



11333 N. Cedarburg Road
Mequon, WI 53092
Phone: 262-236-2941
Fax: 262-242-9655

www.ci.mequon.wi.us

Office of the City Administrator

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

5:45 PM

Lower Conference Room

Minutes

1) Call to Order, Roll Call

Present:

Chair Dale Mayr
Alderman Gregg Bach
Alderman Kathleen Schneider

Also Present: Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann, City Attorney Sajdak, Mequon Water Utility Operations Manager Voight, and Executive Assistant Enea

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Meeting Minutes 091223

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Alderman Bach

SECONDED BY: Alderman Mayr

AYES: Mayr, Bach, Schneider

3) Discussion Items

Alderman Mayr moved to suspend the rules and to have the aquifer discussion first. Mequon Water Utility Operations Manager Voight started the discussion with some background information. Since the inception of the Water Utility in 1998, nearly 3,500 homes (70% of properties in Mequon) with pre-existing wells migrated to the water utility for service. That means that 200 million gallons of water are now not being taken from the aquifer and rather from Lake Michigan by using the Water Utility. Alderwoman Schneider inquired how the aquifer repletes itself and the answer was from rain. Alderman Bach inquired about the Concordia area and was told that all the new development on campus is on the Water Utility. The Committee had a brief discussion about the depth and layers of the aquifer and how water comes through the rocks from Canada before being satisfied that the Mequon aquifer is in good shape.

Next, the Committee discussed the Community Survey. Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann provided some background regarding the surveys conducted in 2012 and 2019.

Strategic Research Institute was used and nearly \$40,000 was spent, plus additional expenses to drive a high return. Assistant City Administrator asked the Committee to brainstorm possible topics for him to include in the memo that will be presented to the COTW for the discussion in December. Alderwoman Schneider mentioned pickleball because it only showed moderate interest in the 2019 survey. She is wondering if the sentiment has changed. Alderman Mayr suggested including that into a broader activity question. Alderman Mayr stated that the previous survey took 1 1/2 years to put together, so we need to start working on it now if we are looking at doing it in late 2024/early 2025. Assistant City Administrator Schoenemann thought it may go faster this time since a consultant would be brought in right away. During the last survey process, the consultant was brought in later in the process, resulting in redoing work previously completed. If the consultant is brought in on the front end, it would go smoother. Also, the survey got delayed because of elections and snowbirds. The Committee discussed opening it up to other Committees that may want to ask questions. Alderman Mayr suggested asking if residents prefer higher taxes, more development, or less services. The Committee also discussed if the survey would be digital or paper. Alderman Bach suggested asking COTW if they want to do the survey, when they want to do it, if it should be electronic, and if they have any question suggestions.

5) Adjourn

Alderman Bach moved to adjourn at 6:07 PM and Alderman Mayr seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Enea
Executive Assistant