

**UTILITY
ADOPTED MINUTES
APRIL 9, 2018
CITY HALL
4:00 P.M.**

Present: Chad Janssen, Darrell Nissen, Ern Malchow and Brian Rossow

Absent: Doug Anderson

Others Present: Ken & Charlotte Christians, Brandon & Sarah Laabs, Greg Post, Dwane Milbrath, Holly Rademacher, Cheryl Ulferts, Kelly Rasche, Rusty Kaderabek and Joni Hanson

Call the meeting to order by Darrell Nissen at 4:00 pm

Motion by Malchow, second by Rossow to approve the agenda, as presented. All Yes, Motion Carried

Motion by Malchow, second by Janssen to approve the minutes of March 18, 2019, and the Council & Utility Joint Board Meeting of March 18, 2019 as printed. All Yes, Motion Carried

Motion by Rossow, second by Janssen to approve the accounts payable totaling \$133,272.38, and approve the Investment and Transfer Activity Report. All Yes, Motion Carried

Holly told the board that the Cold Weather Rule Protection goes off on April 15th. A 10 day notice will be given to delinquent accounts. There are 3 accounts still in the 90 days of which 1 is turned off at the time, so we are making headway.

Greg Post (909 N. Pleasant St.) was at the meeting to discuss the damage that was done in his yard. Greg was concerned that no one had called or notified them of any work that was going to be done there. Greg explained that they just wish that someone would have notified them. Rusty explained that water had drained towards the transformer, and snow had to be pushed away from the transformer so it wouldn't go under water, and the water would drain. There would have been a possibility of losing electricity, or even the transformer blowing up if it was under water. Ken and Charlotte Christians, who also live in the same area (912 Milwaukee St.), attended the meeting. Ken stated that he had about 6 inches of water in his shed. The board discussed different possibilities, and decided the best option would be to see if we could raise the transformer about 6 inches or so. Rusty stated that he and the staff would look into the option of raising the transformer. Greg would also like to have his lawn repaired with some black dirt and grass seed. Some staff did come up after the incident, but they filled in the tracks with a dirt/gravel/clay mixture which is now turning hard like concrete. Darrell and Chad will go up with Rusty and see what they can do. The board reassured Greg that his yard will be taken care of.

Brandon and Sarah Laabs (305 Colonial Ave.) were also at the meeting. There was a water leak that was discovered on Feb. 1, 2019 underneath Laabs driveway. It was discovered that the leak was on both sides of the shut-off. There was communication between the City and the Laabs, but Brandon was not happy with the communication about getting something done. Brandon handed out a timeline of events and communication with the City, and also pictures of the leak and damage to their driveway due to the leak. Brandon stated that finally on March 12th (39 days since the City was notified of the leak), the valve was located. There was a major leak on the City side, and also a leak on Brandon's side. There was major damage to the entire driveway and fill due to this leak. The Laabs stated that they had gotten a quote from Pavelko Construction for repairs to the driveway in the amount of \$4,600.00. The City's portion of repairs is \$1,885.95 to make a total of \$6,485.95. Brandon stated that, bottom line, he thinks that the City and themselves should split the bill 50/50. Utility Board Commissioner, Ern Malchow, commented that he couldn't disagree that they are responsible for

50% of the bill. The board also asked Brandon if he would be opposed to getting a second bid for repairs to the driveway. Brandon said he would get a second quote.

Motion by Rossow, second by Malchow to approve paying up to \$3,242.50 of repairs after getting second quote. All Yes, Motion Carried

Kelly Rasche told the board that a bid was received for Power Plant Tuck Pointing from Heinemann Restoration Inc. out of Dell Rapids, SD. The bid for repairs to the power plant came in at \$67,300.00. Kelly stated that a bid was also received for City Hall, and that bid was approximately \$50,000.00. If both buildings were done in the same year, a discount of \$2,500.00 would be taken off of the Power Plant bid, and \$2,500.00 would be taken off of the City Hall bid. The board discussed this issue, it's a lot of money, but less than replacing a building. The board suggested trying to call Dirkson to get a 2nd bid. The matter was put on hold and tabled, hoping to get a 2nd bid before the May board meeting.

Brian noted that SMBS video has much improved over a few months ago. Some remodeling is going on at the SMBS Office Building.

Rusty said that Thein Well was here and pulled the pump in Well #4. They found that the pump was going bad, so they replaced 1 piece of pipe, some wire and installed a new pump. The bill was approximately \$7,000.00. Rusty went on to say that he and Joni had attended a MMUA meeting in Marshall in regards to Distributed Generation. The meeting was quite intense.

The 2nd year lineman class from Jackson were here to tour our Power Plant. Rusty said that the teacher did much of the discussion and Rusty assisted.

The RO System is going better, but they still backwash every day. Karen, SEH, has been talking to the Department of Health, and the "drop dead" date is June 30th. We will run the RO System for another 30 days so we can continue to work out the problems. The filter issue is fixed, but there is still some rust coming through. Commissioner Rossow stated that he was curious how many hours a day this takes. Rusty stated that it will tie up more man hours, more than now. He estimated about 3 hours every other day at the Water Plant.

Kelly informed the board that MPCA posted rules on Class 34 waters, and are proposing some changes. They are currently taking comments on changes, so Karen is working on Lakefield's comments.

Motion by Malchow, second by Rossow to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 pm. All Yes, Motion Carried.

Darrell Nissen, Chairman

Attest:

Joni Hanson