

#### OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal Corporation, or Sub-unit thereof.

A Meeting of	Wausau Water Works Commission	will be held in the
Cor	uncil Chambers, 1st Floor City Hall, Wausau, WI 54403	at <b>11:00 a.m.</b> or
Tuesday, Septer	mber 3, 2024.	

Members: Doug Diny (President), Sarah Watson, Jim Force, Joe Gehin, John Robinson

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Approve Minutes of August 6, 2024 Meeting.
- 2. Director's Report on Utility Operations
  - Update on LSL (Lead Service Line) Replacement Program
  - Update on Staffing Additions to Water & Sewer
  - Update on Utility Finances
  - Informational Only- Minutes from Joint Water Commission and Finance Committee Meeting
  - Wastewater continues to Discharge a Quality Effluent
  - Wastewater- Northwestern Lift Station Update
  - New TV Van Update
- 3. Presentation by Donohue on the GAC (Granular Activated Carbon) Treatment Construction Project.
- 4. Update on the 2023 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report and WDNR Responses.

Αc	ljo	uri	n.

\*Next meeting scheduled for October 1st 2024 @ 11:00 AM.

Signed by:	/s/ Doug Diny, Mayor
	Presiding Officer or Designee

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THIS NOTICE POSTED AT CITY HALL AND EMAILED TO CITY PAGES AND DAILY HERALD: August 29th 2024 at 11:15 a.m.

This meeting is being held in person. Members of the public who do not wish to appear in person may view the meeting live over the internet, cable TV, Channel 981, and a video is available in its entirety and can be accessed at https://tinyurl.com/wausaucitycouncil. Any person wishing to offer public comment not appearing in person may e-mail gina.vang@ci.wausau.wi.us with "Water Commission Public Comment" in the subject line prior to the meeting start. All public comment, either by email or in person, will be limited to items on the agenda at this time. The messages related to agenda items received prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Chair.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6622 or ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.



#### Minutes of August 6, 2024

A meeting of the Wausau Water Works Commission was called to order at 11:01 a.m. in City Hall on Tuesday, August 6, 2024. In compliance with Wisconsin Statutes, this meeting was posted and receipted for by the Wausau Daily Herald on August 2, 2024.

Members Present: President Diny, Commissioners Robinson, Watson, 11:03am Gehin Via WebEx: Force Others Present: Scott Boers, Eric Lindman, Ben Brooks, Tegan Troutner, MaryAnne Groat

#### 1) Approve Minutes of June 25, 2024 Meetings.

Watson motioned to approve minutes. Seconded by Robinson. Motion Carried 4-0.

#### 2) Director's Report on Utility Operations.

Robinson questioned schedule for meter depreciation replacement every 10 years but why its depreciated for Sewer Utility over a 20-year period if it's got a 10-year life?

Lindman replied the new meters have a 20-year life, until we get them all replaced, we are working with two different replacement timeframes. He highlighted 2 meetings coming up-Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm to discuss the Lead Service Line Replacement Ordinance where no decision would be made, it would be discussion and informational session only and Horsely Witten would be there to provide a presentation to the Committee of the Whole and answer questions. The next item would be a joint Water Commission and Finance scheduled for August 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm that included a presentation by Ehlers to discuss Utility Finances and Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT). The other items are operational, staffing updates and utility finances if anyone had any questions.

Director's Report Placed on File.

### 3) CIP's (Community Infrastructure Partners) Construction Update for 2024 LSL and 2025 Schedule.

Lindman updated that Eric Jones from CIP was going to try to make this meeting but Lindman would provide an update to best he could. We had about 150 service lines in the 5 Star contract and added another 57 lines. Last week, there were about 60 something services replaced. On average about 5 a day looking to increase 8-10 a day, there's another crew coming on. We continue with inventory in the census tracks we are working in, so not only the right of entries for our proposed 550 but also for next year replacements and lead line verifications. Our Department of Natural Resources (DNR) inventory list is due this fall, GIS is working on this as we move forward with our services . We are putting a dashboard together through GIS that would be live for the public with a basic GIS interactive map where someone could punch in their address and be able to determine what the material is for their water service line material. The map would indicate whether lead, not lead or unknown. If it's unknown, it gives you access to schedule someone to come out and verify or you could self-identify by taking pictures and uploading them to the website. More information could be found under lead information or equiflow tab under waterworks on our city website.

Gehin questioned if the lead ratio were coming in higher or less than expected for the lead

service line inventory? Lindman replied they were coming in less than what was anticipated.

Force questioned what the estimated cost was per lead service line replacement?

Lindman replied we had bids through 2026 for full lead service line from the main to the home of \$6,000 and just private side would be \$4,800 so we got good bids.

Diny questioned with bringing in another crew, how late into the season we would work knowing weather plays a big part.

Lindman replied we'd like to see it completed end of October weatherwise but we have worked into November with excavation work, it's the restoration that becomes a problem but goal is to be done by end of October.

Robinson questioned 2025 proposal, schedule, when we need to act and if we had any funds we could carry over from this year towards next year's projects.

Lindman replied we made an application to the DNR and are expecting their funding list to be out in September, as of right now, they are just gathering inventory for 2025, identifying lead service lines but the census tracks are similar to what we had this year. DNR has not awarded any 2024 lead service line funding statewide yet so everybody is getting frustrated because every municipality are beginning to incur costs and some even delayed construction. Those frustrations were already expressed to the DNR but normally for the safe drinking water act, they would require closing deadlines but are already telling us they would be giving extensions because of the process. We might see the funding list for next year before we close on loans for this year. Hopefully, next year goes smoother but there's some frustration there on the DNR side.

No Action Needed.

### 4) Discussion and Possible Action on Water Tower Lease Agreement with Sprint Spectrum, L.P. (T-Mobile).

Boers began that T-Mobile is buying out Sprint and taking over Sprint's equipment on our tower on the West side of town, this is their keep agreement that I worked with Jacobson and T-Mobile on this for the last year and a half. Jacobson is good with the legal aspects of this and I'm good with the operational aspects so we both suggest moving forward with this.

Lindman reiterated that our elevated tower's space is leased to mobile companies that we get annual revenue for. The challenge is that the more equipment they put up there it has a potential to compromise the structure of those towers so we have to make sure if or when they want to add/replace things, an analysis is required. As Boers mentioned these discussions take a long time so it's good to have one complete and in place. AT&T was done in 2020 so they're going to be doing their second rendition or update soon.

Gehin stated the equipment if T-Mobile was replacing Sprint it should be ok with what is already there because in the past they already beefed it up but the structure should be good with wind shear and everything else.

Boers replied T-Mobile will be expanding their equipment so some will be larger replacements so wind shear will be greater but AT&T will be reducing the size of their equipment so even though our tower should be close to maxed out, we shouldn't need any further structural updates.

Gehin questioned total revenue?

Boers replied \$36,000 a year and AT&T is currently at \$38,000 a year but would be moving next year to \$42,000.

Gehin moved to approve the water tower lease agreement with Sprint Spectrum, LP (T-Mobile). Seconded by Watson.

Motion Carried 5-0.

#### 5) Discussion on Possible Improvements to the Consumer Confidence Report for Improved

#### **Communication with our Customers.**

Force began he brought this item up because there were differences between online and newsletter version and felt there's an opportunity for us to have an explanation of what we're doing with our drinking water systems rather than just showing numbers. For example, in Madison's report, there's half a page ahead of the template that goes into a straightforward discussion of the water system, where it comes from, how it's treated, how it's distributed. We are trying to build confidence in our consumers that our water is of good quality. He spoke with neighbors and felt that summarizing it in non-technical language would be more useful to the average citizen. Maybe work with the water department and develop some kind of narrative introduction into this report to talk about what we are doing, how water is treated, rather than just several tables containing numbers. I would recommend having a task force come up with some recommendations we could look at to help people understand what's going on with the advances we've made with the new treatment plant, heightened removals of iron and pfas, we have a lot to talk about with staff and see if we could come up with a slightly different approach. He added he wanted a link on the newsletter for the online CCR from DNR's website.

Diny replied we could do something like that internally. Gehin stated this template needs to remain as is and it cannot be altered because it's straight from the DNR.

Robinson questioned if all the parameters were covered as its usefulness is very limited when you look at 2018 and 2020 lead copper UCMR (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) and dealing with 5-year-old cases. Advised Force that Madison has individualized wells so their report would look different but our water goes through one centralized treatment facility but it would be good if staff could look at this in narrative. Many of the contaminants are expressed in scientific terms and the public has no idea what HAA5 parts per billion or HAA6Br are. Maybe we could share that with the State to look at updating the confidence report data.

Watson questioned if the numbers had to look like this or if there were a more efficient way to display the info graphic and if we could add a summary page that's easier to digest.

Boers replied as much as he'd like to take credit for putting it together, this was generated right through the DNR, we add the information and they run it out but the discrepancies between the one in the newsletter that is shorter to the one online is that we try to add some description on the online version since we don't get pinched for space as in the newsletter.

Gehin questioned that TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) seemed higher than previously. Are we around less than 10 parts per billion and still using chloramines for disinfection? We are well under the standard MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) so that's good.

Boers replied we are still using chloramines, these would've been at the old plant, I'd have to look back and see where we're at with the current levels.

Watson questioned where the 2023 CCR Report was located, only saw 2022. Lindman replied we will check that and make sure it's updated.

Diny replied its all about communicating so we'll have to find a way to improve that and we will be in touch.

No Action Needed.

#### 6) Adjourn.

Diny stated next meeting is scheduled September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11am. Watson motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Gehin.

Link to view meeting in its entirety: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/wausaucitycouncil">https://tinyurl.com/wausaucitycouncil</a>

Gina Vang, Recording Secretary

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#### **MEMORANDUM**

<u>TO</u>: President Diny

Commissioner Watson Commissioner Force Commissioner Gehin Commissioner Robinson

FROM: Eric Lindman, P.E.

Director of Public Works & Utilities

SUBJECT: Director's Report – September 2024

#### Update on LSL Replacement Program:

- City Council held a Committee of the Whole to discuss the LSL Replacement Ordinance. Horsley Witten (hired by EPA LSL Accelerator Program) provided a power point presentation to the council to help provide information on lead in drinking water, regulatory requirements and how an LSL ordinance fits in with new and proposed rules.
- Construction continues to progress and the city has approved the first construction payment. Our latest call with the DNR seem to address our last remaining issues and questions and it is proposed to work towards an October loan closing with the DNR. This is about 5-months later than we anticipated and has been a struggle to keep this moving forward. The hold up has been on the DNR end with the funding and their "system" set up for managing the funds and projects.
- Wausau Water Works and Community Infrastructure Partners submitted the 2025 funding request, the request was for approximately \$9million principal forgiveness and \$5million loan. Recent conversations with the DNR indicated that the private side replacements are likely to receive 100% principal forgiveness. The loan portion of the funding will be to replace the public side lead. The official funding list is proposed to be issued by the DNR in September.
- The City continues to complete inventory verification in areas we are currently working and areas we are proposing to work in 2025. We continue to update our website and adding water service line identification map for the public and will be including upcoming schedules on the website as well. New press releases will be sent out in September with assistance from Community Infrastructure Partners. There is going to be a larger public outreach moving into the fall in order to help with getting our project started earlier in 2025, we are hoping to begin construction in April 2025 as it is proposed to replace 1,800 LSL's, both private and public sides.

Update on Staffing Additions to Water & Sewer:

• City Council will consider for approval the increase in staffing to the water and sewer utility on September 10.

#### Update on Utility Finances:

- It is proposed to have Ehler's come back to the Finance Committee for another discussion on the PILOT payment and how it relates and may affect the general budget. This will be the second presentation with the possibility of a third presentation this fall prior to the 2025 budget approval proposed to be passed in November.
- WorkDay is finally functioning and staff is working to establish our 2025 budget. The utility capital budget was already proposed and on file, this is the operating budget which will be uploaded and reviewed by staff in September and Finance will begin their review and budget sessions in October.

Information Only- Minutes from Joint WWW Commission and Finance Committee Meeting- See Attached.

#### WASTEWATER DIVISION

- 1. The Wastewater Treatment Plant continues to discharge a quality effluent.
- Northwestern Lift Station is currently in service and working well. Emergency generator
  installed and awaiting start-up services. Project completion anticipated soon after
  Emergency Generator start-up has been completed.
- 3. The new TV van was delivered to the Wastewater Treatment Facility on 8/12/24 when two full days of training commenced. The Collections crew has been busy learning this new equipment and has been focusing primarily on the use of the tractor camera first and then learning the operations of the lateral launch. Due to the mechanical issues related to the old TV Van, Enviro-Tech has exercised their right to refuse trade in allowance. The old TV van will be placed on the government auction site instead.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., Council Chambers

Finance Committee Members Present: Michael Martens (C), Gary Gisselman (VC), Becky McElhaney,

Terry Kilian, Vicki Tierney

Wausau Water Works Commission Members Present: Doug Diny (President) Sarah Watson, Jim Force (left at 6:10 p.m.), Joe Gehin

Wausau Water Works Commission Members Excused: John Robinson

Others Present: MaryAnne Groat, Anne Jacobson, Jeremy Kopp, Jared Thompson, Eric Lindman, Scott Boers, Kody Hart

Noting the presence of a quorum Chairperson Martens called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Noting the presence of a quorum President Diny called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### JOINT AGENDA ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION WITH THE WAUSAU WATER WORKS COMMISSION – Presentation by Ehlers regarding the utility financial and Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT).

The President allowed public comment.

1) Orlando Alfonso, 1015 Brown Street – spoke in opposition of the PILOT program.

Brian Roemer, Senior Municipal Advisor with Ehlers, presented Water & Sewer Rate Study Phase 1: Long-Range Cash Flow Analysis. The presentation provided education on what factors the Wisconsin Public Service Commission consider when setting water rates including operating and maintenance expenses and taxes, depreciation, and rate of return. The window of opportunity to adjust rates for a simplified and conventional rate case study were outlined. Historical data on rate performance, financial indicators, and capital improvement projects for the utility was presented. The PILOT was explained in addition to how it applies to the utility. Projections on reducing the PILOT and the impact on water and sewer rates were outlined.

Force questioned what the percentage numbers represented on the projected PSC math with reducing the PILOT. It was stated those numbers represents an estimated rate if a rate case study was conducted given all things equal. Force stated that with no reduction in PILOT, a rate case study would increase rates in 2025.

Diny questioned the rate of return adjustment and how that can be known. It was stated that every mid-February the PSC comes out with the annual rate of return which is stated on a public docket and that the PSC would change the rate of return based on the status of the bond market.

Gehin stated for clarification that the water rate case could not be implemented until the new assets were up and running were as on the sewer side the Common Council did a step to prevent major increases in rate changes. It was stated the current PSC staff are more robotic in terms of how rate cases are handled, and it was explained how a step increase could be introduced. Gehin questioned if the new water plant assets were built into the current rate structure. It was stated that the new assets were accounted for as an advance case in 2024 in the current rate structure. Gehin further clarified there was a 17% water loss in which 15% was the standard. It was stated the goal was a water loss rate under 10%.

Diny questioned how the setting of the PILOT would impact rate of return adjustments. It was recommended, in a small way, to consider the impact of reducing the PILOT in terms of the general fund.

Kilian questioned the effect of reducing the PILOT on the general fund. It was stated this was a 2025 budget discussion and it was possible to incorporate that into the budget in regard to revenue verses expenses. It was stated there are a number of unfunded positions in the future that will need to be financed out of the operating budget.

Tierney questioned the impact of reducing the water loss rate. It was stated the impact would be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Tierney questioned if a reduction in water loss rates could recoup the PILOT. It was stated it would depend on the PCS calculation of the water rates.

Roemer continued to present 2024 Water and Sewer Rate Study Phase 1 Sewer Utility. Historical data on rate performance and financial indicators in addition to future projections on finances for the sewer utility was presented. Initial considerations and recommendations were provided.

Force was absent for the rest of the meeting.

Gisselman questioned the timeline for these considerations. It was stated a draft budget would show the impact of a reduction in the PILOT on the general fund and any decision would come in the form of a resolution of the budget.

Motion by Gehin, seconded by Watson, to adjourn the Wausau Water Works Commission. Motion carried.

#### Minutes of the previous meeting (07/23/24).

Motion by Gisselman, seconded by McElhaney, to approve. Motion carried 5-0

### <u>Discussion and possible action approving budget modification for the new mechanical CPR devices for the Wausau Fire Department.</u>

Gisselman questioned the allocation to the Fire Department for the hiring of additional firefighters. It was further questioned if this budget modification was coming from the previously allocated ARPA funding to the Fire Department for the hiring of additional firefighters. It was stated the positions have not been filled yet and the ones that have been filled were from a grant allocation making funds available.

Martens questioned the status of the current devices. It was stated the current devices are three years old.

Tierney questioned what had changed in the last few years warranting the purchase of new equipment. It was stated the new devices are easier to deploy in limited spaces and discriminates less of various body sizes of patients.

Kilian questioned the distinction between the body sizes of patients. It was stated it was how big the band is that goes around the chest which this device can size for itself.

Martens questioned how many times devices are used on an annual basis. It was stated the devices were employed approximately 50 times in the last year.

Motion by McElhaney, seconded by Kilian, to approve the budget modification. Motion carried 5-0.

### <u>Discussion and possible action regarding ARPA funding requests and related budget modification for water meter purchases for Wausau Water Works.</u>

McElhaney questioned how many meters needed to be replaced. It was stated 7,074 meters needed replacement. It was further questioned if residents had pushback against changing meters. McElhaney stated education was needed to ensure residents were getting meters changed for the share of water rates to remain fair among users. McElhaney questioned the undertaking of replacement in terms of timing and staffing. It was stated there would be three full-time positions dedicated to the project to change over 20-24 meters a day.

Tierney questioned if there were repercussions to residents not allowing access to properties to have the meters changed. It was stated the utility could shut off water for the property due to noncompliance and that is highly regulated by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission.

Gisselman questioned if the meter replacements were annually budgeted. It was stated there is an annual allocation but there was no revenue generated to pay for the meter change overs and cash reserves had been depleted due to ongoing utility projects. Gisselman further questioned if all the new meters would be installed in 2025. It was stated this would be a priority as each meter replaced will increase revenue to offset the utility.

Tierney questioned if the funds allocated would replace all meters that need to be changed. It was stated this allocation will be approximately \$400,000 short to replace all meters. Tierney stated concerns of allocating funds in 2025 when the funds will not be spent within the year. It was stated each meter replaced will save more money having a cumulative impact with the goal to fund the total replacement project.

Kilian questioned if moving this forward would use up the remainder of the funds for ARPA which may go to funding the solar array project. It was stated that was correct and other funds could be allocated for either project.

Martens stated this agenda item was more of discussion and requested that this item be ranked and scored for ARPA funding for consideration at the next meeting.

Gisselman questioned if these funds needed for the complete replace meter project should be borrowed as to save the ARPA funding for the solar array.

### <u>Discussion and possible action approving budget modification from fund balance for water meter purchases of \$1,000,000 for Wausau Water Works.</u>

Tierney stated this could be revisited to see what happens with the ARPA allocation to the solar array project and funding for the rest of the complete meter replacement project. It was further stated the committee should try avoiding the need to discuss the funding for this project multiple times.

McElhaney stated support for the budget modification as the funds are available now and before borrowing is considered.

Martens stated support for allocating for a project in one fail swoop and stated support for utilizing fund balance to drive down borrowing costs.

Motion by McElhaney, seconded by Tierney, to approve the budget modification. Motion carried 5-0.

### <u>Discussion and possible action approving Safe Drinking Water Loan Closing for the Eau Claire Blvd reconstruction project.</u>

Motion by McElhaney, seconded by Tierney, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

#### Adiourn

Motion by Kilian, seconded by Gisselman, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

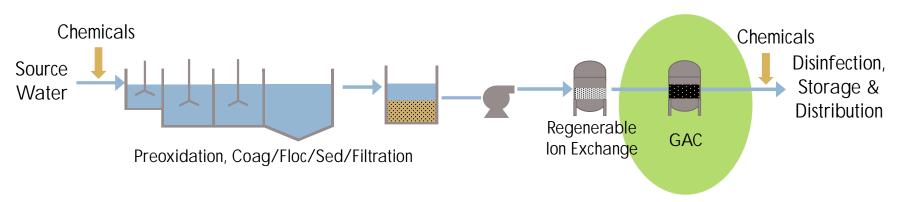
For full meeting video on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7R8O64HKmvM

# Wausau Water Works Commission PFAS Treatment Project Update



September 3, 2024

# PFAS Treatment System: Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)

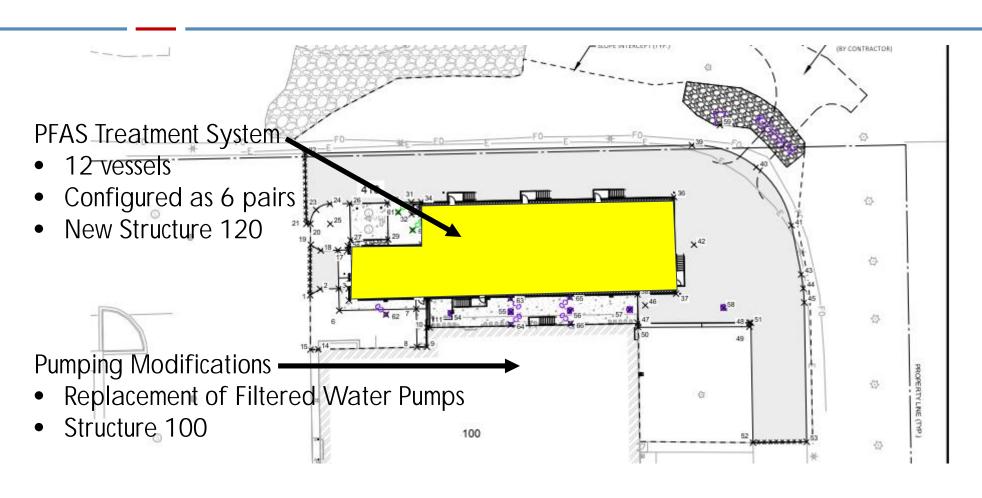


PFAS Treatment Objective: Remove PFAS to Levels Below Current and Anticipated Future Standards

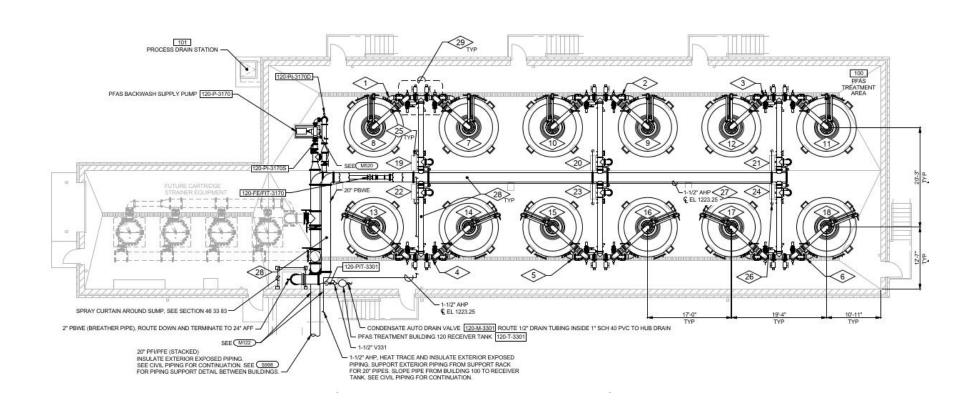
### PFAS Treatment System:

- 12 vessels
- Configured as 6 pairs
- New Structure 120

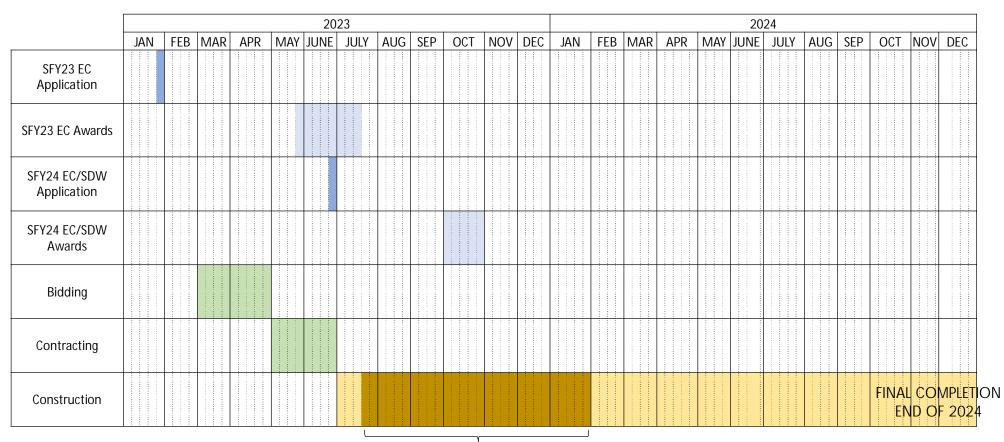
# PFAS Treatment System: Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)



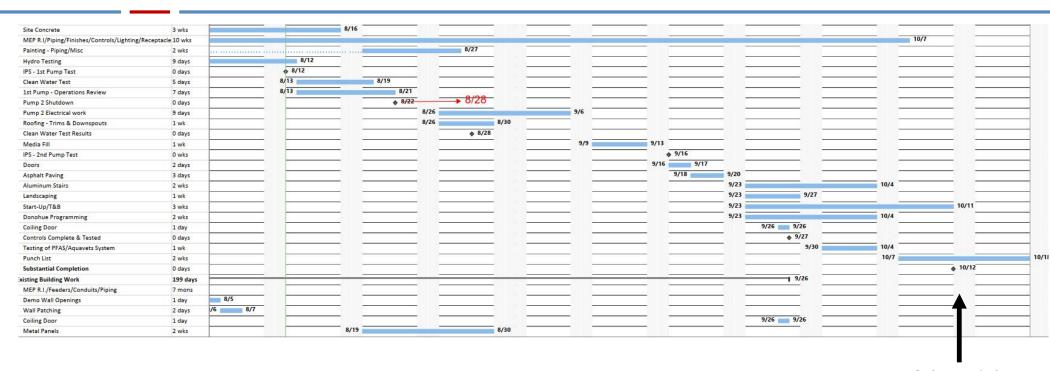
# PFAS Treatment System: Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)



# Project Funding Schedule



## **Construction Schedule**



Substantial Completion October 11











#### **Compliance Maintenance Annual Report**

**Wausau Water Works Ww Treatment Facility** 

Last Updated: Reporting For:

2023 6/17/2024

#### DNR Response to Resolution or Owner's Statement

Name of Governing Body or Owner: City of Wausau Date of Resolution or Action Taken: 2024-06-11 **Resolution Number:** 03-0311 Date of Submittal: 6/17/2024 ACTIONS SET FORTH BY THE GOVERNING BODY OR OWNER RELATING TO SPECIFIC CMAR SECTIONS (Optional for grade A or B. Required for grade C, D, or F): Influent Flow and Loadings: Grade = A **Permittee Response: DNR Response:** Not many WWTPs accept grease trap waste. Please ensure operational procedures are in place to ensure the plant and equipment work properly. Effluent Quality: BOD: Grade = **Permittee Response: DNR Response:** Effluent Quality: TSS: Grade = A **Permittee Response: DNR Response:** Effluent Quality: Phosphorus: Grade = A **Permittee Response: DNR Response:** Biosolids Quality and Management: Grade = A **Permittee Response: DNR Response:** Staffing: Grade = A**Permittee Response: DNR Response:** 

thank you for elaborating on the staffing situation. this appears to be a prolonged issue as this issue was also noted in the 2022 CMAR. Please continue to seek additional help to ensure the plant is properly staffed.

#### **Compliance Maintenance Annual Report**

#### **Wausau Water Works Ww Treatment Facility**

Last Updated: Reporting For: 6/17/2024 **2023** 

Operator Certification: Grade = A

**Permittee Response:** 

**DNR Response:** 

Financial Management: Grade = A

**Permittee Response:** 

**DNR Response:** 

Collection Systems: Grade = A

(Regardless of grade, response required for Collection Systems if SSOs were reported)

**Permittee Response:** 

No SSO's reported for 2023.

**DNR Response:** 

Nice work achieving your CMOM goals despite the staffing shortage. Nice work cleaning 58 percent of the collection system and televising 15 percent.

### ACTIONS SET FORTH BY THE GOVERNING BODY OR OWNER RELATING TO THE OVERALL GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND ANY GENERAL COMMENTS

(Optional for G.P.A. greater than or equal to 3.00, required for G.P.A. less than 3.00)

G.P.A. = 4

**Permittee Response:** 

**DNR G.P.A. Response:** 

#### **DNR CMAR Overall Response:**

Nice work achieving a 4.0 GPA. Thank you for submitting your 2023 CMAR.

**DNR Reviewer:** Lindstrom, Nicholas **Phone:** 

**Address:** 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701-6127 **Date:** 8/22/2024