

**Utility Commission Meeting  
Monday, February 6, 2023  
6:00 PM at Utility Office Building**

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

Members Absent: Cheryl Braun  
Also Present: Laurie Runyan, Peggy Schultz

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

Motion by Affeld/Canniff to approve the minutes from the previous meetings. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Appearances/Comments**

1. Matt Castillo and Nicole Kruschel from MSA
  - A. Discuss and take possible action on WWTF bidding results. 2 bidders, Staab and CD Smith, came in higher than anticipated but bids were close to each other; have until March 18<sup>th</sup> to accept.
  - B. Discuss and take possible action on sewer user rates. With the current cost of the WWTP upgrade, sewer rates need to increase ~\$23/mo. as project stands. That could be lowered by changing the term of the loan to 30-yrs, however, much more interest would be paid; Commission suggests staying with 20-yr term. Will explore Focus on Energy programs that could assist with cost of lighting. Rate increase will be determined at March commission meeting.
  - C. Review, discuss and take possible action on Sensient's requested changes to contract. Discussed changes and remarks from City Attorney. MSA will revise agreement per discussion and provide us with a new copy, Laurie will highlight changes and send to commissioners for review and comment.

**Monthly Business:**

- A. Motion by Canniff/Coons to approve payment of WPPI invoice of \$272602.04 and checks of \$367,417.46. Motion carried 4-0.
- B. Review Prior Month Income Statement.
- C. Council Acts Affecting Utility. Resolution 56-2022 – City of Juneau and Juneau Utilities Supporting the “Pelican Path”. Resolution 57-2022 – Approve Electric Lineworker Tuition Agreement.
- D. Consumption Loss.
- E. Review Totals of Delinquent Customers.

**Report of Officials:**

- A. Utility Accountant  
Interest charged to Charter for past due invoice has been paid. Received a thank-you letter from St Vincent de Paul for our donation to the Dodge County Food Pantry.
- B. Electric Superintendent
  1. Discuss and possibly approve Electric Lineworker Reimbursement Agreement. The agreement has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. Motion by Coons/Evans to approve the agreement and send to Common Council for Resolution. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Projects Update. First solar panels are installed, not able to test the metering -not enough sun. Charter's contractor installed their new piping on E Oak to the dead-end, making sure they're not wrecking anything, the main is installed, working on lateral connections, their deadline to complete is end of April. Tree trimming dead ash trees on goose trail. Two blown capacitors on Sensient's circuit were taken down. Submitted Preventive Maintenance Report to PSC. Went to MEUW conference, learned of a software called Openpoint, scheduling a demonstration of it. Finishing up inventory count for audit. In looking at lead-times for future needs, we should look at purchasing now for 2024. Filled the apprenticeship position, it was close between 2 applicants.

C. Water/Wastewater Superintendent

1. Review, discuss and possibly approve the purchase of de-chlorination equipment. OK
2. Review, discuss and possibly approve purchasing confined space entry equipment with funds originally budgeted to repair valves in contact chamber. Verona Safety looked at our equipment, needs replacing. Motion by Affeld/Canniff to approve purchase of Confined Space Tripod system. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Review, discuss and possibly approve shutting off Sensient's wastewater flow to the WWTP pending outcome of signing their contract. Commission tabled this item.
4. Projects Update. Spillage of hummingbird nectar affected influent BOD, plant handled it. Northern Pipe is cleaning/televising sewers, will televise 18 private laterals showing evidence in main of I/I leaking into system. New tires on 2U and 3U. Municipal Well did iron filter inspections- Well 2 good, Well 1 had some valves replaced, Well 3 found cells were disturbed and some channeling. Corrosion Control Study completed and submitted to DNR. Working with DNR on proper water sample requirements. Replaced RE300 pump #2. Sabel Mechanical will repair pump at Lift Station 4. Inquiring about changing over to natural gas with WWTP upgrade.

President: nothing to report

Mayoral Comments: CDBG loan for City looks like it will go through. Should look at raising utility borrowing in spring to \$1M to also cover costs of the next E Oak St project.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Motion by Braun/Coons to adjourn meeting at 7:46 PM. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes recorded by: Laurie Runyan