's it. Wash my hands. So I was like, "Damn! It'd be nice to get rid of that water bill." You know, it's just overhead. And the girl next door that does nails, I mean she uses, so I see her bill and I'm seeing mine, like, "This one's yours!" You know? But it's amazing the difference from one place to the other.
- They don't hook up with Bay Water. So that could be one of the reasons. They go out where, some of the communities go out toward, I don't know.
- Two Rivers.
- Two Rivers.
- That's pretty far.

- Yeah.

- Just one other thing. In 2017 I met some people, I forgot where they were from. They were meeting in Green Bay and they were meeting, these were young guys having a blast. There was a tornado. Anyway, I got to meet 'em and we were talking and I'm like, "Oh, I'm from Green Bay." And they're like, "We have a meeting with Green Bay." And they were, like, literally taking that runoff water and literally whatever they were doing, and this was nationwide, they were going everywhere. Pretty young guys. I mean, younger than me. They literally had a process of making that water literally into drinking water. And I don't know where, it's the last time I ever heard of it. So they had some kind of a purity thing that they were working with municipalities and it was like, they were looking at, like, "We're gonna kill it." You know? 'Cause it was a, and I don't know what the cost was, I just was wondering, whatever, I never heard nothing after that, you know. But they were literally meeting with the City of Green Bay, like the next week, they had big meetings set up for them. So, I dunno, just something with food for thought.

- Right.

- Director, I was just gonna ask, you know, with the city portion, just refresh me or the committee as far as what responsibilities the sewer district has versus the city. You know, the costs that go into it. I know I've heard it before, but just.

- Our cost is primarily with the collection of that water and transporting it into the GBMSD interceptor base. And then once it gets into the interceptor from that point to the plant and through the plant.

- And they take care of it?

- That's the GBMSD cost.

- So as far as our infrastructure, 'cause I see, you know, you look at the purple and it's big enough, you know.

- Oh yeah.

- Do you feel that our infrastructure is getting to a point where we can maybe see a little more decline in that? Or is that part of the issue?

- No, I think you're going to actually see, potentially see some ramp-ups, some small ramp-ups at our cost. One of the biggest problems we have at this point is what we call infiltration and inflow. And on that history table that we provided to you, there's an "I/I" on there. That's what that is, it's infiltration and inflow. And basically what that means is, clear water is getting into the system through defects in the pipe. You don't want rainwater leaking into the ground, finding its way into a sanitary sewer. If it goes into a storm sewer, no big deal 'cause that's going off to the surface water. That's where it belongs. But you don't want it getting into your sanitary sewer because that's rainwater going up and being treated at a wastewater treatment plant. You don't want to treat clean water. So one of the things we're working on, one of the emphases for 2023, is we came to you with a proposal to do some smoke testing a couple of months ago. That's what we're doing, is we're looking for defects in the pipe to stop I and I. Most often what we see is, the I and I is actually on the private side. So from the point of connection at the main back towards the house is where we're getting most of that I and I. So first we have to identify, verifying where we're getting the I and I, is it more prevalent in certain parts of the city than others? Why are we having it? What's the recommended fix and how is that gonna be paid for? So that's kind of the approach we're taking. But if we find excessive I and I on our side, then we're gonna have to have capital projects. And I don't think you guys wanna sacrifice road projects, you know, 'cause there's a sewer component and the sewer pays its own bill. So if that's the case, we may have to vote the rates up a little bit to handle independent sewer contracts plus the sewer contracts associated with road construction.

- So with that smoke plan that you're working on, is there, I hate to say, "Is there a map?" But is there something that kind of shows some of the-
- I hate to say it.
- I hate to say it.
- We mapped-
- Something that would show some trouble areas throughout the city.
- Well, when we brought the request for the smoke test to be done, we had some maps in that request showing the areas that we were smoke testing.
- Okay. But just, if there are some problem areas over time, it'd be nice to see that just so that over time, we're kind of on the ball with that stuff.
- Yep. Sure.
- Thank you. Alder Eck. Alder Eck?
- Oh, no. I was just gonna, kind of, with the smoke testing and seeing if there's waste or that in what you're saying, like an interaction between the two.
- Literally waste.
- So yeah, literally waste, which obviously we don't want. But there's that whole, okay, there could be that capital cost that eventually you would hope that it would also taper out the cost because-
- Maybe yes, maybe no. The other issue that remains unspoken in this is, at the end of the day, GBMSD has a cost to do business. If we're treating, I'm gonna make up numbers. If we're treating 10 million gallons, if we're supplying 10 million gallons a year, and it's much more than that. Their plant treats millions of gallons a day. But let's just use a hypothetical, okay, let's say we're supplying 10 million gallons. If we fix the I and I problems, so they're taking their operating expenses and dividing by 10 million and you pay this much per million gallon. If we cut our I and I down and we're only sending 'em \$7 million and they don't change their budget, now they're dividing it by 7 million gallons and we just pay a higher rate per million gallon.
- Even though it's more efficient.
- Right.
- And correct me if I'm wrong. They sell water to the other communities. So they also have an income.
- No.
- Revenue. Oh, this is a different-
- Correct. I know, I'm getting confused between those two. The Green Bay water utility.
- You're thinking of Central Brown County Water Authority.
- Okay. All right.

- Central Brown County Water Authority is drinking water. NEW Water is wastewater.
- Oh, okay. All right. Thank you for the clarification.
- So just clarify on the smoke testing. So what you're trying to do is figure out if it's in the residential to the hookup first.
- We're looking for defects, period.
- I would think it would be in the streets before-
- Well, we're looking for defects, period.
- Yeah.
- Is there anything with the permeable surfaces, like if, you know, over time, if people decide to put in pavers and different things. I realize it's a small thing right now, but if there's some change with residents, how they collect the water, how they disperse things, having less pavement, will that be anything in the future? Or is that-
- That wouldn't impact the sanitary.
- Stormwater isn't treated.
- Correct.
- I think, these are both on here, but I think we're gonna have a lot of same cushions for the second part.
- Yeah.
- I mean, what you're saying, I mean it's easy as, we haven't had a sanitary system at our cabin because we had a home holding tank 40 years as a blah, blah, blah. Well, the runoff that the old grandfather way where the top water flowed off, gray water, well now the water line's so high there was more water coming in. We can't even use it 'cause it's capacitated and it's the groundwater, that means it's leaking.
- Right.
- So, you know, we can't use it, but that's kind of what the whole, are we treating good water?
- Right.
- You know?
- All right, so-
- But also, I mean, if you don't have a secure water line, I mean, there's always testing going on. I mean, everyone runs their water all the time so they know when there's no water pressure, right? So it could be water going out, leaking out of an incoming line also, correct?
- It could be.
- But most likely-

- The third. Because that's where it's, the water coming in.
- Right.
- And you're charged on your wastewater going out, right? Okay.
- Okay. Anybody else? Otherwise, I entertain a motion. What's that?
- Motion to approve.
- By Wery. Do we have a second?
- Second by Campbell. End of discussion. All in favor, please say aye.
- Aye.
- Aye.
- All right. Fantastic. Thanks for the description. I'll remember most of it. Yeah. All right. Wanna go to waste? Sorry, trying to get on.
- That was actually pretty good.
- Water over the-
- Pipe down.
- Hello! Number three.
- Oh boy.
- Consideration with possible action on a request by the Department of Public Works to adopt the proposed 2023 storm sewer rates. A little more of the...
- This one actually gets a lot easier. It's not as complicated or complex because there's no GBMSD to work through. So what we have included in the packet is a copy of the 2023 budget. This still says "draft" on it, but this is the budget that the city council approved back in November. So-
- I'm sorry.
- Okay. So what we have is a total of \$10,661,505 worth of expense. There are 79,250 equivalent runoff units in the city of Green Bay. You simply divide the 10,661,505 by 79,250 and it comes out to \$134.53 cents per year per ERU or \$11.21 cents per month. Next page, next two pages. I know you gotta be, have some really good eyes to see it.
- I was gonna say, do you have a magnifying glass?
- But we're trying to give you some historical information. But what this does is just provides a budget comparison year to year going back in 2004. The fourth page is really the information. The blue line is our budget, the red line is actual expenses and we didn't have the actuals ready for the last couple of years. I will get those done so the next time we discuss this, we have that. But the green line takes those budget expenses, the blue expenses, and converts them into the cost per ERU and our ERU charge is going from \$10.40 cents in 2022 up to \$11.21 cents in 2023.

- That's kind of a normal growth pattern, as you see? Or you know, it's like, anything else, costs go up?
- Yeah, there's not, I wouldn't say that there's any, any single item. We didn't add a new program. Nothing along that line. I think the bulk of what you're seeing would be salary and fringe for both the utility staff as well as the forestry staff, which we are now, you know, for the last three or four years, we've been funding 88% of the forestry department.
- Right, okay. Some of the field costs in here too, then?
- Oh yeah.
- So that's probably-
- Yeah.
- Anybody else? Questions?
- I can't see it.
- You can't see it?
- Okay. Yeah. Then you have the whole thing. I don't, yeah, I'm trying to figure out. Okay, so there, I apologize.
- No, no, there's a lot of information there. Can you map this at all?
- The rate on the question.
- It is a map.
- You got the rate, the actual-
- No, I'm talking about-
- I'm sorry.
- Go ahead.
- I'm sorry. There's the rate and then actual and budget.
- Actual and budget-
- I'm just trying to figure out-
- You're just trying to see the difference?
- Yeah.
- So, I mean when you budget, it's like anything else, you do it for the future. Your actual, coming at the end of the year, it might be a little bit more and a little bit less. It's just kind of the way it is.
- If we come in on the good side, actuals come in less than budget, some of that money winds up in fund balance and some of it winds up as a contribution. We put that money into our transfer to capital. If it goes

into transfer, the money that's retained in the fund balance is a rainy day in case we have a year that comes in where we're on the wrong side and we can help offset those costs without having to impact the user rates. If excess money winds up in that transfer to capital, what we do is we put that into our projects for next year and use cash instead of borrowing.

- Okay.

- So all the money stays within the utility.

- 'Cause I noticed 2020, you got actual and budget, the budget's 1.344 million for the budget and the actual came out to \$849,000. So there's a good, you know, 450,000 or whatever difference. You're saying that that money that was budgeted, I mean, like, when you make a budget, normally you try to keep fairly close to reality, if you will, or as much as you can. But then the actual was 500,000, almost 450, 500 less.

- Well, take a look.

- So I'm just looking at that. I'm just trying to understand.

- How did anything stay up to 16?

- There were some charges that were in there for sampling charges and sediment credit for GBMSD that didn't get applied during that year. That was, we were paying for TSS credits through GBMSD by Green Bay Packaging surrendering their stormwater permit.

- Oh.

- And we were getting those credits. Because of the delay in getting the plant completed, we didn't actually, we had those budgeted for 2020 but we had didn't actually incur the expense.

- Right. But normally it'll be closer. You would think.

- Yeah, they should. Ideally they should be. But again, remember we're guessing at how much stormwater there's going to be a year in advance. Same thing, we're guessing at how much sanitary sewer somebody's gonna use a year in advance.

- And some of these storms that we've had, I mean, I don't know how that factors in it, some of these one in 1000 years storms that come in. I don't know if that affects any of that.

- They do. It's not a one-to-one. But there is some impact.

- Some impact.

- Yes.

- All right. Committee, anything? Ready to move forward?

- Just seems odd that in 2016, everything looks like it fell apart as far as...

- You mean after that?

- It was level and then they-

- Or they started to figure it out and it doesn't look like they're all on the same page. 'Cause how does your actual go down? Your cost went up right away and then, you know, your rate was following it.

- Well, the rate's going to follow the budget.

- But how does it stay so even? It's like, 'cause that green band, it never grew 'til that stage. And after that it grew.

- Over-

- Or was 2016 when you started, Steve?

- Starting in that year, we had applied, we had surplus that we could apply toward projects. And when we spent all that down, we had to start borrowing more money. As soon as we started borrowing more money, our debt surplus .

- So it's almost the cost of inflation?

- No, no.

- I mean-

- So we, again-

- The cost of-

- If you have revenues-

- Inflation?

- Exceeding expenses, you have a surplus. We took that surplus and put it in capital and then we would pay cash next year for projects.

- To the next.

- When we didn't have that, when we expended that surplus, that reserve we had, we had to start borrowing more money to do our projects. And that's what started the cost escalation.

- Okay. Just one more question. So these are yearlong blocks here. Increments. Costs, I guess. So all these reports that you've given us today and always, do all the dates always have that same date? Is it the fiscal budget or is it the end of the year or-

- End of the year.

- Is everything different at all?

- End of the year and fiscal are the same.

- And like, in all your departments, is it always that same date? It's the cut date when you're doing your budget?

- Yeah, it should be.

- So all the graphs, everything is always on the budget.
- I can't speak to every department, but it should be. If they're giving you an annual cost, it's usually a fiscal. And the fiscal and the calendar is the same.
- Okay. Thanks.
- So is there one line of all these lines that we should, you know, the bottom would be?
- The green one. Yes.
- Yeah, the bottom, normally that's what you would say. But I'm just-
- Just, can I-
- Yeah, I was just looking at the graph too. And the graph, the graph represents that table.
- Correct.
- Okay. All right. So let's just say we're going to actual-
- I just wanna point out, there's a, because Alder Wery just pointed out to me, because-
- You okay if I take that?
- Director Grenier pointed out this surplus, it says "applied surplus." If you look at the bottom of the chart on the one that's 2004 through-
- Can't think tonight.
- 2013. Bye!
- Thank you.
- See ya.
- At the bottom, it's surplus that's taken off. It makes it a little bit harder to, I mean if you don't catch that, that there's a surplus applied.
- What we looking at?
- Yeah. Down here, at the bottom.
- I can just see those years where we had 200,000, 365, 294, that was the applied surplus and that's what kept, I think, the rate even. And then once that's out .
- So at what point do you try to make the adjustment? I'm just looking at the graph. I'm sure that numbers support the graph to a point and I don't know what. Some other ones are monthly or a little more breakdown, what the numbers are, the number charts.
- Well, so if you're looking at this, let's just say we're past it. From '21 to '22. So is there adjustments that you look at at the end and go, "Wow, we gotta do this"? I mean, is there action that it represents?

- Every year when we're preparing the budget, that's when-
- Okay. That's when you go, "How do we get it even or apply with the leftover whatever"?
- Well, if there's, when the final audit is done, the city gets audited every year and they audit all of our funds. So when the audit is completed, typically that's in March or so, that's when we know what our number is, how was our actual compared to our budget. And at that point, that's when we make a decision. If there are extra funds left over, revenues exceeded expenditure, we'll make those decisions on what happens with that money at that point in time.
- Oh, alright.
- The utility money, 99 times out of 100, that money winds up for the stormwater utility, sanitary utility, and the parking utility. Winds up under the line item 59,940, "transfer out capital projects." We've got a budget that we put in there, budget number. But if there's extra money, we add to that. So what that does is, that puts money into our construction account. So we've got that money in there for additional projects. We reinvest in our infrastructure.
- Is that part of the contingency fund or is that separate?
- No, it's completely separate. Utilities, the stormwater utility, the sanitary utility and the parking division are completely off levy. So we don't deal with taxpayer funds at all. We're self-supporting.
- That's, okay.
- So that's why we get those, that's why we take that money, we reinvest back into the utility in the form of infrastructure.
- That's pretty positive, normally?
- Yeah.
- Year after year? Okay.
- I just noticed that there was applied interest revenue of 75,000 in oh, 2020. And it looks like 2021's proposed? What is that from?
- If we have cash sitting in the bank, we can generate interest on that. So that's a number that we typically get from the finance department. We don't generate all the numbers in our budget. There's a lot of stuff that comes from other departments.
- Okay.
- So finance tells us, "Count on generating \$25,000 worth of interest on your fund this year." That's the number we'll plug in.
- Sounds good to me.
- Interesting.
- You guys are gonna stop paying .
- I know.

- Wait, what did you just say?
- Just talking about the interest. He said, "Very interesting." Yeah. Oh yeah.
- Well, committee. What's your pleasure? A particular motion?
- You're gonna wash your hands of this.
- Motion to approve.
- Motion to approve.
- He likes taxes.
- Like Campbell?
- Do we have a second?
- Second.
- Oh, I thought he approved or he made a motion and then he-
- Did you make a motion?
- Yeah, I did.
- He did, he did.
- He made the motion. I'll give you the second.
- All right.
- Any other discussion? All in favor of this, say aye.
- Aye.
- Aye.
- All opposed? Thanks again for a riveting discussion. A lot of stuff. All right, next informational.
- Take the shortest meeting and make it better.
- Yeah, right.
- Director's report.
- Well, we're learning, you know?
- On recent activities.
- Well, similar to what you heard from Director Ditscheit in the last meeting, our appreciation to all four of you, especially with having two new alders on the committee, there's a steep learning curve. We deal with

some pretty complex issues on this committee. And we do appreciate the level of effort and the work that you put in. And we do appreciate the guidance of the senior members of the committee helping you guys learn.

- I was gonna say, we got two good leaders.

- Well-

- But it's, we enjoy working with the four of you. It's definitely pleasurable to come in here.

- So how does that rate our group versus the last?

- We can't poll the-

- I think it's-

- I don't wanna put you on the spot.

- Don't start interrupting.

- We're all meeting in person, all right.

- Just cough the answer.

- We made an example by all being here.

- I think we all, we do enjoy this committee as well and I think, and we appreciate your efforts too, Steve, 'cause you know, we've known you for a few years and you know, there are moments where it got tough at times, but I think you're willing to listen to the committee, listen to the alders. I think you're working well here, you and your department. I feel like I see progress with that and I am all in favor of it and I thank you for that.

- Good to hear, thanks.

- You do have more to say than thank you?

- Oh yeah. More to say.

- He wasn't done saying it! Well, no, 'cause I, he was, just wanted to make sure.

- We do appreciate the level of effort. It's obvious that everybody here is doing their homework and it results in better questions and results in, we don't mind being challenged. That shows us that you're doing your job in making sure that your constituents are being represented. One of the things that we very much enjoy about it is the fact that we can have spirited discussion and it's not-

- Vindictive.

- It's not confrontation. You all understand that we're working towards the same goal and we all have the same thing in mind. We all work for the constituent. So it's very much appreciated. We definitely wanted to make sure that we mentioned it to the committee.

- I just wanted to thank you and your staff. You're always very quick to answer questions, especially by email.

- Good.

- Always right on it.
- I mean, really, you and Pirlot and everything.
- I beat 'em today.
- The only other thing that I wanted to add to that is obviously we're staring down the barrel of winter storm Axel.
- Axel? Oh my god.
- That's the official name, so it's the first winter storm of the year.
- Oh it's the first one. Yes.
- I left my truck running.
- Do we have any accurate predictions yet?
- Well, the predictions changed over the course of about six hours today. This morning, the weather briefing that we attended, National Weather Service was telling us about 5.8 inches in total accumulation. It was gonna start about midnight, be over about by about six. By the time we got to the 2:30 PM weather briefing, it had changed. They had downshifted, the storm had tracked again a little bit further off to the west like it originally had been tracking. They downgraded us to a little over four inches, between four and five inches, and starting a little later and depending on when that shift between rain and snow occurs, that's gonna determine how much total accumulation we get. So I did have a conversation with my staff. Our expectation at this point is, as soon as the snow starts adhering to the roads, that's when our sweet 16 truck drivers will go out and we will be on the primary starting at that point until the event is done. And we are planning a full plow but we are not planning an overnight full plow. We will probably be coming in sometime between six and seven o'clock and starting our plow and it'll be more of a daytime plow tomorrow based on when the storm is gonna be generating the snow.
- Well, you guys have been on that for years, too, with all the various websites and all the things you look at. I mean it's like a, reminds me of like the old British war movies when they're all sitting there with everything. Is it a little bit like that?
- Definitely.
- We are anticipating, this is supposed to be a heavy, wet event. So it is gonna stick, it is gonna compact. I am getting crews paired again. Having a daytime plow is gonna be beneficial for us 'Cause then I can get my folks back home tomorrow night, get them rested up, because I do intend to send everybody out full force on Friday for cleanup operations. We've got Thursday and Friday to get cleaned up and get as much of that snow up and off the ground. Long range predictions for the next eight to 10 days starting on Monday next week, so through Christmas and potentially as far as New Year's, they are anticipating that we are gonna be below average temperature. And average temperature for the time of year is gonna be 15 degrees. So they are saying we could be approaching zero for about a week, week and a half period. We've gotta get as much up as we can so it doesn't freeze.
- Before that freeze.
- Packer game Monday.

- Yep.

- My daughter's going 'cause we bought us tickets.

- So...

- Yeah?

- So I wanna show appreciation to you too. I appreciate the fact that you're willing to answer the questions and I jokingly, but I actually do mean it, that I've learned more about storm water management than I ever thought I would in my entire life.

- Kick it off your bucket list.

- Or desired to. And I find myself going to parking lots looking .

- Oh really?

- Yeah, well, the flooding and "Oh, they're doing this and that." Yeah, so I'm looking at it and so. Anyway. So I appreciate it, that you're, and you are quick, you're always quick to respond and that's great 'cause I have a lot of questions. You know, constituents, they contact me and I send it right to to you. And the first time I called you, I remember you said to think of you as the person to come to if I don't know who to ask. So that was, I appreciated that offer. So thank you and Merry Christmas to you. I know I'll see you next Tuesday too.

- Oh yeah. Right, right, right.

- I'll be wearing my ugly sweater.

- Good.

- So I just wanna say thanks. I think you do well at your job, you know, but a lot of people, my customers that all work for the city, your staff, probably the most of 'em, you know what I mean? Everybody out there. And funny, two little points. I think we need to try to get a "Stump Mr. Grenier" contest. See if we can bring up one thing we can stump him on. You know?

- What?

- He's always pretty direct with the answer and quick. I don't even think we gotta put a timer on him, you know. And the other thing that was funny, 'cause I met a lady a few weeks back, I forgot her name. I probably wrote down. She knows you, you work with her pretty consistently. I think she's a consulting firm. I don't know if I mentioned it to you or not, but we talked about you and I said, "Oh yeah, I work for the city." And she's like, "Oh, I work with the city," and took a little bit of stuff and finally she says, "Yeah, I'm on the I&S committee." She goes, "So you work with Steve Grenier?" And she's like, "Yeah." She was very guarded as she talked, but as we got to talking and shooting and whatever, it was funny. It's like, "Eh, he pretty much knows his stuff." I go, "Yeah, it seems like it," I go, and it was just a nice, fun conversation, but believe me, she didn't tell me anything. But she says-

- Well, that's good.

- Kinda said, "Well, it's Steve's way or the highway." But I think she might've said that once, but it's like, yeah, we're very careful to work with him and he's got his ways, but he's very prepared, you know? I just thought, I go, "That's the guy! Yeah!"

- So you gotta do a blog now, you know. You got a good voice for that. Just a blog. Consider it.
- I'm also very blessed. I've got a great professional staff who are very committed, very passionate about what they do. I had a lady email me today and express appreciation because the garbage truck driver took special care, knowing that snow was coming, only one cart had an open lid down the entire street. And she took time out of her day to send a message to me, to let me know how much that was appreciated, that many people don't come home until after work. and rather than the carts being full of water or snow, the garbage truck driver made sure to take the lids down. Right?
- Well, I'm just gonna add to that. So if you're gonna take credit for pulling Jean's trash can up to the door, I did that, all right? I beat you to it. And I wanna tell you something, I looked in her garbage can. You could eat out of it. It was that clean. I've never seen one so clean in my life..
- That's indicative of the caliber of people that work in the Department of Public Works. You know, I've often joked that my staff are what we refer to as the unseen unclean. We work in dirty environments and we're largely hidden behind the truck.
- There's a TV show there somewhere.
- So most people recognize the truck, not the person driving it. But those folks are very dedicated to their jobs, very involved in the community.
- You know, I think with the support, I think, and I've done this, I know you guys have done that too, where if Forestry or Public Works, somebody comes by and something happens, you talk to them, I think they're very appreciative, the crews, when you talk to them and just say, "Hey, good job," et cetera. You know? Let's appreciate that. You want some water?
- I'm good.
- It's clean water. All right. Anything else? Otherwise, thanks again, Steve, as well as your, your department. Public hearings, we got nothing. Otherwise, I would say-
- Do we have to make a motion to receive his report to place on file?
- Yes, you may. Yes. Do that, please. Thank you. Received and placed on file by Eck, seconded by Wery. All in favor, please say aye.
- Aye.
- Aye.
- Next meeting is January 11th of I&S.
- What's that?
- And that's, again, the birthday of Alexander Hamilton. He was born in either 1755 or 1757 on the island of, on Nevis, I believe it was. British West Indies. So he could never become president. That's the name of that tune. All right. Motion-
- To adjourn.
- Adjourn by Eck.

- Second.
- Second by Campbell. All in favor, please say aye.
- Aye.
- Aye.
- All opposed?