

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

FAYAL TOWN HALL

DECEMBER 14, 2021

The regular meeting of the Fayal Public Utilities Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ed Vest. Present were Commissioners: Ed Vest, Dave Hamalainen, Chris Erickson and Gina Brascugli. Commissioner Amy Jackson was absent.

Also in attendance was Town Board Chairman Tony Tammaro.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the agenda, made by Chris Erickson, second by Dave Hamalainen. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Motion to approve the regular PUC meeting minutes of November 9, 2021, made by Dave Hamalainen, second by Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

GUESTS- None at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

Delinquency Reports as of 11-30-2021 \$8,360.25. Discussion regarding how placement on the taxes works. Reviewed and placed on file.

November Water/Wastewater Report. Section N was repaired and have seen a reduction on the Gilbert bill. Will continue to review to determine if the repair constitutes a significant reduction. Town Board Chairman Tony Tammaro commended employee Rick Bieganek for doing a good job. Chairman Vest questioned the feasibility of the natural gas-powered emergency back-up pumps for lift stations A and B. The cost was very expensive. Reviewed and placed on file.

11-29-2021 Minnesota Department of Health Sample Analysis Results. The system is in compliance with maximum contaminant levels. Discussion regarding how often the sampling occurs. Reviewed and placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS

Ord 98-1 & 98-2 Access to Availability and SAC Resolution 2018-13 & 2000-14 Twin homes- Chairman Vest should have some time available to begin work on updating. Concerns that the Ordinance does not address such items as multi-unit dwellings. In the event there is development at St. Mary's Lake, how would that be addressed? Gina Brascugli also brought forward review of items such as mother-in-law apartments and renter's/homeowners in the same home. There are many different scenarios and will need to decide how they should be addressed in regards to billing.

American Rescue Plan Act- Received an additional \$3,000-\$4,000 from a redistribution for unclaimed funds.

Mark & Jinny Craddock- No further work has been completed.

Certification Fee- This is applicable for delinquencies and residents are notified prior to certification.

Zebra Mussels in Ely Lake- No new information.

MN Pump Works- Still waiting for base elbows on E-1.

Estimate Fee- Discussion regarding Eveleth's charge and a \$10 fee may be appropriate for multiple missed readings. Town Board Chairman Tammaro added that he had spoken with Town Foreman Latvaaho regarding the potential of a calibrating meters project. Would like Heidi or Diane to check with Eveleth and possibly other entities' estimate fees. Town Board Chairman Tammaro suggested with the infrastructure bill to check into the possibility of self-readers.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Board Chairman Tammaro informed the Commission that \$40,000 was moved from the Depreciation Fund to the Maintenance Contingency Fund for the televising project. Town Board Chairman Tammaro also

added the Town is in union contract negotiations and the employees are seeking more compensation for carrying the pager. Clerk Coldagelli had estimated that the pager accounts for approximately \$1.50 of a resident's monthly bill. The union proposal would double that. The Town is looking at how to accomplish that and, in the future, will likely have to increase the bill by \$1.00 annually. Gilbert is looking at a rate study at this time.

Gina Brascugli informed the Commission members that the Jola & Sopp bill for the repair on Shady Lane was \$33,398. She was present during a portion of the repair and expressed that was more than fair based on the complexity of the job.

TREASURER REPORT

Clerk Coldagelli provided the financial report as of 11-30-2021 year to date.

Chris Erickson reported there was a bank error of a transfer for the televising project in November and the reason for the reporting of a negative cash balance. Clerk Coldagelli also suggested utilizing the Depreciation Fund for the increase of the pager pay. Discussion regarding utility bill rates and questions as to what Gilbert charges their residents. Gina Brascugli would like to see a sample of one of their resident's bills.

CABLE- Nothing at this time.

STREET LIGHTS

Town Board Chairman Tammara informed the Commission that lights are still burned out by highway.

FYI- Next PUC meeting will be held January 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

- **Motion to adjourn by Dave Hamalainen, second by Chris Erickson.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Heidi Coldagelli

Fayal Township Clerk/Treasurer

Approved 1-11-2022