

## Utility Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2016

*approved*

Call to Order @ 5:00 pm by Madden, Utility Commission President

Roll Call: Lange, Lindemann, Campfield and Eno. Also Kuester, Lind, Saemisch, Steward and Garvin.

Eno/Lange motion to approve minutes. Add Campfield to the minutes as part of roll call. All ayes. Carried.

Public Comment:

None

Electric Superintendent Report:

Kuester reported on E3 getting all the decorative lights done. It cut the bill in half in the first month. Staff will change out the other lights one by one as needed. Steward suggested we get a proposal from E3 to do the entire city. Had company come in to service transformers and identified an issue with one of Brunner's and that got fixed.

Had power outages up by Hansen's on Wednesday November 9<sup>th</sup> then again on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Had a another one on Ackermann. Received assistance from New Lisbon and from Reedsburg. Splices were bad.

Heater on Cats went bad, fixed. Hoses being changed on Fairbanks.

57 bad poles. Will get the list and report soon.

Christmas lights up. Time for new ones.

Considering going to Natural Gas for the Fairbanks generator. Cleaner and cost effective.

Projects are ready to go for the spring – Ackermann, and going underground in parts.

Need to update the tags, as many were wrong during the splice issue.

Water Report:

Lind reported on samples being good. Caught up on curb stops. Has one to dig up at Nelson's on Academy. Flushing went well only dirty stuff at ends. Winterized the park. Finished the Commons and winterized that. Exercising valves. Has hydraulic cement in pool until contractor can come back in spring and patch the hole.

Winter disconnects – Dave brought this topic up. Would like to not do disconnects in the winter. Fear of breaking curb stops and laterals, which will cost more in the long run. Might need to consider purchasing and using smart meters where you can remotely shut down the meter and cut off the flow of water.

Campfield suggests on a case by case basis based on the curb stop. Need to involve law enforcement if people are combative.

Wastewater Report:

Saemisch reported that plant is running well. Oil changes done except for trucks. VisuSewer didn't finish work so they will be back to finish the patch. Had problems pumping the supernate off the holding tank. Sodium Chloride/Salt had clogged up the pump that pumps sewage from a truck to the holding tank. Talked to United Liquid Waste Haulers about issue. Plan is to not haul, but fill up the holding tank and haul in the spring to dilute the sodium chloride. United agreed to sever the contract with us to bring sludge as well as to haul our sludge.

Campfield wants to make sure we do not get backed into a corner with our storage and the ability to haul to fields in the spring. Campfield would like us to report this to the DNR.

Saemisch wants to change rates on outside source wastewater. Thinks are rates are too high in areas but good in other areas. Would like to change the \$15 rate and work out pricing with the customer. Taking sludge from Monroe County landfill again but they need to aerate it first. Tested Adams County leachate and we can take some of theirs, but they take most to Plover. We could charge them \$11.50/1,000. Would like the ability to enter into a contract with a hauler and negotiate a rate.

Maybe set a rate for septic haulers and maybe a rate for landfills. Let's look to discuss this at the next meeting with additional data.

Steward discussed sewer rates. Three options were presented by the auditors, who we contracted to do a study.

Lindemann/Eno motion to approve Scenario 1 and forward that on to the Common Council for approval. All ayes. Carried.

Admin Report:

Budgets – Electric, Sewer and Water

Steward presented the budget. Went through each department.

Lindemann/Lange motion to approve Electric, sewer and water budgets for 2017. Roll Call. All ayes. Carried.

Bills:

Lindemann/Eno motion to approve bills. Roll Call. All ayes. Carried.

Commission Communications

None

Eno/Lindemann motion to adjourn at 6:16 pm. All ayes. Carried.

Mark Steward  
Utility Manager