

**CITY OF STORM LAKE
WATER TREATMENT PLANT WATER
RATES AND DESIGN ADVISORY AD HOC
COMMITTEE
CITY HALL 620 ERIE STREET**



**NOVEMBER 10, 2025
5:00 PM**

AGENDA

City of Storm Lake
PO Box 1086
Storm Lake, IA 50588
p (712) 732-8000
f (712) 732-4114

In-person meeting only.

1. Call to Order
2. Review Notes October Meeting
3. Rate Structure and Funding Options
4. Education and Public Information Strategies
5. Committee Member Updates
6. Future Meetings
7. Public Comments
8. Adjourn

Members Present: Bob Blodgett, Mike Wilson, Rob Colerick, Laura Hanks, Brian Lenzmeier, John Khamphavong, Savanna Piercy, Mayor Mike Porsch

Others Present: Keri Navratil, David Derragon, Tyler Gibbons, Scott Olesen, Kolby Struchen, Dana Larsen, Tom Grafft, Josh Pope, Katie Sterk; Tom Cullen, Julie Sievers

Mayor Porsch opened the meeting and the committee members introduced themselves.

Notes from the previous meeting were reviewed by the committee.

Tom Grafft reviewed the current sources of water for the City and discussed the 3 different aquifers. He explained the requirement to have firm capacity which is the ability to meet peak day demand with the largest well out of service. He discussed the current firm capacity and what will be needed for a new treatment plant. The recent new wells have been replacements of failed wells and have therefore not added to overall source water capacity. He explained that 2 additional wells are included in the City's 5- year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The estimated costs of wells in each aquifer were discussed along with the increased cost for raw water main if the new wells are located a distance away from the existing infrastructure. It will be the committee's responsibility to inform the City Council of the need for additional wells to add the capacity needed to serve the new water treatment plant.

The committee discussed water conservation, the challenges with public education, and communicating the magnitude of the problem. It was suggested to look at the arid regions in the west and see if there are tools or messaging that could be used. Concerns were raised about the lack of water for any large commercial/industrial users looking to move to Storm Lake.

The committee discussed the need to increase water rates to pay for the new wells and water treatment plant and how to communicate this to the public. Rates will be the focus of the November committee meeting.

The location of the new plant was discussed. The landowner of the preferred site for the new plant is not interested in selling any of their land to the City for a new water plant. An alternative location was discussed along with the estimated increased costs to move to a northern site.

The committee asked if the current plant could be expanded and if a new plant was needed. There is no land available on the current site for expansion. In addition, the plant needs to continue to produce water during construction and there are no options for that in the current plant as it has been expanded to the maximum capacity. A new plant will be constructed to meet projected 20-year demands but would plan to leave room for future physical expansion of the treatment plant.