



City of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes
205 S. Lincoln Ave; Council Chambers
Monday, April 21, 2025
6:30 PM

1) Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting of the Operations Committee was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chairperson Bonnett. Present: Ken Anderson, Joseph Bonnett, Jennifer Hiley, Cris Olson, Nancy Wild, Ellwood Lee Flaherty, 6. Absent: Andrew Perkins, 1. Also in attendance were: Todd Janssen (Director of Engineering), Kieran O'Day (City Attorney), Dan Mulhern (Public Works Supervisor), John Neumann (Parks Supervisor), Jeremy Klug (Director of Utilities), Joe Lehner (Water Utility Supervisor), two unidentified members of the public.

a) Approval of the April 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Jennifer Hiley, second by Nancy Wild, to approve. Motion carried by acclamation.

2) Discussion & Possible Action

a) Regarding Election of Vice Chairperson of Operations Committee for 2025-2026

Motion by Cris Olson, second by Ken Anderson, to nominate Jennifer Hiley as the Vice Chairperson of Operations Committee for 2025–2026. Motion carried by acclamation with Hiley abstaining.

b) **RESOLUTION NO. 33-2025** A Resolution for Outdoor Recreation Grant Applications

Motion by Cris Olson, second by Nancy Wild, to approve. Introduced by Janssen, followed by discussion. Motion carried by acclamation.

c) Regarding the Preliminary Design Plans for the 2025 Madison Street Reconstruction Project

Introduced by Janssen followed by discussion. There were no final design changes noted by the Committee. The committee's consensus was to proceed with the project bidding phase.

d) Regarding Lead Water Service Line Replacements

Introduced by Klug and Lehner followed by discussion. Klug noted that there are approximately 1200 Lead Service Lines (LSL) left in the City that will need to be replaced by 2037 per EPA/WDNR mandate – this number equates to roughly 20% of the total city water services, with 900 needing both public and private side replacement, 150 needing private side only replacement, and 150 needing public side only replacement. A few years ago, the City received state grant funding that covered 100% of the cost of lead service line replacements; however, that program no longer exists. There is currently limited state funding available, but it is geared towards Low to Moderate Income (LMI) communities, which limits the chances of Beaver Dam receiving such – last year most of the funding went to the Milwaukee area. An LSL replacement program needs to be in place by 2027 to replace at least 10% of LSLs per year and annually reported on until all LSLs are replaced. Lehner noted that a citywide LSL inventory was completed in 2024, and all properties that have LSLs

have been notified of such. More strict lead testing requirements are imminent from EPA and WDNR – the City has historically passed lead testing requirements but has been close to failing. If the City fails lead testing requirements, a corrosion control study will be required at an estimated cost of \$300k, plus an ongoing cost of 1.5 years of analysis, plus the cost of supplying all houses with filters at \$35 each – the corrosion control study will ultimately determine what chemical needs to be added to the water system to bring lead testing back into compliance. Klug estimates \$7k to replace one lead service line, which includes both the public and private sides (the public side is a little more than 50% of the cost, the private side is a little less than 50% of the cost) – how or does the city assist property owners with the private side of LSL replacement – reminder that current state funding is extremely competitive and is only available for the next 2 years with no guarantees for additional funding beyond that – the city’s current practice is to replace LSL with street projects, but this is not keeping up the pace to replace all LSL by 2037. Klug asked if sanitary lateral replacement should be required at the same time as LSL replacement, which would add roughly \$5k to the replacement cost – doing both at the same time is less expensive than replacing at two separate times. Anderson noted that, historically, property owners have been charged for the cost of lateral replacement as part of street projects, and he feels that the city should pay for the public side and the property owner should pay for the private side to stay consistent with past practice. Janssen clarified that property owners have been assessed for the cost of private side lateral replacements and have the option to pay the assessment over 10 years – will the same assessment option be extended to the remaining 1200 LSLs if not part of the street reconstruction project? Anderson would like to see the 150 public side only LSL replacements prioritized. Klug recommends setting up an LSL replacement program where the City holds the contract to replace both the public and private sides of the LSL. Committee consensus is to proceed with the LSL Replacement Program planning to begin in 2026 – 400 replacements per year is likely the maximum that could be completed. 300 replacements is more realistic, but the sooner the replacements are completed the less lead testing will be required – Olson wants to see LSL replacements strategically coordinated with street reconstruction projects, and Bonnett wants to see replacements grouped in a similar area rather than spread out around the City – committee direction is to aim for 250 LSL replacements per year until they are completed. Klug noted that the current ordinance only requires LSL replacement if found to be lead or galvanized iron as part of a street reconstruction project, or if the water service is leaking; therefore, the ordinance needs to be updated to allow the City to require LSL replacement at any time. Similarly, the current ordinance only requires sanitary lateral replacement if it is found to be defective during a street reconstruction project, is a shared lateral that has issues, or is a collapsed/blocked pipe; therefore, the ordinance needs to be updated to allow the City to require sanitary lateral replacement at any time. The committee's consensus is to proceed with ordinance updates as indicated. Klug reiterated the limited amount of competitive funding currently available and the \$1500 fee for MSA to apply for such – the effort to submit the application is minimal. However, administering the grant is complicated. The committee's consensus is to forgo the 2025 LSL funding application due to the high unlikelihood of receiving funding.

e) Regarding Review and Update of the Procurement Policy

Introduced by Bonnett followed by discussion. Anderson requested a redlined version of the policy be provided to the committee for review.

Motion to table by Flaherty, second by Olson, all aye

f) Discussion Only Regarding Possible Items for Future Agendas

Bonnett noted a possible future Operations Committee taking place at the Wastewater Treatment Facility and/or Water Treatment Facility.

3) Adjourn

Motion by Cris Olson, second by Nancy Wild, to adjourn. Motion carried by acclamation. Chairperson Bonnett adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicky Orth
Deputy City Clerk