

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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July 23, 2010

Dear City of Waukesha Common Council,

A large number of Citizens have raised questions about the Lake Michigan option and remain unconvinced that it is either the best solution for Waukesha or least expensive option.

To move forward, the Citizens deserve a 100% transparent process, including:

1. A current independent scientific and fiscal evaluation of the costs of a Lake Michigan diversion as compared to the costs and feasibility of combining local alternatives, including the benefits of conservation methods not previously considered.

All we know right now is that the Milwaukee option is estimated to cost \$164 million, as the current application specifically assumes connection to Milwaukee. However, this cost doesn't include other long-term economic costs likely imposed by the Public Service Commission and City of Milwaukee.

Without independent assistance and advice, citizens are left with data provided within the framework of Milwaukee water proponents.

This independent study should be paid for through the elimination of unnecessary consulting fees incurred by the Water Utility for lobbying efforts – specifically the \$12,800 per month being paid to Martin Schreiber & Associates.

2. A public presentation and hearing on: the application, the added materials the DNR asked for in their letter dated June 8, 2010, the new independent scientific and fiscal evaluation on all alternatives, and the benefits of additional conservation measures.

This is another example of the transparency and openness that is in the public interest. The Citizens deserve further answers before the City agrees proceed with an application that will lead to the permanent fill in of our deep wells and the largest single expenditure in the history of our City.



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3. A process that is respectful of and works with our neighbors. As appealing as it may be to some, the City's expanded water service territory into the Town of Waukesha, as outlined in the Application, is not in the long-term financial or environmental interests of either the City or our neighbors. The entire community deserves a closer look at innovative alternatives that save money and better conserve water.

The Citizens expect all Waukesha officials, elected or not, to work in a reasonable and transparent manner. The Citizens expect an extremely thorough process since they will be paying the bill.

Only by working together we can arrive at a solution which best allows us to live within our means, protect our environment and pocketbooks, and keep our identity and independence.

Sincerely,

Jeff Scrima, Mayor

cc: Matthew J Frank, Department of Natural Resources
Bruce Baker, Department of Natural Resources
Angie E. Van Scyoc, Town of Waukesha
Joe Banske, Town of Waukesha
Dan Duchniak, Waukesha Water Utility