

Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886

## **News Release** Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 3, 2025

Contact: Jill Weiss, Utilities Director

## Local Leaders Talk Public Power in Washington D.C.

Swadley, Hoops advocate for Stoughton residents on job creation, keeping electricity affordable

Mayor Tim Swadley and Assistant Utilities Director Brian Hoops recently traveled to the nation's capital to speak with legislators about their locally owned utility. They advocated on behalf of their community's customers during American Public Power Association's 2025 Legislative Rally.

The annual event took place Feb. 24-26 in Washington D.C.

"Getting the chance to sit down and discuss the cost cutting topics that matter to our residents with law makers is a great opportunity," said Hoops. "Spending time talking over policies that affect local job creation and maintaining affordable and reliable electricity was beneficial for both us and our legislators."

Swadley and Hoops met personally with Wisconsin Senators Tammy Baldwin (D), Ron Johnson (R) and Rep. Mark Pocan.

"By meeting with our legislators, we can help ensure national policymakers keep public power customers' bottom line in mind when they're making proposals," said Joseph Owen, director of government affairs for WPPI Energy. "Their choices have consequences in our local communities, so it is important to present our views. We are fortunate to have a congressional delegation that is receptive to issues affecting communities with locally owned, not-for-profit utilities and works to help however they can."

Swadley and Hoops spoke with senators and representatives about the critical role tax exempt bonds play in financing utility infrastructure in Stoughton, ensuring city owned utilities have access to the same cost saving mechanisms that for-profit utilities use, streamlining the regulatory backlog on building critical grid infrastructure and ensuring that tariffs on raw materials don't exacerbate supply chain constraints on distribution transformers.

Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area; and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.

Member-owned, not-for-profit WPPI Energy serves Stoughton Utilities and 50 other locally owned electric utilities. Together, WPPI members have built a diverse, competitive, and responsible power supply. They share modern technologies and forward-thinking services, and they speak with a unified voice for effective energy policy advocacy.



PHOTO: Local officials gather to meet with legislators on the community's behalf during American Public Power Association's 2025 Legislative Rally in Washington D.C.