

Beloit water treatment plant bid at \$32 million

BY SHARON SAHLFELD
Call Editor

During the work session of the Beloit City Council meeting on May 7, 2025, in Beloit, the water treatment plant and pipeline bids were discussed.

The one bid for the project for the water treatment plant was for \$32 million dollars from Walters-Morgan, Manhattan, Kansas.

The PVC pipeline bid was \$3,030,225.00 and the Pipeline HDPE bid was \$3,115,568.90. The PVC pipes vs the HDPE: the PVC comes in sticks and connects together, whereas the HDPE pieces get welded together. Both are good materials that will last a long time – 75-plus years.

“I recommend the PVC lower bid option, for the internal staff to have to work on if needed,” said Stuart Porter. “It will be easier for them to work with if needing to ever repair.”

With the water treatment plant bid of \$32 million, this is not affordable to the city of Beloit, because of making the water rates too high. But instead of waiting, and with all of the work put into the project, it has been recommended to stay on course with the pipeline project. It makes more sense to move forward. The testing has been done with the lake. Paper work has been done. There are also other options to integrate with data on chemicals to be used as well.

If the decision is made to move forward, a booster pump will have to be placed at the lake.

The plan to move forward includes ways to keep trying to find funding, to make the whole water treatment plant project happen. With proceeding with the pipeline, they could start in June and hope to be done by December. A formal recommendation on how to proceed will be discussed at the next meeting.

At the start of Wednesday’s meeting, Mayor Tom Naasz started with reciting a Proclamation of May of 2025 being named for Mental Health Awareness month, which was approved.

– In the staff reports, the garages on 512 E. Court have been demolished by the owner. The 309 N. Washington property has been sold to a contractor who has begun clean up and rehabilitation efforts.

– City Manager, Halley Roberson, reported that the Walnut street project is underway.

The City of Beloit pool is filled and fully staffed, and ready to open on Memorial weekend.

The Waste Water treatment plant assessment is complete and will assist with a decision of blowers and generators. Bids for two new lift stations were opened on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

– Jeremy Nulf, power plant director, and Bart Snyder, water distribution foreman, discussed the process of the new raw water line to the water plant, and being able to save money through using spare parts and doing their own work on pipeline repairs.

“I really have to brag on our crews on this project,” said Roberson. “It has been a huge project, and they have saved the city hundreds of thousands dollars, on doing it in house.”

Everything will now be set up with GIS capabilities, and will be easier to track

existing utilities from this point on. “All of this internal work has saved the city a lot of money,” said Naasz. – Beloit Police Chief, Chad Lackey, reported about being at a conference meeting during the last meeting. “We learned about ghost guns, 3-D printer guns, etc. that we need to know are out there now, and how to deal with,” said Lackey.

The 2024 Explorer vehicle was sold on Purple Wave for \$4,700.

– Solomon Valley Economic Development Director, Emily Benedick, was absent for this and last week’s meeting. Roberson commented that Benedick has been busy working on apartment and housing projects on North Campus.

– During the Public Hearing session, the 706 E. Second unfit structure was discussed, with Lackey talking to the owner about what the possibilities are. They are requesting an extension, to see if some things are viable. “I said I would get back with her,” said Lackey.

The 627 E. Main unfit structure has received a demo application for those plans of demolition.

– Ordinances for 2369 Special Assessments for 305 N. Kansas was approved; Ordinance 2370 Mowing Assessments for 219 S. Hersey was approved; and Ordinance 2371 Special Event for Chautauqua Park, May 24, USD 273, Educational Foundation was approved.

– Resolution 2025-22 Unfit Structure, 601 N. Woodland was approved; Resolution 2025-23 Unfit Structure, 706 E. Second was approved; and Resolution 2025-24 Unfit Structure, 627 E. Main was approved.

– In the Formal Actions, a special event request was made, and approved for a May 24, 11 a.m. event at Chautauqua Park.

A special event to be held at the Municipal building for May 24 was approved.

A special request to close a block for the May 10-11 graduation weekend was approved for E. West Fifth Street, between Mill and Hersey streets. They also asked for the same on the July 4-5 weekend, but it was delayed on answering, as Lackey said he would have to inform others, such as for fire service run risk, etc. This request was tabled for the next meeting.

Andrew Grabon was approved for a two-year renewal for the 12th Judicial Corrections Advisory Board.

– The airport hangar bid was given to Screed Tech for \$1,167,798.48. This includes gas main to run heat and infrastructure for future development; door and concrete work in front of the hangar; heater for the hanger – stays consistent with other hangars.

With a new five percent match, the city is paying \$120,462 all-in instead of \$149,000 when it was a 10 percent match, and hope to be finished by 2026.

“We can maybe do the digging ourselves at no cost,” said Roberson.

The city is told to not sign the contract until the grant money has been issued, in June-July, as said by Chris Korr, of Olson Engineering.

– A five-minute executive session was held and closed and the work session was discussed and ended the meeting.



Sylvan/Lucas Unified participates in Regional and State Music Festivals, Cloud County Junior College and Tabor College.

Sylvan/Lucas Unified participates in Regional and State Music Festivals

CONCORDIA – Students from Sylvan-Lucas Unified High School participated in the Regional and State Music Festivals at Cloud County Junior College and Tabor College on two separate weekends in April and the results are as follows:

Regional Music at Concordia: Girls' Ensemble - I rating; Men's Ensemble - I rating; Mixed Ensemble - I rating; Hannah Pahls, Vocal Solo - I rating; Hannah Pahls, clarinet solo, II rating; Harlan Pancost, Vocal Solo - I rating; Anna Feldkamp, Vocal Solo - I rating; Molly Heller, Vocal Solo - I rating; Macie Ortiz, Vocal Solo - I rating; Aubrelle Hurlbut, Vocal Solo - II rating; Kadence Palmer, Vocal Solo -II rating; Kadence Palmer, Percussion Solo, II rating; Mina Pahls, Flute Solo - II

rating; Abigail Feldkamp, Vocal Solo - I rating; Abigail Feldkamp, Flute Solo - I rating; Lily Pancost, Vocal Solo - II rating; Caleb Dlabal, Vocal Solo - I rating,

State Music at Tabor College: Hannah Pahls, Vocal Solo - I Rating; Harlan Pancost, Vocal Solo - II rating; Anna Feldkamp, Vocal Solo - II rating; Molly Heller, Vocal Solo - I rating; Macie Ortiz, Vocal Solo - I rating; Abigail Feldkamp, Vocal Solo - I rating; Abigail Feldkamp, Flute Solo - II rating; Caleb Dlabal, Vocal Solo - I rating; Mixed Ensemble - I rating; Men's Ensemble - I rating; Girls' Ensemble - II rating.

Congratulations to all of our fine musicians who represented Sylvan-Lucas Unified High School with their wonderful ratings and excellent performances.

Pawnee Mental Health selected as a 2024-25 Salina Area United Way funded partner to support youth services

MANHATTAN – Pawnee Mental Health is honored to announce its selection as a 2024-25 Salina Area United Way (SAUW) funded partner, receiving \$25,000 to support and enhance the services provided through the Youth Community Services (YCS) Program for Cloud, Jewell, Mitchell and Republic counties. This funding will help expand youth access to essential mental health services in these western Kansas communities.

The Youth Community Services (YCS) Program is a comprehensive set of services and treatments designed to support children and teens with serious emotional disturbances (SED) and their families. Young people with SED often experience challenges in managing their emotions, which may lead to self-destructive behaviors or outward aggression. Through individual and family therapy, Pawnee Mental Health helps youth identify underlying emotions, develop coping strategies and build the skills necessary to succeed at home, in school, and in the community.

Pawnee’s YCS Program includes a range of essential services to ensure children and families receive the care and support they need, including:

- Case Management – The case manager helps the family coordinate all aspects of the child’s and adolescent’s care and ensures that services are goal-oriented.
- SED Waiver Services – Some families qualify for an SED Waiver, which covers the cost of many of the YCS programs.
- Parent Peer Support – A caregiver with lived experience provides this service and supports families of children with a mental health diagnosis.
- School-Based Services – Pawnee and school districts work together to provide services to children and adolescents with SED.
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation—Activities are selected to build social skills, teach problem-solving and help the child or adolescent identify their own strengths, interests and abilities. Individuals are taught how to use the skills learned in other settings, such as home, school, and community.
- Respite Care – Respite care gives our clients a pre-planned break, allowing their families to recharge and focus on other family members.
- Crisis Services—If a crisis occurs, Pawnee’s youth support staff may be able to provide services to assist in de-escalat-

ing the crisis and possibly use the crisis house in Concordia based on need, therapeutic approval and accessibility.

"Salina Area United Way is deeply grateful for our partnership with Pawnee Mental Health. Their mission to provide compassionate, person-centered care that fosters healing, empowerment, and resilience aligns perfectly with our commitment to Strengthen Our Community through our three pillars of education, financial stability, and health," said Christina Small, executive director of Salina Area United Way. "We are proud to be able to contribute funding to their Youth Community Services program, which plays a crucial role in the mental health of children and young adults. Together, we are working to create lasting, positive change in the lives of those who need it most."

This partnership supports early intervention, therapeutic services and skill development programs, aligning with Pawnee’s commitment to expanding mental health access, reducing barriers to care, and fostering resilience in young individuals across its service areas.

"We are incredibly excited to receive funding from the Salina Area United Way (SAUW). These funds will significantly support Pawnee’s efforts to provide essential services for the youth we serve," said Shelli Schottler, Community Services director. "Our work centers on helping youth diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbances find success and remain in their home communities. With this funding, we can offer meaningful summer camp experiences, provide essential supplies for curriculum and therapeutic activities, and ensure transportation for youth to access these vital services. We’re deeply grateful to SAUW for their generosity and continued support of our mission."

About Pawnee Mental Health Services Founded in 1956, Pawnee Mental Health is a private, not-for-profit Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) and Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). This designation enhances the organization's ability to serve the community comprehensively, ensuring that individuals receive whole-person care at the right time. Pawnee provides a full range of mental health, substance use recovery and crisis services for residents of 10 north-central Kansas counties, serving over 7,000 adults, adolescents and children annually.

Thank You for Reading The Beloit Call!

• Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Ill E. South Street •

The Beloit Senior Center offers meals (served at 11:30 a.m., Monday-Friday) for the cost of \$3.50 to \$4 through the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging Beloit 785-738-5802 / Glen Elder 785-545-3444

SR CENTER MENUS

Beloit/Glen Elder Senior Center

Week of May 19 to May 23

Monday - Chef Salad w/Turkey, Pickled Beets, Crackers, Peaches

Tuesday- Cheeseburger on Bun, Lettuce,

Tomato, Onion, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Strawberries & Bananas

Wednesday- Chicken Tenders, Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Country Gravy, Fresh Fruit, Mixed Vegetables

Thursday- Smothered Pork Chop, Candied Yams, Broccoli, Pears, Dinner Roll

Friday- Liver and Onions or Hamburger, Baked Potato, Carrots, Peaches

Post Rock Extension Answers

By Sandra L. Wick
Crop Production Agent
Post Rock Extension District #1
K-State Research and Extension



Annual Wheat Tour

Post Rock Extension District host wheat tour with three stops, Thursday, May 22

SANDRA L. WICK, CROP PRODUCTION AGENT

Post Rock Extension District K-State Research and Extension

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the 2025 KSU/Post Rock Extension District Wheat Plot Tours, Thursday, May 22, to view over 25 varieties in each of the wheat plots with three stops.

Our wheat tour starts at 10:30 a.m. in Smith County with the Jewell County tour starting at 1:30 p.m. and ending with the Mitchell County wheat plot at 4:30 p.m. The site for lunch will be at NOON in Athol with sponsor Trinity Ag Cooperative Inc.

The Smith County Wheat Plot, with cooperator Mark Kuhlmann, is located just south of Athol, KS, right south of the Trinity Ag Cooperative Inc.

The Jewell County wheat plot tour will begin at 1:30 p.m. with cooperators Justin Angleton and Jason Ryan and is located 3 miles south on 30th Road, off of Highway 36 and the plot is on the west side.

The day will end with a stop in Mitchell County at the KSU replicated wheat plot at 4:30 p.m. with cooperator Marty Fletchall and is located south of Beloit on Hwy. 14 to Hunter Road (X Road), then 4 miles west to 220 Road, then 1 mile south to Y Road, then east about 1/2 mile, on the

south side.

The tours will feature K-State Research and Extension agronomists Dr. Lucas Haag, Dr. Kelsey Andersen-Onofre and Sandra L. Wick. There will be time for “question and answer” sessions at each of the plots, so bring them with you.

Supper will follow the Mitchell County wheat plot at approximately 5:45 p.m., and will be held at 1/2 mile east and 1 mile north of the wheat plot in the pole barn.

The complimentary supper is provided by local Agri-business sponsors. The tours provide the opportunity to visit one-on-one with KSU agronomists. Producers are invited to make their own observations at any of the stops that fit their schedule. Variety signs will be up in the plots soon, so check them out prior to the plot tour. Producers are encouraged to check out the tours nearest their operation, then bring a neighbor for the presentations along with lunch or dinner at any of the plots. For further information go to the Post Rock Extension District Website, www.postrock.ksu.edu, under “events” or contact Sandra at any of the Post Rock Extension District Offices in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.