

Utility Commission Meeting
Wednesday, January 5, 2022
6:00 PM at Utility Office Building

Members Present: Robert Affeld, Ross Canniff, Dick Evans, Bart Coons, Nick Gahlman, Peter Gallun and Mayor Wegener

Members Absent: Cheryl Braun

Also Present: Alex Smudde

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM and roll call was taken. Motion by Canniff/Evans to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4-0

Motion by Coons/Evans to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Appearances/Comments: None

Monthly Business:

- A. Motion by Canniff/Coons to approve payment of WPPI invoice of \$270,184.38 and checks of \$191,295.46. Motion carried 4-0.
- B. Review Prior Month Income Statement.
- C. Council Acts Affecting Utility. None.
- D. Consumption and Loss.
- E. Review Totals of Delinquent Customers.

Reports of Officials:

- A. Utility Accountant
 1. Discuss status of Sensient contract and take action if needed. Peter and his team had a meeting with Tom Unke of Baker Tilly and Matt Castillo of MSA, discussed surges and how to set limits/penalties in response to Sensient's concerns with the contract. Came up with a new surge penalty structure which is more reasonable and Sensient should be ok with it.
 2. Electric Superintendent
 1. Projects Update: Noticed some of the E Oak Grove St lights were out, located a fault but it was not the problem; will continue working on it and have it fixed by end of the week. Had a gas leak last week, a large 10" main was struck by a vehicle, had to shut off substation on north end of town which affected industrial customers; had issues with their generators and getting their power back on. Found 23 streetlights out, waiting for bulb order to come in to replace them. Automated Pet Care requested we shut off their new service temporarily for fault current protection. Animix requested upgrade in service, we will be changing out current transformer at their cost. Working on terminations on S. Hyland, got 3 transformers and 1 section cabinet done, getting everything ready for when frost is out of the ground so to get those electric services hooked up. WPPI has incentives for customers in the area, our WWTP is covered by the program so we will be replacing fixtures with LEDs. Two new home services were installed and energized. Sensient's pretreatment plant lost power, they inquired if we had a generator they could use, but because they are primary metered and have their own equipment, we can't provide that; they installed a temporary line. We have an energy service action plan with WPPI, they did a survey of our customers, got many comments asking for social media communications so we're looking at

starting a Facebook page; it would have been beneficial last week when we had the gas leak; also looking into an outage management system which notifies customers that service is out.

3. Water/Wastewater Superintendent

1. Projects Update: Last month we dug up service valve for Dodge County admin building because of a detected leak, unable to pinpoint exactly where leak is; problem with doing road concrete work this time of year, looking into options, possibly wait until spring. Mayor Wegener suggested replacing service valve while road is dug up.

Utility President: Nothing to report.

Mayoral Comments: Dan asked Peter if he feels confident that Sensient will approve the new contract, need to get this done in order to keep on timetable for plant upgrade. Dan suggested the Utility presents a letter of dissatisfaction inquiring how they are going to make amends for the costs involved from all the miscommunications in developing the Sensient contract. In regards to the gas leak, had a lot of communication from gas company officials and our emergency government director when the gas leak occurred but seemed Alliant was slow to make a decision on how to proceed; biggest complaint heard was about not giving the public enough notice to be able to help themselves; County has an emergency alert contact list and residents need to make sure they are on the call list; being alerted by phone is most effective way of communicating during an emergency. Mayor and the Utility appreciates everyone's help throughout that situation.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Motion by Evans/Coons to adjourn meeting at 6:45 PM. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes recorded by:
Laurie Runyan