

**WAUKESHA WATER PLAN**

# Purchase details released after approval from Water Commission

## Spells out penalties of early termination, rate increase

By Hannah Weikel  
hweikel@conley.net  
262-513-2651

### SOUND OFF

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Phone: 262-513-2641  
Email: soundoff@conley.net.com

**WAUKESHA** — A 14-page contract between Milwaukee and Waukesha was released Friday outlining the purchase of Great Lakes water that includes termination guidelines, water pressure requirements, rates and water quality. It was passed unanimously Thursday night by the Waukesha Water Commission.

The contract still needs to pass other committees and full Common Councils in Milwaukee and Waukesha during the next several weeks. The contract would lock in the water deal for the next 40 years, with 10-year automatic renewals after that. Waukesha and Milwaukee negotiat-

ed stipulations of the agreement, as well as the \$286.2 million project price tag, for the last several months and Waukesha announced Milwaukee as its future water supplier late last month.

Under the agreement, Milwaukee will design, build, own and operate the water pumping station in South 60th Street between West Howard Avenue and West Cold Spring Road, as well as the transmission main in the same area. It has also reserved the right to use the

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# Water

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pumping station for customers other than Waukesha.

Waukesha has agreed to some maintenance of the master meter structure's appurtenances. Milwaukee and Waukesha will collaborate on the type and size of the master meter, which will meter all water traveling to Waukesha and will be purchased by Waukesha.

All design and construction will be collaborated upon between Milwaukee and Waukesha on an ongoing basis. Both have agreed that they won't tax the other's water utility facilities, even if they are located in the taxing party's jurisdiction.

Milwaukee pledges to provide a minimum water pressure of 128 pounds per square inch and a maximum of 224 pounds per square inch.

## On the Web

■ All documents referenced in this story can be found by visiting [www.gmtoday.com/news/local\\_stories/2017/documents\\_11182017/index.asp](http://www.gmtoday.com/news/local_stories/2017/documents_11182017/index.asp)

Waukesha will monitor all water coming from Milwaukee for contamination and will be notified of any changes in water treatment or additives that would affect the quality of Milwaukee's water, according to the agreement.

Milwaukee water cannot be co-mingled with other water sources without express written permission or in emergency situations. Only if an emergency situation arises can Waukesha get water from another source or use its wells.

Water rates were also set in the agreement at \$1.45 per 1,000 gallons. Any percent rate increase granted to Milwaukee from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin down the road will also apply to water going to Waukesha, but the cities agreed to file

future rate cases that are supported by both entities. Milwaukee cannot impose any other service charge, fee or charge for water service to Waukesha.

If either city wishes to terminate the agreement, it must do so at least 60 months prior to the next renewal date. If Waukesha breaches the agreement by terminating before 40 years are up or with short notice, it must reimburse Milwaukee for capital costs of the pumping station and transmission main. It must also pay Milwaukee the sum of the total revenues from the sale of water to Waukesha customers in the two years with highest total revenues.

The historic intergovernmental agreement will go before Waukesha's Common Council on Dec. 5.