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## Council votes to make repairs on wastewater treatment facility

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By Doug Wilson Herald-Whig Senior Writer Aldermen debated some of the repair costs at the city's wastewater treatment facility before eventually voting Monday night to make the repairs. Utilities Director David Kent said additional repairs were discovered after Richards Electric of Quincy started refitting lift pumps. Richards won a \$65,329 contract late last year to refurbish three wastewater treatment pumps. But other items have been found that need replacement. The additions will add \$35,861 to the cost. Kent refuted contentions by former Public Works Director Leon Kowalski, who said the pump motors had been lost due to a lack of personnel at the site. "There are no motors involved. This is repair and maintenance ... due to normal wear and tear," Kent said. Aldermen Paul Havermale, R-3, Roger Schoenekase, D-3 and Mike Farha, R-4, voted against the spending resolution, which passed by an 11-3 vote. The vote was similar on another contract with Brown Electric of Quincy to replace three, 1,600-amp service disconnect switches at the wastewater plant. The work will cost \$28,900. The Council also voted to approve \$121,386 for Environmental Management Corp. to remove about 2.4 million gallons of lime sludge and about 3.4 million gallons of sewage sludge from the wastewater site. Kent said the work will not create an unexpected cost for the city because it was supposed to be done by Nutriject, which has failed to complete terms of its five-year contract for sludge disposal. EMC is the firm that manages the wastewater facility, which still uses city workers. In other action the council donated two high-mileage city buses. One will go to Timber Point Health Care of Camp Point and the other to West Central Illinois Center for Independent Living. Quincy Transit Lines Director John Ohnemus said the



city would not gain by selling the buses because anything paid would have been subtracted from the coming year's federal funds. Contact Senior Writer Doug Wilson at [dwilson@whig.com](mailto:dwilson@whig.com) or (217) 221-3372

