

Elsen, Nikki

From: Rindfleisch, Eric <erindfleisch@onalaskawi.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Kabat, Tim
Cc: ZZ Council Members; Lenz, Bernard
Subject: Sanitary Sewer Services Agreement - Council Action
Attachments: Resolution Regarding Regional Sanitary Sewer Services.pdf; Resolution to Enter Regional Services Agreements.pdf

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Mayor Kabat:

Please see the attached texts of resolutions passed by the City of Onalaska Common Council on 1/14/2020; one establishes guidelines for the City of Onalaska to enter into regional service agreements, and the other expands Onalaska's options for the provision of sanitary sewer service to its residents - in the chance of being cut off from the current regional system - to include studying the construction of Onalaska's own treatment plant. The final clause of the second resolution directs staff to continue to work with La Crosse and other municipalities to work towards a reasonable agreement for the provision of sanitary sewer services with La Crosse, and I look forward to further discussions to accomplish this goal.

Sincerely,

Eric Rindfleisch

Eric C. Rindfleisch
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RESOLUTION - 2020

**RESOLUTION REGARDING EXPANSION OF OPTIONS
FOR SANITARY SEWER SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the City of Onalaska has developed standards for entering into municipal services agreements regional services agreements; and

WHEREAS, since 2017, the City of Onalaska and the City of La Crosse have been discussing an extension of the sanitary sewer service agreement that has been in place between the cities for more than 70 years; and

WHEREAS, as a prerequisite to extension of the sanitary sewer service agreement, the City of La Crosse has added the requirement that the City of Onalaska make an annual payment of a regional services fee in order to support services provided by the La Crosse including its library, the La Crosse Center, La Crosse Parking Utilities, Streets, and the La Crosse Park and Rec Department; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Onalaska has determined that the demand for a regional service fee for services that are also provided by the City of Onalaska to its residents fails to meet the City of Onalaska's standards for an intergovernmental agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse has stated that if Onalaska does not enter into a 20-year intergovernmental agreement which includes the payment of a regional services fee through the full use of the rate of return, on or before March 1, 2020, the City of La Crosse will change its facilities plans for the La Crosse Sewer Treatment Plant such that La Crosse will not continue to provide sewer services to Onalaska; and

WHEREAS, as the City Council of the City of Onalaska has recognized that it is paramount to provide sanitary sewerage treatment services as a necessary municipal service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Onalaska that the City of Onalaska shall designate Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to hire a consultant to do a study regarding the building of a sanitary sewer treatment plant for the City of Onalaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Onalaska shall designate Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to pay for a regional services study in La Crosse County commissioned by the City of Onalaska or the Mississippi Valley Planning Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the city staff are directed to continue to work with the City of La Crosse and other local municipalities to work toward a reasonable agreement with the City of La Crosse regarding the future provision of the sanitary sewer services.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2020.

CITY OF ONALASKA

By: _____
Kim Smith, Mayor

By: _____
Caroline Burmaster, Clerk

PASSED:
APPROVED:
PUBLISHED:

RESOLUTION - 2020

RESOLUTION REGARDING CITY OF ONALASKA STANDARD FORM FOR REGIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, the primary function of the City Council of the City of Onalaska is to serve the citizens of Onalaska and to provide high quality municipal services in an efficient and cost-effective manner to such citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Onalaska has determined that in recognition of the growth within La Crosse County, there are some municipal services that can most efficiently and effectively be provided to the citizens of Onalaska by the City of Onalaska entering into cooperative agreements with other municipalities within the County for sanitary sewer; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Onalaska recognizes the formation and operation of La Crosse County Convention and Visitors Bureau (LCCVB) as an example of effective regionalization and intergovernmental cooperation; and

WHEREAS, as the City Council of the City of Onalaska has determined that a successful provision of regional services and intergovernmental agreements is based on three primary factors: 1) equitable funding; 2) shared governance; 3) mutual benefit to all participants; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin and the County of La Crosse have encouraged the City of Onalaska to consider regionalization and entry into intergovernmental agreements for regional services; and

WHEREAS, as the City Council of the City of Onalaska has determined that the City should develop standards for entry into intergovernmental agreements for regional services agreements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Onalaska that the City of Onalaska shall ensure that the following four criteria are properly met when determining whether to enter into any intergovernmental or other agreement regarding regional services: 1) are the rights of the citizens of the City of Onalaska being protected; 2) is the cost of the services being allocated reasonably among the parties; 3) does the City of Onalaska have reasonable governance and/or supervision of the regional service; 4) is the general welfare of the City of Onalaska increased by the City of Onalaska entering into a regional services agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon presentation of any proposed regional services agreement to the City Council of the City of Onalaska or any of its sub-committees that city staff provide a report addressing each of the enumerated items.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2020.

CITY OF ONALASKA

By: _____
Kim Smith, Mayor

By: _____
Caroline Burmaster, Clerk

PASSED:
APPROVED:
PUBLISHED: