

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FAYAL TOWN HALL**

February 10, 2015 7:00 pm

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

ROLL Present were: Dennis Pernu, Greg Buckley, and Chris Erickson. Donna O'Connor and Peter Bertucci were absent. Also present recording secretary Diane Dickson, and Supervisor Rich Sather.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Erickson wants to clarify one thing in the minutes, he may have misspoken, he didn't want an ordinance about disconnecting developed before the next annual meeting, due to time. He just wants something in progress so people know we are doing something.

- **Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2015 made by Greg Buckley, second by Chris Erickson. Motion carried unanimously.**

GUESTS

Town Supervisor Rich Sather and Water/Wastewater operator Dale Dickson were present.

Water/wastewater operator Dickson proposed purchasing a new truck for the PUC. The current truck is 7 years old and depreciated with \$27,600 in the truck fund. There is only one truck, all his parts are in it. It is difficult if the truck is down. The brakes and tires need to be replaced, the plow needs work, and the crane is 14 years old and needs work. Dale is saying economically this would be the best time to trade the truck in. The truck is still worth something and before putting money into it. Also, he is specing a lower utility box, easier to reach. And the hoist will be easier to operate, won't have to stand on something, in order to operate the boom. So, for safety and economics Dale presented 3 bids using the State bid price. For 2015 ¾ ton with Knapheide service body, and Liftmoore Crane 2000A.

Lundgrens Ford \$25,380 Waschke Auto Plaza \$27,352 Iron Trail Motors \$30,087. Price does not include taxes, license, or fees. J.M. Auto Service- Western plow includes discount and installation \$5,070.

Last time we waited too long and then we had to get a one ton truck. Dale thinks there is a 30 day on the prices. Buckley wants to table it for now and make sure this works out with keeping our rates the same. They will meet with Judy this week. Let Rich know so it can go to the town board.

Supervisor Sather reported he checked into the street lights at Lake Country Power, We have two street lights on Lake Country Power. If they switch to LED it would not change our fee. It is a set fee he thinks \$12. Maybe MN Power are metered but probably a set price.

CORRESPONDENCE

January 2015 Water Wastewater Report. Placed on file

Delinquency Report as of 1/22/2015 \$41,815.98. Placed on file.

Chris Erickson did some online research regarding disconnecting sewer services. Found 10 towns none in MN what they do regarding disconnecting. They do have a fee schedule. If we want to do this we should set some thresholds, maybe like \$3,000 or \$4,000. Buckley would like to put it around \$1,500 that's 2 years of payments. We don't want to disconnect. Maybe just have some payments showing a good faith effort made. Make a double payment. They are going to call the 10 towns. Erickson will have Tony ask Troy Gilcrest what he thinks. Dale Dickson will call MDH and MPCA, and get prices from excavators and check into the shut off valve.

Dale Dickson brought up the League of MN Cities has a training coming up, in Cohasset, \$20. It would be good for the PUC to attend. You can talk to them directly, ask if they have any cities that have done this.

1/12/14 Letter from Clerk Sersha requesting WIF funds for the SCADA system. We put away \$0.10 per thousand gallons. Placed on file.

1/13/15 Letter from Nancy Johnson MN PFA, approving the use of the \$47,414.55 from the WIF Capital Replacement Fund for the purchase and installation of the SCADA. Placed on file.

1/16/15 Letter from Troy Gilchrist of Kennedy & Graven re: fees under the sanitary sewer agreement with the City of Gilbert. Placed on file

Erickson brought up our current water contract, which is up in 2018.

Dave Bastinelli attended the Jan 20th Town Board meeting. He enquired, if he purchases the lot next to his on Ely Lake Dr (on the county land sale) could he make it contiguous and avoid another \$7,000 SAC fee. He did pay the \$7,000 fee on his first lot. He intends to sell both lots together making it a more marketable property. It would be beneficial to the Town to get it back on the tax role. There are no buildings and no sewer bills now. The Town Board has done this before.

- **Motion by Chris Erickson to recommend to the Town Board not impose the \$7,000 SAC fee, for Dave Bastinelli provided he makes the new lot contiguous with his existing property and combines them into one legal entity. Second by Greg Buckley.**
- **Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Sather will call Dave Bastinelli, the sale is this Thursday.

OLD BUSINESS

SCADA- SEH is working on the plans and specs. IRRRB approved a grant for \$110,000.

Rates- The Town Board left the rates the same.

By-law- The Town Board approved the change but we discovered it is an ordinance and it needs to be revised and it has to be written, signed, adopted and published. Erickson will talk to Judy and volunteer to write it for her.

NEW BUSINESS

New PUC truck as presented by Dale Dickson.

TREASURER REPORT

Nothing to report.

CABLE

Buckley reported the software is going to have to be replaced and it costs \$43,000 and the Annual budget is \$29,000. This will be a couple of years out, they will be doing some fund raising. And then asking Fayal and Eveleth for more funding.

GAS

Nothing at this time.

STREET LIGHTS

Reported by Supervisor Sather.

FYI

The Town Annual Meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of March at 7:00 p.m.

Next PUC meeting will be held March 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

- **Motion to adjourn by Buckley, support from Erickson. Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Dickson

PUC Coordinator/Billing Clerk