

**City of Nashwauk**  
**Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission**  
**December 16, 2025**

Chairman Latvala called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Nashwauk City Hall.

**Members present:** Chairman Milt Latvala, Commissioner Tom Martire, Commissioner Brian Ekholm.

**Members absent:** Commissioner Mark Marinaro, Commissioner Mike Anderson.

**Also present:** Jason Martire, April Kurtock, Joe Peterson.

**Adoption of Agenda**

\*Motion by Commissioner Ekholm, seconded by Commissioner Martire to adopt the agenda of the December 16, 2025, Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

\*Motion by Commissioner Ekholm, seconded by Commissioner Martire to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2025, Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting, with the correction on the description of the Change Order, which relocates the pump to a higher elevation; there are no new valves to be installed.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Approval of Claims**

\*Motion by Commissioner Ekholm, seconded by Commissioner Martire to approve the claims and file the claims register as official record.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

**East Itasca Joint Sewer Project Update**

The East Itasca Joint Sewer Board meeting that was scheduled for earlier that day was cancelled, so there was not an update from the meeting. The Commission discussed the City of Keewatin request to allow Dem-Con to be permitted as an industrial user to discharge industrial waste (leachate) in the Keewatin lift station. In the packet was the permit for an industrial user discharge to the Central Iron Range Sanitary Sewer District, which is where Dem-Con was currently discharging. Jason Martire noted that the flow would not be a problem; however, based on the permit, Dom-Con's discharge required the sewer district to test for things that the Nashwauk facility was not required to test for. Additionally, the waste was being treated for biosolids, which the Nashwauk facility was not licensed for. The Commission determined there was not enough information to consider the request and wanted to know if the Nashwauk permit would need to be modified to accommodate this customer, how the testing would change, and if the system would need to be reconfigured to accommodate them. Jason noted that if it required a change from a Class C license to a Class B, it would be a more complicated and time-consuming facility with significantly more hours for the wastewater operator.

Correspondence from John Jamnick says the Chisholm facility can handle the Dem-Con discharge, but the Nashwauk facility cannot. The Joint Sewer Agreement does not outline what happens when an entity wants to take on a large customer.

\*Motion by Commissioner Ekholm, seconded by Commissioner Martire to table consideration of the City of Keewatin request to allow Dem-Con as an industrial user until there was more information known, noting that if there were facility modifications, additional testing requirements, or other financial impacts to accommodate this customer they should be at the expense of Keewatin.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

### **Joe Peterson Updates**

Joe Peterson provided an update on the Mesabi Metallica project, but sited delays due to electrical supplies needing to be secured. Field testing for relay settings still needs to happen. He shared the various recommendations he provided to Mesabi Metallica and Minnesota Power for upgrades and updates. He noted they're getting a lot done overall for the project.

### **New Business**

#### **Payment of 2025 Claims**

\*Motion by Chairman Latvala, seconded by Councilor Martire to approve payment of routine 2025 claims that are received after the December 16, 2025, Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

#### **Meter Policy**

There was an example meter policy in the packet. Joe Peterson made some recommendations for modifications. Commissioner Ekholm volunteered to work with Joe on drafting a policy for Nashwauk. Ekholm stated he had previously done a lot of work in another city that had adopted an ordinance requiring the meters be on the outside of the building.

#### **Fund Transfers**

\*Motion by Commissioner Martire, seconded by Commissioner Ekholm to transfer \$100,000 from water savings account 0420 to Water Fund 602 to balance the fund.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

\*Motion by Commissioner Martire, seconded by Commissioner Ekholm to approve the transfer of \$99,500 from 601 and \$99,500 from fund 603 to general fund 100 to cover employee wages for utility work completed in 2025.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

The Commission discussed the water sewer district fund, which had a deficit of \$206,000. The deficit was due to planning expenses for the sewer project that were not qualifying expenses for the loan or grants. The Commission discussed the potential of selling Nashwauk's excess capacity to property owners in Greenway and Goodland townships that wanted to connect to the system. It would require cooperation with Lone Pine Township. Commissioner Martire requested more financial information on the potential revenue. The Commission requested the topic be placed on the old business agenda for continued discussion.

### **Adjourn**

\*Motion by Commissioner Ekholm, seconded by Commissioner Martire to adjourn at 2:19 p.m.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

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Secretary