



**"Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer"**

508 Second Street, P.O. Box 277, Pepin, WI, 54759, Phone 715-442-2461  
Emails: [clerk@pepinwisconsin.org](mailto:clerk@pepinwisconsin.org) and [treasurer@pepinwisconsin.org](mailto:treasurer@pepinwisconsin.org)

## **Utilities Committee Meeting**

Thursday, November 21, 2024, 6:00 PM

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

1. **Call meeting to order** - Mike Michaud called the meeting to order at 6 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – Members present were Mike Michaud, Kelsy Gilmore, Dan Van Allen, absent - Tony Raethke, Mike Schultz.
3. **Review and approve meeting minutes from January 5, 2023 meeting** – After one clerical error was corrected, John Hurtle made a motion to approve the minutes from January 5th, seconded by Kelsey. Motion passes.
4. **Update/discussion of Lead & Copper Rule Service Line Inventory status** – Mike explained that this program will be an ongoing project due to new federal regulations. Because of our late filing submission, we were cited as being in violation. These new regulations require each utility to develop a comprehensive database for every service line on their system. As far as we know we do not have any lead service lines on our system. Going forward we will need to verify this with factual information. We will need to make a filing every year with the DNR to update them on our progress.

Mike stated that he has been able to contact a free consulting service that will offer technical assistance in complying with these requirements. There is a backlog for this service, and it could take a few months to get them engaged. There is a public accessibility requirement as part of this program that requires us to make this information available to everyone. Because our database is a huge spreadsheet, we will need to figure out this piece as well. We have about 420 meters on our system. Mike Schultz is going to be our point person for requests for information.

5. **Discussion/Action on Trane Company Energy & Sustainability proposal** – Mike discussed the efforts we have been making to understand how to save money on energy usage in the Village. The Inflation Reduction Act makes villages like us able to get a 30% grant for projects that reduce energy usage, we could also get an additional 10% grant because of the recent Alma coal plant shutdown. The Trane company has an interest in doing a free analysis of how to save money. The Board has approved moving forward with them on analyzing opportunities here in the village. We will try to have a meeting with them soon. There was discussion of past efforts to gather data on possibilities for energy

savings. Mike informed the committee of recent efforts to gather data for the study. We will discuss the report in this committee when completed.

**6. Update on WWTP Phosphorous control situation** – Mike provided an update on the requirements in our DNR Wastewater operating permit to limit phosphorous in our effluent. We have been treating our effluent with chemicals for phosphorous removal. The state has created a Water Quality Trading Clearing House to allow for plants like ours to contract with a farmer in the Lake Pepin watershed for them to reduce putting phosphorous into the lake in order to satisfy the DNR that we have met our permit requirements. The committee will be updated on our progress toward getting this situation under control.

**7. Set next Meeting Date** – The next meeting will probably need to be set after we receive the energy report from the Trane Company.

**8. Motion to Adjourn** – Dan Van Allen made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Kelsey Gilmore. Motion passes.