

After an overwhelming vote on Tuesday night, it appears the La Crosse City Council will easily authorize a committee study of a budget consultant plan at its meeting on Thursday.

The Committee of the Whole amended the resolution, to remove language committing 125-thousand dollars for a consultant search. Council president Audrey Kader will be on the study committee. She defends much of the spending that city government must do every year.

Critics of the consultant plan have speculated that such an expert might be a substitute for the city administrator rejected in an April referendum...or that a consultant would recommend firing Mayor Matt Harter.