

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FAYAL TOWN HALL
March 19, 2013 7:00 pm

Bertucci called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL Present were: P. Bertucci, D. Pernu, J. Damberg and D. O'Connor also recording Secretary Diane Dickson. Also present Township Chairman T. Tammaro and Supervisor M. Erjavec.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 12, 2013 by O'Connor support from Damberg. Motion carried unanimously.**

GUESTS

Chairman Tammaro and Supervisors Erjavec nothing at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Delinquency report as of 2-26-13 \$25,794.04. The bill for the City of Gilbert has been removed. The Judge ruled we cannot charge Gilbert. Placed on file.

February 2013 water/wastewater report. Placed on file.

MRWA reports from D & D Dickson. Were read.

MN WARN – Mutual Aid Agreement among Governmental Units to allow their water, wastewater, and storm water utilities to assist each other in case of an emergency. Membership form and resolution. New business.

OLD BUSINESS

One PUC Commission position remains open.

Chairman Tammaro and Supervisor Erjavec met with Gilbert Mayor Skenzich and councilor Skalko, today. It's looking good. The new mayor understands we are willing to pay for our percentage of the plant according to our usage. Possibly trade Differding Pt for no commodity charge. Dale might do maintenance on their lift station that our wastewater goes thru. We have until April 6th 2013 to come to an agreement or we have to file and go back to court.

City of Eveleth- Wiscow wants us to go to the Fayal pond. The rates would be \$0.10 less and \$0.10 less to go all the way to the gravity. The Debt service would go down to \$8-\$10. This is still a viable option. Bertucci is getting an estimate from Jim Pucel to get a ball park figure of installation costs.

Gilbert says Fayal is 15% of the flow and they want that re-evaluated in 5 years.

Gilbert has 850 connections the residents pay \$4.32 per thous. gallons, \$4.32 Debt service, \$11 service charge. Eveleth has 1200-1800 connections the residents pay \$4.10 per thous. gallons, \$13 Debt service, \$2 service charge.

Chairman Tammaro states we are looking at our bonds possibly lowering the interest rate.

Broadband survey-O'Connor sent the email to the broadband survey; she has not received any comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Bertucci is thinking if we installed water meters on all of the sewer customers then we could read the water meters instead of the flow. Erjavec says Gilbert wants to use the flow. It was about \$115,000 or so for the entire set up to go to automatic readers with the setup and program and hardware. It might be the best way to go for our customers; everyone pays for what they use.

FCC license will expire in June we have to verify that our radios are still legal for the frequency they use.

- **Bertucci makes a motion to recommend the Town Board join the MN WARN- Mutual Aid Agreement for utilities to assist each other in case of an emergency, support by Damberg. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Pernu makes a motion to purchase an I-phone for Dale, support from Damberg. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Tammaro reports the PUC has been tasked from the annual meeting, to find out if we can shut off delinquent sewer customers by digging up and plugging the sewer line. Joe Sopp made the motion and the motion passed. O'Connor will check with the county to see if we can legally do this. Supervisor Erjavec states we do make money off of the late fees.

TREASURER REPORT

Sewer Co as of 2-28-2013 revenue YTD \$77,136.24, expenditures \$60,989.35, cash balance \$155,247.06

Water Co as of 2-28-2013 revenue YTD \$12,256.64, expenditures \$8,891.98, cash balance \$22,399.42

CABLE

Nothing at this time.

GAS

Supervisor Erjavec reports Ron Erjavec asked if he can get the gas company to make a connection to his house.

Bertucci reports the gas companies requires a customer every 50'

STREET LIGHTS

Bertucci asks about the led street lights, Chairman Tammaro says we just pay to MN power and Lake Country Power, we don't see a savings.

Solar Panels are saving us about 40% on the town hall electric. There is no battery backup so, there is no storage. The cost would have doubled.

FYI

The Town Board might call a special meeting of both the Town Board and PUC to come up with an agreement prior to the April 6th deadline.

Next PUC meeting April 9, 2013 @ 7:00 pm.

Motion by Pernu to adjourn. Support from O'Connor. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane C Dickson
PUC Billing clerk