

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
FAYAL TOWN HALL
APRIL 9, 2019

The regular meeting of the Fayal Public Utilities Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Greg Buckley. Present were: Commissioners Greg Buckley, Chris Erickson, Ed Vest and recording secretary Diane Dickson. Amy Jackson was absent. Town Board Chairman Tony Tammaro, Supervisor Pat Ziegler and John West were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the regular PUC meeting minutes of March 19, 2019 made by Chris Erickson, second from Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

GUESTS

John West reported Clerk Coldagelli answered his questions about the fees. He voiced his opinion about the WAC he still does not believe we have the right to charge it. He was advised of the response from the MN Township Attorney Steve Fenske regarding Township charges. Towns only have to keep the road and bridge funds separate and if they are bonding stipulations. Otherwise Towns can spend funds in whatever manner they see fit. Mr. West cited some state statutes he felt are relevant. Chairman Buckley stated we are following our rules. Mr. West moved on to voice his opinion about the SAC he does not believe we have the right to charge it. He was advised once again we have followed our ordinance which was written by an Attorney. Lengthy discussion regarding this issue. The PUC has considered re-looking at the ordinance after the entire special assessments are paid off. The reason we enacted the assessments the way we did was to be fair to the property owners. Otherwise, if we would have assessed on footage some residents would have had a very large assessments. So, the Town Board decided to assess per owner, and if the property is split, then there would be another charge, now called a SAC, not an assessment. This ordinance was also prepared by the attorneys. Mr. West cited some state statutes he felt are relevant. Chairman Buckley stopped Mr. West from continuing, explaining we have spent countless hours on this debate and we are not attorneys. Chairman Buckley stated have your attorney send a letter to Fayal and we will send it to our attorney for his opinion. We are done, and moving on, Chairman Buckley thanked Mr. West.

CORRESPONDENCE

Delinquency Report as of 3-22-19 \$18,820.84. Reviewed, seems to be decreasing, Chris reported we are charging what we feel is the maximum that can be justified by our time spent attempting collections. If they make no payments in a year they will pay almost double what the fees would be if they had paid on time.

March 2019 Water Wastewater report. Reviewed, noted the pumps are showing a lot more wear, but continue to be working well. Placed on file.

Report on MPCA Conference from Dale Dickson.

Report on MPCA Conference from Diane Dickson. Very informative, Cyber Security was unbelievable. Make your passwords into long sentences, don't just click open, look at the sender and ask yourself does it make sense. If your computer is running weird something is probably making that happen. Early detection is very important.

OLD BUSINESS

Bulk Water Agreement- We are waiting for the new document to come back to us.

4 M Fund- Clerk Coldagelli has established the fund and the funds have been transferred.

Annual rate review-Sewer is tabled until further notice from Gilbert.

Sewer 3rd loan-has been paid off today.

Frozen Waterline Credit- Clarification on the motion. Supervisor Ziegler reports last year it was acted on by the Town Board to say if there is a history of frozen lines and they notify us, we will give them a credit of the difference between the actual bill and the average bill.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

TREASURER REPORT

No Report was provided.

CABLE

The cable project was not completed last year and there is a lot of unfinished areas.

GAS

Nothing at this time.

STREET LIGHTS

Nothing at this time.

FYI

Next PUC meeting will be Tuesday May 14th 2019. This is the same day as the school election that will be held in Eveleth. No meetings can be held on that day between 6:00-8:00 pm.


- **Motion to change the time of the May 14, 2019 PUC meeting to 5:00 p.m. by Chris Erickson, support from Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT

- **Motion to adjourn the regular meeting made by Chris Erickson, support from Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Greg Buckley adjourned the regular meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane Dickson
Fayal Township Deputy Clerk
PUC Coordinator/Billing Clerk

Approved 5.14.2019
