

**COMMISSION ON PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES
COUNCIL ROOM, CITY HALL
JANUARY 27, 2026
6:45 P.M.**

The Commission on Public Works/Utilities met in regular session, Chair Clough presiding. On roll call: Council Member Petkovsek absent, all other members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared approved.

6:47 P.M. Council Member Petkovsek now present.

Director of Public Works Friemoth reported on no burials at the Cemetery, snow removal-plowing, hauling, clearing sidewalks and sanding, repair and painting of playground equipment, equipment and shop maintenance, patching potholes, removing Christmas decorations, looking into replacing Christmas decorations on the poles and across the streets, Water Department-daily testing and well rounds, utility locates, meter change outs, working on inventory and audit information, the WIS DNR inspection report from January 2, 2026 has no major violations and six deficiencies needing corrective action (1 private well doesn't have a current permit, Cross-Connection Control records not on site, the water meter at Well No. 4 is not functional, the Hospital is due for a cross-connection inspection, the emergency generator at the Water plant is not operational, the low zone (High School) water tower needs to be painted), Sewer Department-daily testing and treatment plant rounds, lift station maintenance and inspections, sewer main and manhole inspections, general plant maintenance and snow removal, influent and effluent meters were calibrated, discussions with MSA staff on phosphorus loading, raw lift pumps and bar screen capacities.

Motion Neville, second Rochester, that Water Bills Nos. 380 (2025) and 1 to 38 in the amount of \$79,506.96 and Sewer Bills Nos. 1 to 21 in the amount of \$320,133.61 be paid. All Aye.

Motion Poeschel, second Rochester, to adjourn. All Aye.

Daniel M. Clough, Chair

Rex R. Roehl, Clerk

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**COMMON COUNCIL
COUNCIL ROOM
JANUARY 27, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

The Common Council met in regular session, Mayor Poeschel presiding. On roll call: all members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared approved.

Council Member Petkovsek reported on the January 13, 2026 meeting of the Personnel Committee regarding: 1) legal advice received from the City Attorney. It can be done either way – it can continue as is with the Police Chief and Fire Chief answering to the Mayor or it can flow through the City Administrator position, either way they will cooperate with the City Administrator position and 2) confirmed that the Police Chief and Fire Chief positions continue to answer to the Mayor and Common Council.

Council Member Neville reported on the January 13, 2026 meeting of the Library Board regarding: 1) Librarians' reports, 2) discussion on and directed the Library Director to contact Westwood Kitchens to use the Carnegie Foundation donation in part to add

cabinets/shelves to the checkout area, 3) an update on waving \$4,391.21 in overdue fines from the last five years, 4) discussion on Policy & Personnel Committee items, 5) discussion on the Director applying for a WVLS Scholarship to attend the Public Library Association (APL) annual conference in Minneapolis, MN, 6) reviewed the bills, 7) updates on donation and carryover funds and 8) upcoming community events.

Council Member Rochester presented the January 21, 2026 meeting of the Heritage Days Committee regarding: 1) financial report, 2) discussion on grant opportunities, 3) discussion on Uncommon Denominator as music for Saturday and lighting – no action taken, 4) approved booking bands for Friday night and 5) discussion on America's 250th Birthday – Library Director Janay Ziebell presented ideas to include tours of the Library, as 2026 is also the 30th anniversary of the Library addition.

Council Member Clough reported on the January 22, 2026 meeting of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners regarding: 1) current activities, 2) discussion on the Cemetery Columbarium project – location within the Cemetery, platting a section, granite companies, drawing site plan options, columbarium sizes, frost walls and footings and 3) authorizing Cemetery Sexton Barth to proceed with the Columbarium project – getting costs for platting and options and prices for site plans and columbariums.

Council Member Clough reported on the January 27, 2026 meeting of the Commission of Public Works/Utilities regarding: 1) current activities and 2) payment of bills.

Mayor Poeschel declared all reports filed as presented with the City Clerk.

City Clerk Roehl reported on receiving a \$250 grant from the Clark County Community Foundation, Inc. for the Beautification Committee – Murals project.

Motion Clough, second Gelhaus, to accept and appropriate \$250 to Account No. 55340 Celebrations – Beautification Committee (Murals project). All Aye.

Mayor Poeschel presented a request from Karcyn Schmitz, Senior Class 2026 President, to have banners put up on the main street light poles for the Neillsville High School graduating Seniors. The banners would include their name, picture and year.

Director of Public Works Friemoth stated there are 54 Seniors, the banners would be two-sided, 27 poles would be needed. The banners would be put up the last part of April and taken down the week before Memorial Day to allow for installation of the Military banners. The Seniors would provide the banners and the City crew would put them up and take them down – estimated cost about \$1,300 for the City crew's labor.

Motion Neville, second Petkovsek, to allow the Neillsville Senior Class to have banners put up on the City poles, with the City providing the labor. All Aye.

Motion Neville, second Rochester, that City Bills Nos. 62 to 114 in the amount of \$320,133.61 be paid. All Aye.

Motion Rochester, second Gelhaus, to adjourn. All Aye.

Duane G. Poeschel, Mayor

Rex R. Roehl, Clerk

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