

Craig, Sondra

From: Gallagher, Matthew
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 9:48 AM
To: ZZ Council Members
Cc: ZZ Mayor; Matty, Stephen; Erickson, Tina; Hawkins, Chadwick
Subject: Stormwater Utility letter

Hello, Council Members-

It has come to light that a former employee has written a lengthy letter regarding the proposed Stormwater Utility rates. In attempt to be proactive with you all directly, I am sending this email.

The majority of what is in the letter sent to you by Mr. Lenz is inaccurate. The Utility staff has done extensive work over the last one to two years, with an independent outside consultant and a utility expert lawyer. We have even had continual discussions over the past few years about overall fundings and obligations of all three Utilities, and how they fit into the overall budget and projects of the City of La Crosse, with Finance Director Chad Hawkins.

There will be a thorough presentation by Trilogy Consulting (Christie DeMaster) at the F&P Committee meeting regarding the history, status, and recommendation of the Stormwater Utility. There is an extensive report attached to the Legislation already.

While Mr. Lenz is entitled to his opinion, it is not factual, and I would encourage any of you with any concerns to consult with Tina Erickson, the Utilities Finance and Compliance Manager, with Christine DeMaster of Trilogy, or with our City Attorney, Stephen Matty. You can feel free to contact me at any time as well.

To not violate open meeting law, I would encourage you not to Reply All to this message. A one-on-one follow-up would be appropriate.

Thanks,
~Matt

Matthew A. Gallagher, P.E.

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