City of Milwaukee

City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

ALD. MILELE A. COGGS, CHAIR
Ald. Lamont Westmoreland, Vice-Chair
Ald. Robert J. Bauman, Ald. Larresa Taylor, and Ald. Alex Brower

Staff Assistant, Carmen Roman, 414-286-2231
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Wednesday, July 22, 2026	**9:00 AM**	**City Hall Room 301-B**

Meeting convened at 9:22 am

Present 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, Brower

1. 260438

Substitute resolution approving levying of assessments and construction of assessable public improvement projects at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City cost of these projects approved by this resolution is estimated to be $2,187,100 for a total estimated cost of $2,547,100.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

5th Aidermanic District
W. Kaul Ave. - N. 112th St. to N. 113th St. (ST211260126). InstaH traffic calming speed hump(s).
No public testimony.
Ald. Westmoreland moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

W. Langlade St.-N. 110th St. to N. 112th St. (ST211260121). Install traffic calming speed hump(s).
No public testimony.
Ald. Westmoreland moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

7th Aldermanic District
N. 38th St. - W. Keefe Ave. to W. Capitol Dr. (ST211210166). Concrete pavement reconstruction/asphalt pavement surfacing, replace curb and gutter, sidewalk, and driveway approaches where necessary, sodding (8' width tree border area), grading, and tree removal where necessary.
No public testimony.
Ald. Bauman moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

9th Aldermanic District
W. Green Tree Rd. - N. 51st St. to N. 60th St (ST211260129). install traffic calming speed hump(s).
No public testimony.
Ald. Taylor moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

10th Aldermanic District
N. 49th St. - W. Vine St. to W. Lloyd St. (ST211260134). Install traffic calming speed hump(s).
No public testimony.
Ald. Moore supports the project.
Ald. Brower moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

11th Aldermanic District
S. 37th St.-W. Ruskin St to W. Lakefield Dr. (ST211260127). Install traffic calming speed hump(s).
Resident Joette Rockow provided testimony in favor of speed humps, citing frequent speeding (40-
45 mph in a 25 mph zone) and a past accident involving a child on a bicycle.
Ald. Burgelis was present and support the project.
Ald. Bauman moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

W. Lakefield Dr.-S.36th St toS.38th St. (ST211260128). Install traffic calming speed hump(s).
No public testimony.
Ald. Burgelis was present and supports the project.
Ald. Bauman moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

12th Aldermanic District
S. 11th St. -W. Cleveland Ave. to dead end north of W. Cleveland Ave. (ST211260136). install traffic calming speed hump(s).
No public testimony.
Ald. Brower moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

S. 18th St~W. Lincoln Ave. to W. BecherSt (ST211210226). Concrete pavement reconstruction, narrowing roadway, install permeable pavers in west side parking lane, replace all curb and gutter and driveway approaches, replace sidewalk as necessary, sodding (5' width tree border area), grading, and tree removal where necessary.
No public testimony.
Ald. Bauman moved approval.
The motion was approved without objection.

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

2. 260439

Substitute resolution determining it necessary to make various assessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be $43,513 for a total estimated cost of these projects being $1,223,513.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Resolution be SUBSTITUTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

260439

Substitute resolution determining it necessary to make various assessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be $43,513 for a total estimated cost of these projects being $1,223,513.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. BAUMAN that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

3. 260440

Substitute resolution determining it necessary to make various nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be $272,175 for a total estimated cost of these projects being $1,850,500.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be SUBSTITUTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

260440

Substitute resolution determining it necessary to make various nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City engineering cost estimated to be $272,175 for a total estimated cost of these projects being $1,850,500.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

4. 260441

Substitute resolution approving construction of nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City construction cost estimated to be $5,077,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being $7,007,000.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Resolution be SUBSTITUTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

260441

Substitute resolution approving construction of nonassessable public improvements at various locations and appropriating funds for these purposes with the City construction cost estimated to be $5,077,000 for a total estimated cost of these projects being $7,007,000.

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. BAUMAN that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

5. 260443

Substitute Resolution authorizing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute a project agreement titled “Cost Sharing Memo of Understanding Between the City of Milwaukee and the Brady Street Business Improvement District” for the cost sharing of installing traffic calming on E. Brady St. - N. Farwell Ave. to N. Van Buren St. in the 3rd Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Holly Rutenbeck (DPW)
Appeared Anna Antoine (Executive Director, Brady St.)
Ms. Antoine noted the project has been discussed with residents and businesses for years.
Ald. Brower support the project.

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

6. 260314

Resolution directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute a document titled "7th Revision State/Municipal Agreement for a State-Let Highway Project" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the programming, design, and real estate acquisition of West National Avenue from 39th Street to 1st Street with a total estimated cost decrease for the project of $203,700, with an estimated decrease of Grantor share of $2,678,850, and an estimated increase of City share of $2,475,150.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared David Tapia (Projects Manager, DPW)
Appeared Kevin Muhs (City Engineer, DPW)
Appeared Ald. Zamarripa, she supports the project.

A motion was made by ALD. BAUMAN that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

7. 260418

Resolution directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute a document titled "2nd Revision State/Municipal Agreement for a State-Let STP-Urban Project" with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the programming, design, and construction of West Lisbon Street - North 100th Street to West Burleigh Street.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared David Tapia (Projects Manager, DPW)

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

8. 251255

Substitute resolution denying the honorary street name F. M. Eason to North Palmer Street from West Townsend Street to West Concordia Avenue in the 6th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Ald. Coggs will like to communicate with the applicant first. The nomination is in her district.

A motion was made by ALD. TAYLOR that this Resolution be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

9. 260170

Substitute resolution to vacate the eastern portion of 12th Lane between West Cherry Street and the northern alley, in the 15th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Tayler Jones (DCD)

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

10. 250157

Substitute resolution to vacate the east-west alley, north of West Cherry Street, between North 12th Street and North 12th Lane, in the 15th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Tayler Jones (DCD)

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

11. 260303

Substitute resolution authorizing fee title and temporary limited easements with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the properties at 2237 North 7th Street and 3463 North 8th Street, to assist in the improvements for the Interstate Highway-43 Project, in the 6th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Held-no one was present for the file.

A motion was made by ALD. BAUMAN that this Resolution be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

Appeared Rosita Ross (DCD, Real Estate Development Specialist)

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be

RECONSIDERED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

Appeared Rosita Ross (DCD, Real Estate Development Specialist)

A motion was made by ALD. TAYLOR that this Resolution be SUBSTITUTED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

260303 Substitute resolution authorizing fee title and temporary limited easements with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the properties at 2237 North 7th Street and 3463 North 8th Street, to assist in the improvements for the Interstate Highway-43 Project, in the 6th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Rosita Ross (DCD, Real Estate Development Specialist)

A motion was made by ALD. BAUMAN that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

12. 260399 Resolution authorizing execution of the Department of Natural Resources Principal Forgiven Financial Assistance Agreement.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Held; no one showed up for the file.

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

13. 260227 A substitute ordinance relating to native plants.

Sponsors: Ald. Brower

Appeared Erin Stoekl (DPW-Forestry Services Manager)
Ms. Stoekl supported the ordinance but noted the need to distinguish "intentional" native gardens from neglected lawns.
Ald. Brower made a motion to amend to require an annual registry for native plant gardens.
There were no objections.

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Ordinance be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

260227 A substitute ordinance relating to native plants.

Sponsors: Ald. Brower

Appeared Erin Stoekl (DPW-Forestry Services Manager)
There were no objections.

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR PASSAGE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

14. 260403 Resolution approving sites for federally funded electric vehicle charging stations.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Erick Shambarger (ECO, Environmental Sustainability Director)
The committee discussed a $15 million federal grant to build a public electric vehicle (EV) charging network across 26 sites.
Ald. Coggs will like to see the contract.

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

15. 260425 Resolution authorizing an exclusive right to negotiate with U.S. Venture, Inc. for the City-owned parcel at 1776 South Harbor Drive - Parcel F at Port Milwaukee, in the 14th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: Ald. Pratt

Appeared Benjamin Timm (Port Director)
The parcel is about 3.5 acres and is adjacent to US Venture's existing leasehold within the port.
US Venture has been a port tenant for approximately 12 years.
The company requested (and was granted) a two-year exclusive right to negotiate a new lease for Parcel F with the City. This does not constitute a lease, but prevents the city from negotiating with other entities for that parcel during the period.
US Venture will pay the city $5,000 per year for this exclusive negotiation right.
After the negotiation, any new lease agreement would return to both the Board of Harbor Commissioners and the Common Council for final approval before execution.

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

16. 260482

Resolution authorizing the City of Milwaukee's Department of Public Works - Milwaukee Water Works and other City departments to execute a participation agreement between the City of Milwaukee and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to participate in the Panther Edge Internship Program.

Sponsors: Ald. Moore

Ald. Moore is the sponsor and voiced support for the program and highlighted its benefits to city departments.
Jane Islo (Milwaukee Water Works) and Alexander Foundos (City Attorney's Office), along with Kari Smith (Department of City Development), explained that the Panther Edge Internship Program is a rebranded, updated version of a prior internship arrangement known as CLIP (Community Learning Internship Program).
The program provides UWM students with internship opportunities at various city departments.
Milwaukee Water Works emphasized the program's role in creating a pipeline for talent: one recent intern was hired full-time as a water chemist after successfully completing an internship.
To continue the program, the University required the city to sign a new participation agreement covering all departments instead of one off contracts.
The City Attorney's Office and DCD coordinated with UWM to ensure the new contract protected city interests while supporting widespread department access.

A motion was made by ALD. TAYLOR that this Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

17. 260415

Communication from the Department of Public Works-Infrastructure Services Division relating to a Statement of Midyear Review of Financial Condition of the Sewer Maintenance Fund.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Appeared Kurt Sprangers (DPW)
Appeared Jesse Hagen (Comptroller)
They presented a midyear review of the sewer maintenance fund, noting that while current ratios are healthy, accounting changes in 2027 may require a revenue increase to meet DNR loan terms.
Alderman Bauman questioned if the 7 to 11 miles of sewer relay per year was adequate for a 2,500-mile system, expressing concern over recent flooding and backup issues.

A motion was made by ALD. BAUMAN that this Communication be RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

18. 260484

Communication from We Energies and other agencies relating to rate cases current before the State of Wisconsin's Public Service Commission as well as the impact of the recent proliferation of data centers.

Sponsors: Ald. Brower

Representatives from We Energies (Bert Garvin, Michelle Banaszek, and Jennifer Buchanan) presented their 2027-2028 rate review filing and their approach to data centers.
Bert Garvin stated that a new tariff ensures data center customers pay for their own infrastructure costs, protecting non-data center residents from those expenses.
Alderman Alex Brower questioned the utility's profit motives and cited data showing municipal utilities in Wisconsin often have significantly lower rates than We Energies.
Ms. Banaszek highlighted its "Careers in Energy" program, which has seen 40 full-time hires from Milwaukee Public Schools and other local high schools since 2019. They described barriers to entry but explained the program is nationally recognized and includes wraparound support services.
Alderman Bauman challenged We Energies strategy, arguing that the primary directive of a shareholder-owned utility is return on investment rather than public service.
Several follow-up items were assigned to We Energies, including providing more data on program participation, network upgrades, and specific benefits of proposed local renewable energy projects. See full video for more details.

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Communication be RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

19. 260491

Communication from the Department of Public Works relating to developing and presenting uses for urban wood taken in by the Forestry Services.

Sponsors: Ald. Coggs

Appeared Erin Stoekl (DPW-Forestry Services Manager)
Ms. Stoekl discussed developing creative uses for urban wood, such as mulch, firewood, or biomass. DPW plans to issue an RFI for smaller-scale operations to manage the 2,000-plus tons of logs produced annually.

A motion was made by ALD. WESTMORELAND that this Communication be RECOMMENDED FOR PLACING ON FILE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Bauman, Taylor, and Brower

No 0

9:30 AM

20. 252235

Motion relating to the recommendations of the Public Works Committee relating to licenses.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Singh, Nachhetter was present. (he provided his own translator)
Applicant admitted to issuing a flat rate instead of using the meter because the passenger requested to go to two locations.
The committee made clear that even for multi-stop trips, City Ordinance requires the fare be calculated by the meter, and not as a flat fee.
The applicant is a driver with a 23 years of experience.
Motion by Ald. Bauman for denial.
The motion failed 3-2
Motion by Ald Brower for approval with a warning letter.
The committee approved the renewal with a warning letter. 4-1

A motion was made by ALD. BROWER that this Motion be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Coggs, Westmoreland, Taylor, and Brower

No 1 - Bauman

Meeting Adjourned at 11:13 am.
Carmen Roman
Staff Assistant
This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar.