

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 12, 2005 7:00 P.M.
FAYAL TOWN HALL**

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

ROLL present were: Bertucci, Campbell, M. Erjavec and Kingston. Town Board Chairman Kniefel & Supervisor Tammaro. W/WWO Dickson and recording secretary Stewart. Absent – Aultman, Damberg & Russ.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- **Motion by Campbell to approve the O’Neal Variance Hearing minutes of June 14, 2005, second by Erjavec. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.**
- **Motion by Erjavec to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 14, 2005 second by Campbell. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

GUEST

Tony Zavodnik 4445 Lakeside Dr sent a letter to the PUC. Letter was received and read. Mr. Zavodnik questions how his vine and rose bush will endanger or interfere with the sewer mainline. He is asking to let the vine remain due to the fact it is small and the roots, in his opinion do not go deep. Jon and Laura Marcaccini are present to support their neighbor’s request. Lengthy discussion regarding the use of private property, Tony is petitioning to keep his vine.

7:13 John Damberg arrives.

Mr. Zavodnik will remove the cedars but would like to keep the vine

- **Motion by Bertucci to allow Mr. Zavodnik to put the vine in a solid box so the roots don’t get out and he may postpone moving the cedars, He will sign a letter stating they will be moved by the end of 2005. Second by Damberg. Discussion- as long as Mr. Zavodnik is in agreement, he says yes. All in favor with M. Erjavec voting no. Motion carried. Erjavec felt the vine should be moved.**

Connie Sabetti 7863 Thunderbird Trail She planted lilac bushes across the mainline for privacy. After a short discussion, she can place a privacy fence that could be removed if we had to drive thru that area.

W/WWO Dickson received a letter from a customer thanking us for notifying him of the sewer line location. He dealt with roots in the sewer in Virginia, and he is thankful we are taking care of it before problems exist.

Rod Luoma on behalf of his father’s property by Kaleva Island. This ongoing problem needs a solution. They would like to move the small lift station from, next to the island to by the house. The existing system does not work. RLK is out of the picture and it is the Town’s problem. Tammaro explains they have checked into some options.

1. Move the lift station next to the house and bore from the small lift station out to Lift station M-1 next to hwy 37 for \$19,000.
2. Replace the onsite sewer for \$8,500.

Dickson recommends moving the small E-1 grinder lift station to the house and pump to the hwy. The pump manufacture recommends using a 1-1/4” line in order to pump it 900’, The Lift station, the electricity, and the line would be Mr. Luoma’s responsibility. The Luoma property abuts Hwy 37 so the assessment remains. The line freezes in two places at the E-1 grinder station

and at the shallow spot closer to the main Lift station which is 3.5' deep. We have tried to winterize it, but so far none of the attempts have worked.

Action – Campbell and Damberg will talk to some engineers and bring a proposal to the next PUC meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

6-21-05 Quarterly Franchise Fee from Mediacom \$2,280.62. File

6-21-05 Certificate of Insurance from R & M Mesabi Construction Inc. File

6-29-05 Certificate of Insurance from Southridge Excavating. File

7-7-05 Letter from Tony Zavodnik re: flagged rose bush, vine, cedar sapling, cedar seedling. File

OLD BUSINESS

W/WWO Dickson reports the right of way is 66' on W. Long Lake Rd. We have a tree 24' from the center line of the road.

Dale bought a new bar for lifting the manhole covers, you can lift it but it won't spin off.

Request PUC purchase a man hole cover lifter. The lightest one with the longest handle it weighs 13# for approximately \$500.

- **Motion by Damberg to purchase the manhole cover lifter for approx. \$500, second by Campbell. Unanimously approved. Motion carried.**

Dale has been researching brush trimmers for clearing the sewer easements. DR trimmer is the one with blades and is self propelled, approximately \$2,600.

NEW BUSINESS

SEWER

Certified letters were sent to customers with trees and such on the sewer easements about 60 were sent. Most people haven't said anything; some complain to the supervisors but don't come to the PUC meeting. Three people have not picked up their certified letter.

WATER

Campbell asks if we have had any complaints about the quality of the water, no we haven't. The MN Dept of Health enforces all of the water tests that are done. So, far we have passed all of the tests performed.

We have an application on file from Swanson's for a water and sewer connection. Only one house per service line is allowed. They are planning on making a connection to the main water line and then go in the road right of way back to their yard. Campbell asks if they have to sign a letter stating they will connect to the new municipal water line if we put one in. Kniefel says they would be assessed like everyone else.

Dale talked to Gilbert re: touring the plants. No problem anytime, they only run a day shift.

TREASURER

No report, Campbell requests Clerk Sersha report on the water and sewer at the regular town board meetings, and the PUC members can attend. Campbell states the last report showed our rates are keeping us in the black.

FYI

Dale questions Chairman Kniefel about using the South entrance of the barn. He was told by his supervisor Verkovich to immediately stop using the doors and go out the back of the barn, due to child safety. Kniefel states safety was discussed at the meeting but they did not say you can not use the doors.

CABLE

Bertucci said the cable companies have lost 15% of their customers.

GAS

Fire Dept had safety training with the Gas Company, it was very good and they hope to have the Town employees at the next training.

STREET LIGHTS

Damberg handed out a brochure on the effects of light pollution. He is still trying to get information from Budapest. They passed an ordinance restricting up lighting.

FYI

Next PUC meeting will be on Aug. 9, 2005 7:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING BY DAMBERG, SECOND BY KINGSTON.

ADJOURNED AT 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Stewart
PUC Coordinator/Billing Clerk