

**NASHWAUK  
PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION  
REGULAR AGENDA**

p: 218-885-1210



*City of*  
**NASHWAUK**  
**FROM TIMBER TO TACONITE**

301 Central Avenue, Nashwauk, Minnesota 55769

**NPUC COMMISSION**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

**E. Milton Latvala**

*Chair*

**Mike Anderson**

*Commissioner*

**Mark Marinaro**

*Commissioner*

**Brian Ekholm**

*Commissioner*

**Tom Martire**

*Commissioner*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Minutes of the January 20, 2026, Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting.

**4. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. East Itasca Joint Sewer Project Update.
  - i. Discussion regarding excess capacity.
- b. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Utility Project Update (2026 Project)
  - i. \$1,061,000 award from EPA. Discussion regarding the remaining funding needed.
- c. Tracking water tower restoration (2028 planning with \$600,000 estimate project costs). Water Tower inspection report received from KLM Engineering.
- d. Updates and recommendations from Joe Peterson.
  - i. Consider approval of the budgetary proposal from Amptek regarding fuses for Mesabi Metallics substations.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Notice that the City adopted an Ordinance regarding establishing a large industrial customer and a 2% franchise fee for such customers.

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b. Discussion regarding water line break within the old high school.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT.** Members of the public are welcome to address the Commission. Please provide your name, a brief description of the subject matter, and keep comments to 5 minutes.

**8. ADJOURN**

**City of Nashwauk  
Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission  
January 20, 2026**

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, Commissioner Mike Anderson.

**Members absent:** Commissioner Mark Marinaro.

**Also present:** John Jamnick, April Kurtock, Joe Peterson.

**Adoption of Agenda**

\*Motion by Commissioner Martire, seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adopt the agenda of the January 20, 2026, Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting, with the addition of the bucket truck inspection and prices, an update on Keewatin's request for Dem-Con to connect to the wastewater facility, and discussion regarding whether a commissioner can attend a meeting remotely.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

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

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**

As follow-up from the previous meeting, the Commission discussed the opportunity that Nashwauk would have regarding selling excess capacity within the existing wastewater permit, as Nashwauk had 135,000 gallons per day built in its permit. The addition of Mesabi Metallics reduced that excess and the Commission also acknowledged that development of the 80-acre Bozich Addition needed to be considered. Engineer Jamnick said that the average household consumes around 250 gallons per day. The Commission discussed how much of the excess they were willing to sell, as they also needed to leave comfortable space for future expansion. Nashwauk and Lone Pine Township needed to discuss a plan to make sure that there was a process for those in Greenway and Goodland Townships to connect properly.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Street Utility Project Update**

Nashwauk received correspondence from Congressman Stauber's office that the House passed legislation that included the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street project with funding of \$1,061,000. However, the Senate needed to pass the bill, and it needed to be sent to the President's desk for signature.

**Joe Peterson Updates**

Joe Peterson provided an overview of items that he has been working on with Mesabi Metallics. The relay testing was currently being performed.

**Draft Meter Policy**

Joe Peterson and Commissioner Ekholm worked on a meter policy and presented a draft for the Commission's consideration. Ekholm said he wanted the Commission to establish the point at which the owner became responsible and he advocated that it be at the top of the weather head. The Commission agreed with that recommendation. After they provided their input, Ekholm said he would continue working with Joe Peterson and bring back a final draft for the Commission's consideration at their March meeting.

**Remote Attendance**

April Kurtock said that per LMC, meetings may be conducted by interactive technology if the following requirements are met: at least one member is physically present at the regular meeting location and notice is provided of that location; all members must be able to hear and see each other and all discussion and testimony presented at any location at which at least one member is present; all members of the public at the regular meeting location must be able to hear and see all discussion, testimony, and votes of all the members; all votes are conducted by roll call so each member's vote can be identified and recorded; the minutes must reflect the names of any members appearing by interactive television technology and state the reason for it.

Commissioner Ekholm requested to be able to connect remotely for the February meeting, as he would be out of the Country.

**Adjourn**

\*Motion by Commissioner Martire, seconded by Chairman Latvala to adjourn at 2:34 p.m.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

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Secretary

## April Kurtock

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**From:** Esau, Allie <Allie.Esau@mail.house.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 25, 2026 2:54 PM  
**To:** Esau, Allie  
**Cc:** Ringstad, Jacob  
**Subject:** RE: Community Project Update

Hello!

I am writing to inform you that the President signed this bill into law on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Environmental Protection Agency will reach out to you directly about next steps. Bear in mind that this outreach will take a few weeks to get started.

Thanks,

**Allie Esau**  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Congressman Pete Stauber (MN-08)  
145 Cannon | 202-225-6211

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**From:** Esau, Allie  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 8, 2026 6:29 PM  
**To:** Esau, Allie <Allie.Esau@mail.house.gov>  
**Cc:** Ringstad, Jacob <Jacob.Ringstad@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** Community Project Update

Hello!

You are receiving this email because the House has passed H.R. 6938 - Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026. This legislation included 11 community projects submitted by Congressman Stauber. The amounts granted by the committee are listed below.

<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$750,000	City of Coleraine for Water and Sewer System Upgrades
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$330,000	City of Cook for Wastewater Treatment System Improvements
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$750,000	City of Keewatin for Water and Sewer Improvement Project
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$1,000,000	City of Kettle River for Water and Wastewater Improvements Project
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$750,000	City of Pine City for Wastewater Treatment System Upgrade
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$750,000	Northern Township for Wastewater Project
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$1,750,000	City of Duluth for Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$2,000,000	City of Ely for Water System Improvements
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$750,000	City of Mountain Iron for Water Main Loop Project
<b>Stauber</b>	INT	\$1,061,000	City of Nashwauk for Water Infrastructure Improvement Project

Stauber | INT | \$1,000,000 | Hibbing Public Utilities Commission for Water Main Replacement and Treatment

We are super grateful that these projects were included! We hope the Senate will pass this bill and send it to the President's desk for signature soon.

If you have any questions in the meantime, do not hesitate to reach out.

Thanks,

**Allie Esau**

Deputy Chief of Staff

Congressman Pete Stauber (MN-08)

145 Cannon | 202-225-6211

**To:** daren.meier@widseth.com; dave.reese@widseth.com; dustin.fanfulik@widseth.com; larry.vanhout@widseth.com; steve.emery@widseth.com; tim.m.houle@widseth.com; tim.ramerth@widseth.com; timothy.reid@widseth.com; jbabcock@wsbeng.com; Jon Maruska; Howes, John; Rachel Schultz; Jade Berube; Scott Kuhlman; Chelsea Alger; Patrick Deering; Trent Bruce; Emily Brinkman; Bryan Petzel; John Jamnick; Mike Karvako; Jonathan Pauna; Jon Herdegen; emeester@neroeng.com; Simon McCormack; Capelle, Ryan; Peters, Erik; Ben Meemken; kris.carlson@ulteig.com; Bryan Kaemingk; Bryan Bye; Joseph Pelawa; Justin Babcock; Justin Messner; Drew Weber; jryther; Ben Rosol; Luke Langner; Jon Maruska; Todd Osweiler; Jarod Griffith; Hinrichs, Kyle; Howes, John; Bankston, Annika (she/her/hers)

**Subject:** Important information regarding LSL replacement projects (2026 IUP)

The 2026 Intended Use Plan (IUP) was finalized by the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (MPFA) on January 9, 2026. A copy of the IUP can be found at [https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2026-drinking-water-intended-use-plan\\_tcm1045-719239.pdf](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2026-drinking-water-intended-use-plan_tcm1045-719239.pdf)

For lead service line (LSL) replacement projects on the IUP, requests exceeded available funds for LSL replacement projects. A funding cap was developed for systems listed on Part B of the IUP. The system cap is based on IUP requests and identified LSLs with these goals:

1. Systems with a small number of LSLs can replace them all within one construction season.
2. Systems with larger numbers of LSLs (more than 40) are provided enough funding in 2026 to stay on track to replace all identified LSLs within 10 years.

The funding cap for the 2026 IUP is shown on Exhibit 2 of the IUP as the "IUP Approved Amount" in the right hand column of the project table.

The IUP Approved Amount was calculated for each system on Part B of the IUP. The IUP Approved Amount is the maximum amount of funding available for each system for 2026 LSL replacement projects and includes all total project costs, including engineering/administration. Systems are encouraged to replace as many LSLs as possible while keeping their project costs below the funding cap.

See important upcoming deadlines for the 2026 IUP:

DATE	ITEM
March 31, 2026	Plans and specs and other documents for certification are due to MDH.
March 31, 2026	Funding application due to MPFA. Contact your loan officer for details.
June 30, 2026	MDH certification of project is due to MPFA.

For more information on plan/spec submittal and MDH certification, see <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lslrfund.html>. Note that MPFA recently updated the required contract bid packets for these projects. The packet (dated January 2026) including BABA requirements should be used for all LSL projects. The updated packet is available at [https://mn.gov/deed/assets/contract-packet-baba\\_tcm1045-609911.pdf](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/contract-packet-baba_tcm1045-609911.pdf)

The MPFA will be posting the funding applications on their SharePoint site. Please reach out to the assigned loan officer for more information. Their contact information can be found at <https://mn.gov/deed/pfa/contact/>.

## 2027 Construction Season

Systems that cannot replace all identified LSLs due to the funding cap are encouraged to apply to the 2027 PPL/IUP for LSL replacements that are expected to proceed during the 2027 construction season.

See important upcoming deadlines for the 2027 PPL/IUP:

DATE	ITEM
March 13, 2026	Applications for 2027 PPL due to MDH
May 2026	MPFA online IUP request form available
June 5, 2026	IUP request due to MPFA for 2027 IUP
June 30, 2026	Updated service line inventory due to MDH for systems applying to 2027 IUP

**Applications for the 2027 Project Priority List (PPL) are due to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) by March 13, 2026. Requests for placement on the 2027 IUP are due to MPFA by June 5, 2026.** MPFA will develop an online IUP request form in May 2026.

Projects applying to the 2027 IUP will be required to submit their updated service line inventory to MDH by June 30, 2026. This updated inventory must reflect all service lines replaced and identified as of April 1, 2026. MDH and MPFA will use the updated inventory information to determine funding caps for the 2027 IUP based on this updated inventory data.

Additional information regarding the lead service line replacement funding program can be found at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/lsrfund.html>

**Corey Mathisen, P.E.**

Lead Service Line Replacement Program Manager | Drinking Water Protection Section

**Minnesota Department of Health**

Office: 651-201-4494



## April Kurtock

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**From:** Joe Peterson <jpeterson@ireacs.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2026 3:39 PM  
**To:** April Kurtock  
**Subject:** Re: 2-17-2026 Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting  
**Attachments:** Amptek - MMCL Substation Material Proposal.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi April,

Here is one other item that could go on the agenda if it needs approval. This is from Amptek for the fuses for MMCL. I originally worked with Wesco and they had a broker that had the fuses, disconnects, and fuse supports available. We tried for quick turnaround on the order and since NPUC isn't in Wesco's system, it would take some time to get established. Lance/Amptek offered to put it on their credit and facilitate the order to avoid delay. We had pricing from BSE for the same fuses and these are ~50% of the cost and much shorter lead time (BSE and other vendors are back 16-17 weeks for manufacturer's production timing, where this source provided about half already and the rest will be coming in estimated 6-7 weeks). Lance included their standard 10% markup due to time involved.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need more details. I can give the full list of part numbers/etc. that are included, but Lance got this out so it could go in the packet if needed.

Thank you.  
Joe

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**From:** April Kurtock <akurtock@NashwaukMN.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2026 2:37 PM  
**To:** Milt <latvoil@uslink.net>; Mark Marinaro <mamautobody44@gmail.com>; Mike Anderson <mikea@midwestmf.com>; bjekholm2@gmail.com <bjekholm2@gmail.com>; tom.martire@yahoo.com <tom.martire@yahoo.com>; Jason Martire <jMartire@NashwaukMN.gov>; Lance Hopke <IHopke@NashwaukMN.gov>; April Kurtock <akurtock@NashwaukMN.gov>; Kristina Tunink <ktunink@NashwaukMN.gov>; jjamnick@jppeng.com <jjamnick@jppeng.com>; jpeterson <jpeterson@ireacs.com>  
**Subject:** 2-17-2026 Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission meeting

Hello,  
Attached is the agenda for the 2-17-2026 NPUC meeting.

### Franchise Fee Ordinance

I'd sent you an email last month with a notification regarding the ordinance the City Council adopted regarding the increase of franchise fees for large industrial service customers, but I put the information in the packet, too.

### School Water Line Break

Jason will provide you with an update regarding the water line break in the school. I'd like the NPUC to determine what, if anything, we'll charge the school for the incident.

Have a nice weekend.



From:  
Amptek, Inc.  
212 E 4<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
Aurora MN 55705

To:  
NPUC

Date 2/13/25

## **Budgetary Proposal**

### **Nashwauk Public Utilities**

We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with the following electrical proposal.

#### **1.0 Basis of Proposal**

This proposal is based on the review with Joe Peterson to identify urgent need items to correct issues in the Calumet and McCarthy Lake substations.

#### **2.0 Scope**

- Utilize Amptek's vendor relations and accounts to facilitate procurement of necessary items in time to coordinate with other substation and plant works to reduce customer impacts. Material totals as follows:
  - 30 Fuses
  - 8 Fused Disconnects
  - 15 Fuse Supports

#### **3.0 Clarifications & Exceptions**

Additional proposal clarifications

- The material will be invoice at Amptek's direct cost plus 10%.
- Copies of all direct vendor invoices with actual cost shown will be included in all pay applications/invoices.
- Any labor associated with substation works performed by Amptek if any will be performed under our existing contract with MMCL.

#### **4.0 Terms**

- Payment Terms: NET 30
- This proposal pricing is valid for 15 days

#### **5.0 Pricing Estimate**

- **Materials: \$73,240.00**

Prepared by:  
Lance Johnson  
[LanceJ@amptekcontractors.com](mailto:LanceJ@amptekcontractors.com)  
(218) 750-0422

CITY OF NASHWAUK, MINNESOTA  
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01

Statement of Intent and Purpose

An ordinance modifying Ordinance No. 219-10, which granted the Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission a franchise to operate and maintain an electric distribution system in the City of Nashwauk, and repealing Ordinance No. 222-11, which revised the initial franchise fee contained in Ordinance No. 219-10.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASHWAUK, MINNESOTA, DOES FIND AND ORDAIN, AND THE TABLE OF SPECIAL ORDINANCES OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES IS HEREBY REVISED TO INCLUDE AS FOLLOWS:

That Section 11.5 of Ordinance No. 219-10 is deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Section 11.5: Franchise Fee

Subject to Section 11.6, the franchise fee shall be one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the NPUC Gross Revenue for all customer classes other than the large industrial customer class.

For large industrial customers, the applicable franchise fee shall be two percent (2%) of the NPUC Gross Revenue associated with any such customer.

That Section 11.6 of Ordinance No. 219-10 is deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

Section 11.6 Separate Ordinance

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the franchise fee may be changed by the City from time to time by separate ordinance; provided, however, such changes shall not occur more often than once in any calendar year. Notice of the proposed change shall be given to the NPUC as provided in Section 4 of Ordinance No. 217-10.

That Ordinance No 222-11 is hereby repealed.

Adopted by the City Council of Nashwauk, Minnesota this 27 day of January 2026.

For adoption: Councilor David Bruns, Councilor Tom Martire, Councilor Sheila Jensen, Councilor Terry Sullivan, Mayor Greg Heyblom.

Against adoption: None.

Absent: None.

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Greg Heyblom  
Mayor

Attest:

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April Kurtock  
Administrator/Clerk

Published in the Scenic Range NewsForum on February 5, 2026.