

**MINUTES**  
**City of New Berlin**  
**Special Utility Committee Meeting**  
**September 24, 2003**

***Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Utility Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting.***

Members Present: Aldermen Gallagher, Harenda and Ament, Commissioner Bob Dude (Citizen Member) and Ray Grzys (Director of Utilities and Streets)

Others Present: Rick Johnson (Utility Supervisor)

Alderman Gallagher declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

**ITEM 17-03                      Water and Wastewater 2004 Budgets**

Director Grzys discussed each section of the budget with the Committee. He stated that projected revenues decreased, and thought that was due to several factors including the water conservation program during the summer, and the depressed economy. Director Grzys thanked Commissioner Dude for meeting with him and Ralph Chipman from Finance last week. Commissioner Dude noted the increases in health insurance over the past 3 years, as well as workman's comp, however much of this is regulated by the state.

Lengthy discussion on the Capital Improvement Projects and Director Grzys stated that some of the projects were funded by RCA fees, which cannot be used for new development. Once these are used, they will no longer be collected. Many of the CIP items have been already approved with the Milwaukee Water project and the radium compliance updates. Commissioner Dude was questioned why the contingencies were so high and would like to know how the percentages are determined, and wanted a breakdown percentage of the contingencies and how they relate to construction.

CIP for the shop addition was discussion and some of the committee members did not feel that the additional space to store vehicles was necessary. Rick Johnson stated that some of the vehicles are stored outside, resulting in quicker aging of the equipment, difficulties starting engines in the winter, and labor spent to remove snow. In addition, there is a lot of time spent moving vehicles to access other equipment in the garage. Mr. Johnson said that some of the vehicles stored outside such as the Jetter contain water, which can freeze in the winter.

CIP for the Water Main replacement at Forest View was discussed. Director Grzys stated that 12 of 14 water main breaks over the last 1 ½ yrs were in this area. These valves were installed prior to 1965. The Milwaukee Water project may cause additional pressure, and the concern was that continued repair, overtime labor, and the inconvenience for citizens being without water, justified the expenditure.

Motion by Alderman Ament to approve the Water Utility Budget. This motion was not seconded. Alderman Gallagher said he wanted the shop addition eliminated from the budget.

Motion by Commissioner Dude to amend the budget by removing CIP #8 for the shop addition. Second by Alderman Gallagher. Upon voting, the motion passed 4 to 1 with Alderman Ament opposed.

Motion by Commissioner Dude to approve the amended Water Utility budget. Second by Alderman Harenda. Upon voting, the motion passed 4 to 1 with Alderman Ament opposed.

The Wastewater Budget was not discussed due to the meeting room being scheduled for another meeting at 6 p.m.

**Motion to adjourn at 5:48 pm by Alderman Gallagher. Second by Alderman Harenda and upon voting, motion passed unanimously.**