

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
FAYAL TOWN HALL
DECEMBER 10, 2019

The regular meeting of the Fayal Public Utilities Commissioners was called to at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Greg Buckley. Present were Commissioners: Greg Buckley, Ed Vest, Chris Erickson and recording secretary Diane Dickson. Absent: Amy Jackson. Also present were: John West and Gina Brascugli.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the regular PUC meeting minutes of November 12, 2019 made by Ed Vest, second from Chris Erickson. Motion carried unanimously.**

GUESTS

Gina Brascugli N. Airport Rd. she has submitted a letter of interest to serve on the PUC commission. Greg asks what her interest is. She would like to represent the people who have financial difficulties paying the sewer bill.

- **Motion by Ed Vest to recommend the Town Board approve Gina Brascugli for the PUC commission, second by Chris Erickson. Motion carried unanimously.**

John West – John asks if we have heard from Scot Neff. We have not, Heidi did let him know we would like an answer. John presented a letter with questions and he believes it should be called an availability charge not an access charge due to some do not connect at the time. He is in favor the connection fee of \$6625. Lengthy discussion regarding if we should wait for Scot Neff or if we should send it to another attorney. The PUC feels it would be too costly to start all over with another attorney, and it is ultimately the Town Boards decision.

Chris explains to Gina, the last two raises in monthly sewer fees were due to long term contractual obligations with the City of Gilbert. When Gilbert is raised Fayal is raised by the same percentage. And Fayal was able to do a partial raise both times so we did not pass on the entire increase to the customers.

Greg tells John the PUC will wait for the Town Board. Diane will ask Heidi and Tony to contact Scot Neff again.

CORRESPONDENCE

Delinquency Report as of 11-25-19 \$13,407.93. The Town Board approved no charges for the Surla estate that is owned by the St Louis County.

November 2019 Water Wastewater Report. Ed inquires if rags are an ongoing issue, yes they are.

11-25-19 Request from Gina Brascugli to be considered for the Public Utility Commission. Done.

11-26-19 Request from Minnesota Rural Water Association for assistance contacting our Federal Legislators for program funding. They ask for help annually contacting legislators for funding. MRWA will be coming to help us fix our fire hydrant by the skating shack.

11-26-19 MN Dept of Health Water analysis results. Our system is in compliance. Placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

GIS SEH-June 25, 2019 SEH Agreement for professional services for collecting all available information of all Fayal Township water main and sanitary collection for \$12,800. Tabled until the spring of 2020.

Test Fee-MN Dept. of Health - (yearly) change from \$6.36 to \$9.72 Heidi will update our fee schedule. It is in her pile and she is intending on creating one fee schedule sheet with all of the fees incorporated in it.

Review the ordinance 98-2 regarding twin homes, apartments etc. and the sewer connection charges SAC. Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Tony would like the PUC to consider paying off the big sewer loan in Feb and we would save \$3,000 in interest. Chris states it makes sense to pay it off then we will know where we are financially, and we will save the interest.

- **Motion by Chris Erickson to recommend the Town Board pay off both loans ASAP, second by Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

Update our Roster commission members for the upcoming year. Greg and Amy can serve one more full term. Greg is willing to continue as the chairman.

- **Motion by Greg Buckley to reappoint all of the current commissioners to the same positions. Amy and Greg will renew their appointments, second by Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

12-2-19 2019 2nd half County taxes received \$4,845.66 delinquent and \$700 in certification fees from 5 people. Greg remarks we posted \$22,000 and received \$5,500.

David Dean 4384 Shady Lane stopped in and asked if the Town would consider replacing his property pins that were removed during the sewer construction due to a new neighbor. Discussion about the timing. The PUC believes he should have brought it to the Town 20 years ago.

- **Motion by Chris Erickson to recommend the Town Board not pay for replacing property pins for David Dean due to it has been 20 years, second by Greg Buckley. Motion carried unanimously.**

TREASURER REPORT

Chris reports the Fayal Sewer Co revenues exceeded expenditures \$566K to \$530K part of the reason is we paid off debt. As far as a rate increase, Chris does not see any need for an increase unless Gilbert were to increase again, although we do have a buffer now. Fayal Water Co similar story Eveleth did increase our water rates earlier this year and we did absorb all of it. Revenues \$60k Expenses were \$55k so it is also doing fine.

Treasurer report provided by Clerk Coldagelli as of 11-30-19-2019. Year to date.

FWC Beginning balance 2019 \$55,549.10 Revenues \$73,105.53 Expenditures \$66,269.60.

Current cash balance \$60,329.86.

FSC Beginning balance 2019 \$247,045.40 Revenues \$566,754.25. Expenditures \$530,683.00.

Current cash balance \$290,149.53.

Depreciation 4M \$204,798.85 PUC Truck Depreciation 4M \$19,306.98.

PUC Beginning balance -\$3,188.26 Revenues \$7,262.53 Expenditures \$7,141.00. Ending balance -\$3,066.73.

- **Motion by Greg Buckley to accept the treasurer's report, second by Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

CABLE

Nothing at this time.

STREET LIGHTS

Nothing at this time.

FYI

Next PUC meeting will be Tuesday January 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

- **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 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Dickson
Fayal Township Deputy Clerk
PUC Coordinator/Billing Clerk

Approved 1.14.2020