

## Additional Action Items

### Finance Committee

Mon, Jun 09, 2025 5:30PM

#### **Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3) 01:25**

We have no public hearings or appearances on the agenda tonight, so we'll move into action items and start with 25-0614, request to apply for 2026 safe drinking water loan and to approve a resolution declaring official intent to reimburse expedit—expenditures for loan disbursement payments.

#### **Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6) 01:44**

Move to approve.

#### **Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 01:45**

Second.

#### **Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3) 01:46**

All right, we have a motion and a second. Any comments, any questions? Alder Hartzheim.

#### **Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 01:51**

Thank you, Chair. Might I direct to Director Jungwirth? Laura. Do we know—do we have a firm grip on what we still need as far as reimbursements required to help our residents to make these changes?

#### **Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 02:12**

Yes. So, we are—thank you for turning that on, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. So, we are obviously going after whatever we can optimize with funding. There is, as we know, potential for variability with federal funding after, you know, the next couple of years. We are secured—and we apply by census tract. And each census tract is assigned a certain percentage of grant funding that it can be appropriated. This year, we are at 100%, and this is actually for 2025. That is—this is the last year that we have the 100% coverage.

#### **Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 02:47**

Next year, the next census tract we plan on addressing would be a 50% coverage. And we are intending that '27 is also 50%. And then there's a 25%. We are about on a five-year plan, five-year trajectory, for completing so we'll go with the biggest percentages first because of the potential for variability in grants.

#### **Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 03:11**

With that said, we are working behind the scenes on trying to help optimize for residents the amount of funding since so many have gotten 100% coverage that, you know, I can't come forward yet with a definitive proposal, but we're going to try and shoot for like a 75/25 share. But we are looking—right now we're doing the water rate study. So, we need to incorporate that funding there. PSC only allows for 50% coverage, up to 50%, for private laterals. So, we should still be able to cover it with that portion, if approved through P—we have to get PSC approval and approval for the rate study to see if that would work. So, we need—we have to kind of go through a few hurdles to get there, but that's what we're going to shoot for.

#### **Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 04:00**

Once we are at that 25% grant funding or 0%, we're going to have to look at other alternatives if we want to maintain that that contribution as a city. But that's going to be four years out, and I think we need to reassess

that once we get a bit closer to it and see how the environment goes with grant appropriations because things could change.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 04:21**

Is that—is there that large a volume of private lead service lines that we are aware of, or are they just coming in as people become aware that we have the funding to assist them?

**Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works) 04:33**

Yep. So, these are all pre-planned. I believe we were—and its no more lead. It's galvanized that's left and remaining. I want to see between eight and 900 remaining to tackle over the next five years. So, it's been between 150 to 200 or so each year throughout those five years.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 04:53**

Okay. Thank you.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3) 04:56**

All right. Anyone else? Seeing none, we can go ahead and vote all those in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes four to zero.

[Committee [discusses and votes](#) on Hwy KK corridor study and bike and pedestrian study.]

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3) 16:04**

Next up is 25-0618, request to award sole source purchase of Appleton wastewater treatment plant polymer make down system to Polydyne Inc for total cost not to exceed \$89,500.

**Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 16:18**

Move to approve.

**Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 16:19**

Second.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3) 16:20**

All right, we have a motion and a second. I know we have Director Stempa on the call, otherwise, Deputy Director Rice, I know you're in the room here. So—ope, we have a question from Alder Fenton.

**Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 16:31**

Thank you, Chair. This is going to be the dumb question of the day. Can someone explain to me what a polymer make down system is and how it works with the belt?

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 16:44**

In five minutes, and your time begins now.

**Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 16:48**

As—with—to someone without an engineering degree.

**Unknown 16:54**

I'll defer to Ryan on that.

**Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 16:55

I saw his name on the on the memo.

**Deputy Director Ryan Rice (Utilities)** 17:01

District one.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 17:02

District one. All right. Go ahead, please.

**Deputy Director Ryan Rice (Utilities)** 17:07

So, these polymer make down systems, they take a neat chemical polymer that we bring, that we bring in via tanker trucks, into bulk tanks, and these make down systems are designed to take that neat polymer and dilute it to a certain ratio with water, and then send that to another mixing tank where then it's pumped out over to the belt filter presses. So, maintaining accurate dilution rates maintains consistency on the belt filter presses and avoids process interruptions and messes. So, having these two systems be alike and the same vintage, you know, like the memo basically states that it'll increase our consistency of the product and reliability of the process. So.

**Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 18:01

Thank you. I appreciate. And I'm going to think that maybe some other people didn't know too, and I just took the hit for them.

**Deputy Director Ryan Rice (Utilities)** 18:08

That's okay.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 18:09

Thank you for that.

**Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 18:10

We appreciate that. Thank you, chair. I—as you know, I always have a sole source problem, but in this particular instance, it is very well justified, and I feel as if it is not really even a sole source, because in item number two, there is a note that a quote was sought from another manufacturer, totaling a much larger number than what we're looking at for this quote sole source. So, I appreciate the data that was provided to us by Director Stempa and Deputy Director Rice. And here I am in favor of a quote sole source.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 18:47

All right.

**Director Chris Stempa (Utilities)** 18:48

And if I may.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 18:50

Yes.

**Director Chris Stempa (Utilities)** 18:51

Remotely from Denver at a water conference. I hope we win the best tasting water award. That, these—this polymer we get, and those in those makeup—make down units, for one load of polymer, it's about, I think, \$50,000. So, we want to make the best use as possible with that chemical. And that's, like Ryan referred to it, it's

Mon, Jun 09, 2025

to optimize it, make sure we're taking good care of what we're paying a lot of money for. The other thing is that quote, Polydine manufactures polymer, another chemical product. They're not—they're not in the business of manufacturing, necessarily, equipment, but they know the customer needs it. And had we ran this through a different channel, that quote originally was about 130 some thousand, and so recognizing that relationship that we have with them, and that they're a chemical manufacturer and provider, we're sole sourcing and pulling it out of the phase two project, which it would have been a change order, and there's a process by which has to occur with that, and that means more time and energy and administration on their end. So, this is a streamlined process. It's saving everybody time and money. Just—I just wanted to add that.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 20:06

Sounds great. Thank you. Anyone else? All right, seeing none, we'll go ahead and vote. All those in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes five to zero.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 20:20

Next is 25-0657, request to approve a resolution authorizing the mayor and city clerk to execute the principal forgiven financial assistance agreement that contains the terms and conditions of the Safe Drinking Water loan program, an award of \$510,523 for the project.

**Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 20:39

Move for approval.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 20:40

All right we have a motion and a second. Any comments, any questions on this?

**Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works)** 20:45

If I may?

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 20:45

Oh, sure, go ahead.

**Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works)** 20:47

Just speaking to this item and the next item, they're both related to the same topic, and this is really the formal paperwork that we need to tie up and get principal forgiveness for the lead service program. So that's what this is in relation to. This is the 2025 program, and we have to front that money, and we get reimbursed if we check all of our boxes and do the appropriate work we need to. So, the resolution is associated to that, as is the budget amendment to be able to allocate the funds appropriately.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 21:25

All right, sounds good. Thank you.

**Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works)** 21:27

Thank you.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 21:28

Anyone else? All right, seeing none, we'll go ahead and vote. All those in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes five to zero.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 21:39

Next is 25-0658, request to approve the following 2025 budget amendment.

**Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 21:44

Move for approval.

**Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 21:45

Second.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 21:46

All right, this is the amendment previously mentioned. So, Alder Fenton.

**Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 21:50

Thank you, Chair. And I—may I direct this to whoever wants to answer it? Is there any concern that this project is supposed to finish in October, and we're down to \$23,000 left in contingency? Is there any concern that we're going to run into more change orders that would—?

**Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 22:09

That's the next one.

**Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 22:10

Oh, am I on the wrong one? I've lost my mind. I'm sorry.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 22:16

Okay.

**Director Laura Jungwirth (Public Works)** 22:16

No contingency worries. We just can't—we can't get reimbursed, and the only thing to add would be that we cannot be reimbursed until the contract is complete, but we're not anticipating changes at this point.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 22:30

All right, well, and we'll memory hole the rest of that? All right. With that, then we'll go ahead and vote on the budget amendment. So, all in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes five to zero.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 22:46

The next item is 25-0644, approved change order number six to Rohde Brothers Incorporated contract as part of the Appleton wastewater treatment plant sludge piping and digester heat exchanger replacement project totaling \$111,247, resulting in a decrease in contingency from \$134,357 to \$23,110.

**Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14)** 23:11

Move to approve.

**Alderson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 23:12

Second.

**Alderson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 23:13

All right, we have motion and a second, and we have the question from the—from before. So, if either Director, Deputy Director wants to indicate or just go ahead and take it.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 23:27

I'm not sure they heard.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 23:28

Or would you like to restate the question just to?

**Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 23:30

I can repeat the question. Thank you, Chair. So, my question or concern was that we've got an estimated project completion date of October on this project, and we've—we're already on our sixth change order, leaving us with just \$23,000 in contingency. Is there a concern that we're going to eat up that contingency before the project's finished?

**Director Chris Stempa (Utilities)** 23:52

I could take that or Ryan can. I got a bunch of people just walking out of the conference room. To answer your question, no. We're pretty confident that this should wrap up—the project's near completion, and really just trying to make the best use with some of the contingency monies that we had that are directly related to things that are within that corridor. And so, I don't anticipate any more change orders, and if there are, they're going to be nominal.

**Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 24:17

Okay, thank you.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 24:19

All right. Anyone else? Seeing none, let's go ahead and vote. All those in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes five to zero.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 24:30

Our last action item of the evening is 25-0677, request to approve amendment to increase ARPA grant administration contract with Booth management consulting LLC by \$70,000 for an amount not to exceed \$220,000.

**Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6)** 24:46

Move to approve.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 24:49

And I will second. So gonna get this item started. Director Ohman, would you want to set the table for us here? Director three? Okay.

**Director Jeri Ohman (Finance)** 24:58

Thank you, Chair. So as the memo states, were asking for an increase in the contract amount for BMC consulting. They're our but consultants, and really what they do is they assist us with training, answering questions, reviewing payment requests, as well as reviewing quarterly reports that are submitted. And that's for contracts both for internal projects that we have, that the city has, as well as the outside agreements that we have with different vendors. Really, what their services do for us is they ensure that we're following all the compliance, that we're meeting all the requirements of the ARPA grants, and assisting us to mitigate that risk of non-compliance down the road when we're audited for these. So.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 25:47

All right. Alder Hartzheim.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 25:50

Thank you, Chair. I'm disappointed, because when we were asked to approve creation of this reserve fund, we were essentially told there really isn't anything else that probably needs wrapping up, but we'll create this fund of \$1.5 million and then we'll be able to use—what?—75/25 or 80/20, whatever it is, to pay down debt. And now we're taking a giant \$70,000 chunk out of that. And I'm very disappointed in that. I understand that it is required, but I certainly would have wanted to know about that when the reserve fund was created.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 26:36

Anyone else? Oh, go ahead, Director Ohman.

**Director Jeri Ohman (Finance)** 26:39

And I do want to apologize for that. When I did the quarterly reporting that was due, it was after that meeting, so I did not see where this contract was at that point in time. We did recently have a couple of larger invoices based on the amount of work that they were doing, both on internal projects and the external projects that took more time, was more labor intensive than what they had anticipated, or what we had anticipated.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 27:06

And you expect that this will be the last of what will be required for Booth?

**Director Jeri Ohman (Finance)** 27:09

Yes.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13)** 27:10

Thank you.

**Aldersperson Brad Firkus (District 3)** 27:13

All right, any other questions? All right, seeing none, we'll go ahead and vote. All those in favor? Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? That passes five to zero.