

City of New Berlin General Financial Policy	TITLE: Financial Reporting Policy
AUTHORIZATION DATE: 10/13/15	LAST UPDATE: 10/13/15
POLICY SOURCE: Finance Committee	SCOPE: City-wide
Reviewed by City Attorney n/a	Board/Commission Approval: Finance Committee: 07/15/15, 12/13/18 Common Council: 10/13/15, 1/8/19

General

The accounting policies of the City of New Berlin, Wisconsin will conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units. The accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles is the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Policy

A. REPORTING ENTITY

The reporting entity for the City consists of the primary government and its component units. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable or other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that their exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading. The primary government is financially accountable if (1) it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and it is able to impose its will on that organization, (2) it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government, (3) the organization is fiscally dependent on and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government. Certain legally separate, tax exempt organizations should also be reported as a component unit if all of the following criteria are met: (1) the economic resources received or held by the separate organization are entirely or almost entirely for the direct benefit of the primary government, its component units, or its constituents; (2) the primary government or its component units, is entitled to, or has the ability to access, a majority of the economic resources received or held by the separate organization; and (3) the economic resources received or held by an individual organization that the primary government, or its component units, is entitled to, or has the ability to otherwise access, are significant to that primary government.

Component units are reported using one of two methods, discrete presentation or blending. Generally, component units should be discretely presented in a separate column in the financial statements. A component unit should be reported as part of the primary government using the blending method if it meets any one of the following criteria: (1) the primary government and the component unit have substantially the same governing body and a financial benefit or burden relationship exists, (2) the primary government and the component unit have substantively the same governing body and management of the primary government has operational responsibility for the component unit, (3) the component unit serves or benefits, exclusively or almost exclusively, the primary government rather than its citizens, or (4) the total debt of the component unit will be paid entirely or almost entirely from resources of the primary government.

B. GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from a legally separate component unit for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. The city does not allocate indirect expenses to functions in the statement of activities. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not included among program revenues are reported as general revenues. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

Financial statements of the city are organized into funds each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts, which constitute its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position/fund balance, revenues, and expenditure/expenses.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide

financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Funds are organized as major funds or non-major funds within the governmental and proprietary statements. An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental and proprietary categories. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the city or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets/deferred outflows of resources, liabilities/deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type, and
- b. The same element of the individual governmental fund or enterprise fund that met the 10 percent test is at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.
- c. In addition, any other governmental or enterprise fund that the city believes is particularly important to financial statement users may be reported as a major fund.

The city reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund – accounts for the city’s primary operating activities. It is used to account for and report all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

General Debt Service Fund – used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for the payment of general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs, other than TID or enterprise debt.

Capital Improvements Capital Projects Fund – used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets for capital improvement projects.

The City reports the following major enterprise funds:

Water Utility – accounts for operations of the water system

Wastewater Utility – accounts for operations of the wastewater system

Water Resource Management Utility – accounts for operations of the stormwater system

The City reports the following non-major governmental funds:

Special Revenue Funds – used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditures for specified purposes (other than debt service or capital projects).

Park & Open Space	Concession Stand	Landscape
Trail Fees	Park & Recreation	Building Maintenance
Impact Fees	Police	Technology Fee
Wastewater RCA Fees	Fire	Room Tax Grant Fund
New Berlin Hills Golf Course	Mayor	Tax Increment District
Fourth of July	Special Assessment	Grant
Library	Equipment Replacement	Garbage/Recycling

Capital Projects Funds – used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlay, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

In addition, the city reports the following fund types:

Internal service funds are used to account and report the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the City, or to other governmental units, on a cost-reimbursement basis.

General Liability Insurance

Agency funds are used to account for and report assets held by the city in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, and/or other governmental units.

Property Tax

Deposit

C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Taxes receivable for the following year are recorded as receivables and deferred inflows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the

provider are met. Special assessments are recorded as revenue when earned. Unbilled receivables are recorded as revenues when services are provided.

As a general rule, the effect of inter-fund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. Exceptions to this general rule are charges between the city's water, wastewater and water resource management utilities and various other functions of the government. Elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when they are both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the city considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured interest on long-term debt, claims, judgments, compensated absences, and pension expenditures, which are recorded as a fund liability when expected to be paid with expendable available financial resources.

Property taxes are recorded in the year levied as receivables and deferred inflows. They are recognized as revenues in the succeeding year when services financed by the levy are being provided.

Intergovernmental aids and grants are recognized as revenues in the period the city is entitled the resources and the amounts are available. Amounts owed to the city which are not available are recorded as receivables and unavailable revenues. Amounts received before eligibility requirements (excluding time requirements) are met are recorded as liabilities. Amounts received in advance of meeting time requirements are recorded as deferred inflows.

Special assessments are recorded as revenues when they become measurable and available as current assets. Annual installments due in future years are reflected as receivables and unavailable revenues.

Revenues susceptible to accrual include property taxes, miscellaneous taxes, public charges for services, special assessments and interest. Other general revenues such as fines and forfeitures, inspection fees, recreation fees, and miscellaneous revenues are recognized when received in cash or when measurable and available under the criteria described above.

Proprietary and fiduciary fund financial statements (other than agency funds) are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as described previously in this note. Agency funds follow the accrual basis of accounting, and do not have a measurement focus.

The proprietary funds distinguish *operating* revenues and expenses from *non-operating* items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Water, Wastewater, and Water

Resource Management Utilities are charges to customers for sales and services. The rates used in the Water Utility were approved by the Public Service Commission. Wastewater and Water Resource Management service charges are billed at rates established by the city's common council. Special assessments are recorded as receivables and contribution revenue when levied. Operating expenses for proprietary funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

All Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

D. ASSETS, DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES, LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY

1. Deposits and Investments

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the city considers all highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less when acquired to be cash equivalents.

2. Receivables

Property taxes are levied in December on the assessed value as of the prior January 1. In addition to property taxes for the city, taxes are collected for and remitted to the state and county governments as well as the local school district and technical college district. Taxes for all state and local governmental units billed in the current year for the succeeding year are reflected as receivables and due to other taxing units in the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities- agency fund.

Property tax calendar

Lien date and levy date	December
Tax bills mailed	December
Payment in full, or	January 31
First installment due	January 31
Second installment due	March 31
Third installment due	May 31
Personal property taxes in full	January 31

Tax sale by County – delinquent real estate taxes-three years after tax roll date

Accounts receivable have been shown net of an allowance for uncollectible accounts. Delinquent real estate taxes as of July 31 are paid in full by the county, which assumes the collection thereof. No provision for uncollectible accounts receivable has been made for the city and the utilities because they have the right by law to place delinquent bills on the tax roll.

During the course of operations, transactions occur between individual funds that may result in amounts owed between funds. Short-term inter-fund loans are reported as "due to and from other funds." Long-term inter-fund loans (noncurrent portion) are reported as "advances from and to other funds." Inter-fund receivables and payables between funds within governmental activities are eliminated in the statement of net position. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances".

In the governmental fund financial statements, advances to other funds are offset equally by a non-spendable fund balance account which indicates that they do not constitute expendable available financial resources and, therefore, are not available for appropriation or by a restricted fund balance account, if the funds will ultimately be restricted when the advance is repaid.

3. Inventories and Prepaid Items

Governmental fund inventory items are charged to expenditure accounts when purchased. Year-end inventory is not significant. Proprietary fund inventories are generally used for construction and/or for operation and maintenance work. They are not for resale. Any materials and supplies on hand at year-end are considered immaterial.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

4. Restricted Assets

Mandatory segregations of assets are presented as restricted assets. Such segregations are required by bond agreements and other external parties. Current liabilities payable from these restricted assets are so classified. The excess of restricted assets over current liabilities payable from restricted assets will be used first for retirement of related long-term debt. The remainder, if generated from earnings, is shown as restricted net position.

5. Capital Assets

Government –Wide Statements

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial cost of more than \$5,000 for general capital assets, \$10,000 for infrastructure assets, \$1,000 for utility system assets, and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical

cost if actual amounts are unavailable. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation.

Additions to and replacements of capital assets of business-type activities are recorded at original cost, which includes material, labor, overhead, and an allowance for the cost of funds used during construction when significant. For tax-exempt debt, the amount of interest capitalized equals the interest expense incurred during construction netted against any interest revenue from temporary investment of borrowed fund proceeds. The cost of renewals and betterments relating to retirement units is added to plant accounts. The cost of property replaced, retired or otherwise disposed of, is deducted from plant accounts and, generally, together with removal costs less salvage, is charged to accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation and amortization of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an allocated expense in the statement of activities, with accumulated depreciation and amortization reflected in the statement of net position. Depreciation and amortization is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. The range of estimated useful lives by type of asset are included in the fixed asset policy.

Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition. Capital assets used in proprietary fund operations are accounted for the same way as in the government-wide statements.

6. Deferred Outflows of Resources

A deferred outflow of resources represents a consumption of net position/fund balance that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that future time.

A deferred charge on refunding arises from advance refunding of debt. The difference between the cost of the securities placed in trust for future payments of the refunded debt and the net carrying value of that debt is deferred and amortized as a component of interest expense over the shorter of the term of the refunding issue or the original term of the refunded debt. The unamortized amount is reported as a deferred outflow of resources in the government-wide and proprietary fund statements.

7. Compensated Absences

Under terms of employment, employees are granted sick leave and vacations in varying amounts. Only benefits considered to be vested are disclosed in these statements.

All vested vacation and sick leave pay is accrued when incurred in the government-wide and proprietary financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements, and are payable with expendable available resources.

The city provides postemployment health insurance benefits for all eligible employees. Eligibility is based on the terms of the Wisconsin Retirement System. The benefits are based on contractual agreements with employee groups, the civil service code, and the employee handbook. Employees may convert 50 percent of accumulated sick leave to pay for health care premiums. The cost of those premiums is recognized as an expenditure, as the premiums are paid. The entire cost is paid by the city. Funding for those costs is provided out of the current operating budget of the city. The contributions are financed on a pay as you go basis.

Payments for vacation and sick leave will be made at rates in effect when the benefits are used. Accumulated vacation and sick leave liabilities at December 31 are determined on the basis of current salary rates and include salary related payments.

8. Long-Term Obligations/Conduit Debt

All long-term obligations to be repaid from governmental and business-type resources are reported as liabilities in the government-wide statements. The long-term obligations consist primarily of notes and bonds payable, and accrued compensated absences.

Long-term obligations for governmental funds are not reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements. The face value of debts (plus any premiums) is reported as other financing sources and payments of principal and interest are reported as expenditures. The accounting in proprietary funds is the same as it is in the government-wide statements.

For the government-wide statements and proprietary fund statements, bond premiums and discounts are amortized over the life of the issue using the effective interest method. The balance at year end is shown as an increase or decrease in the liability section of the statement of net position.

The city has approved the issuance of industrial revenue bonds (IRB) for the benefit of private business enterprises. IRB's are secured by mortgages or revenue agreements on the associated projects, and do not constitute indebtedness of the city. Accordingly, the bonds are not reported as liabilities in the financial statements.

9. Deferred Inflows of Resources

A deferred inflow of resources represents an acquisition of net position/fund balance that applies to a future period and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that future time.

10. Equity Classifications

Government-Wide Statements

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets – Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances (excluding unspent debt proceeds) of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position – Consists of net position with constraints placed on their use either by 1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or, 2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

- c. Unrestricted net position – All other net positions that do not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the city's policy to use restricted resources first, and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Fund Statements

Governmental fund balances displayed as follows:

- a. Non-spendable – Includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because they are not in spendable form or because legal or contractual requirements require them to be maintained intact.
- b. Restricted – Consists of fund balances with constraints placed on their use either by 1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or, 2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Committed – Includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority. Fund balance amounts are committed through a formal action (resolution) of the City. This formal action must occur prior to the end of the reporting period, but the amount of the commitment, which will be subject to the constraints, may be determined in the subsequent period. Any changes to the constraints imposed require the same formal action of the City that originally created the commitment.
- d. Assigned – Includes spendable fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are not considered restricted or committed. Fund balance may be assigned through the following; 1) The City has adopted a financial policy authorizing the Mayor and Director of Finance to assign amounts for a specific purpose. 2) All remaining positive spendable amounts in governmental funds, other than the general fund; are neither restricted nor committed. Assignments may take place after the end of the reporting period.
- e. Unassigned – Includes residual positive fund balance within the general fund which has not been classified within the other above mentioned categories. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceeds amounts restricted, committed or assigned for those purposes.

Propriety fund equity is classified the same as in the government-wide statements.

The City considers restricted amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as in grant agreements requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the city would first use committed, then assigned and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

The City has a formal minimum fund balance policy. That policy is to maintain a working capital reserve to pay for needs caused by unforeseen emergencies. This reserve will be maintained at a minimum of not less than fifteen percent of the subsequent year's general fund budgeted expenditures.

This policy was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee and Common Council and signed by Mayor David Ament on the 15th day of Jan, 2019, as evidenced by his signature hereon. Three signed originals of this policy have been generated. One original is maintained in the City Clerk's office, the second original is maintained in the Finance Department, and the third original is maintained in the Mayor's Office. This policy may only be modified by the Finance Committee with Common Council approval.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Ament", written over a horizontal line.

David A. Ament, Mayor