



Memorandum

DATE: February 17, 2011

TO: Menasha Common Council

FROM: Mark Radtke, Director of Public Works *MR*

RE: City of Menasha 2011 Minimum Wage Rates

The City of Menasha has been establishing local minimum wage rates for over twenty years. These local wage rates were used on City public improvement projects when the project size did not meet the threshold for application of the Wisconsin prevailing wage rates. That threshold amount has been increasing over time in pace with construction prices and reached a threshold level of \$221,000 in 2008.

Recent legislation has reduced the threshold level to \$25,000 meaning any public improvement project exceeding that amount must use State of Wisconsin prevailing wage rates determined for that particular area of the state. Almost every public improvement project the City undertakes exceeds \$25,000 rendering our local minimum wage rates meaningless as the state rates far surpass our local rates.

City Attorney Captain has indicated local municipalities are not required to establish minimum wage rates. Given the recent reduction in the state threshold it is my recommendation the City forgoes the establishment of minimum wage rates at this time.

M:\word\CC memo re 2011 minimum wage rates 2-17-11.docx