

Village of Lena
117 E. Main St., Lena, WI 54139
Finance/Personnel & Wage Committee Minutes
July 15, 2025, 9:00 AM

Meeting called to order.

Roll call: Craig Lefebre, Steve Marquardt, Terry Hinds

Also Present: Brian Roemer-Ehlers (via Zoom), Brianna Olsen-Kerber Rose

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by S Marquardt/LeFebre to approve the agenda with changes in sequence as needed. Motion voted and carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by S Marquardt/T Hinds to approve June 10, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion voted and carried.

Monthly Financials: Monthly financial statements and the clerk's monthly cash investments report were informational. The clerk's monthly cash investments report was informational.

Ehlers Discussion: Brian Roemer from Ehlers joined the meeting via zoom regarding the WWTP upgrade project. A discussion was held regarding the communication received from Wi DOA regarding the village's eligibility for a low interest 20 year loan for the wastewater facility upgrade project. Application has been made to DOA for loan approval. To authorize the loan, DOA has certain financial requirements to assure the sewer utility has the financial ability to meet the annual loan repayments. They have a formula that requires the sewer utility to generate Net Revenues annually that are at least 110% of the annual debt service of the (two) sewer loans. Ehlers, the village's financial advisor, the audit firm of KerberRose, along with the DOA have calculated that the current Net Revenues of the sewer as \$110,850. The 110% calculation, as affirmed by the DOA, requires Net Revenues to be \$216,000. This means that the sewer is not generating sufficient revenue to meet the annual debt service payments beginning in 2026/27, by \$105,500. In order to be able to get the DOA loan, the village needs to present to the DOA a plan to increase the user rates to make up the difference. Ehlers is assisting the village with the structure and date of a sewer user rate increase. Projected increase indicates a 14% increase next year and a similar increase the following year.

2024 Audit-Kerber Rose: Brianna Olsen present to give an informational report the 2024 Village Audit. The village is in good financial shape, with agreement for the upcoming sewer rate increase needs.

Small Business Loan Program: Discussion occurred on the Main Street Improvement program. In conjunction with TEDCOR, perhaps a small low interest loan program could be established to assist local businesses in improving the physical needs of their businesses. Further research will be done on this concept.

Transfers: None

Wage/Personnel: Nothing.

Miscellaneous: Nothing

Next Meeting Date and Time: Next meeting August 12 at 9:00am

Adjournment: Motion by S Marquardt/LeFebre to adjourn. Motion voted and carried.

Respectfully submitted, Jodi Marquardt, Clerk