

Lanesboro Public Utilities
Regular Meeting, City Council Chambers
Tuesday, January 21st, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Present: Jon Pieper, Elliot Riggott and Don Bell
Absent: None
Staff Present: Jerod Wagner
Visitors: Bonita Underbakke and Jason Resseman

Regular Meeting:

Commissioner Pieper called the regular meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

- A. Agenda:** Member Bell motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of Bell letter to Miscellaneous. Member Riggott seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Consent Agenda:** Member Riggott motioned to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Member Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting, December 17th, 2019
 - Accounts Payable
- C. Council Liaison Update:** Council Member Smith noted the screening for the Wastewater Treatment Facility had been approved. The Council also approved a zoning amendment for the front setback requirement. On January 14th there was a preconstruction meeting for the Dam rehabilitation project. Icon plans to bring equipment in the end of February, however work within the water will not begin until after April 15th. Smith noted a desire to have more input on the Dam and Wastewater projects from the commission, as well cautioned that engineer costs are only estimates.
- D. Staff Update:** Supervisor Jerod Wagner reported that they successfully read water meters with the new software last month, and it went very well. Currently a contractor is hauling approximately two loads of sludge per week, and that also seems to be working well. It was noted that even with the new plant, the sludge will still need to be dealt with, although Wagner is hoping that permits will be in place to land apply. Member Pieper inquired as to the electrical outage on the South side of town the previous week, Wagner noted it was an issue on MiEnergy side of the system.

Regular Business

- A. Electric Rate Study:** Supervisor Wagner provided an overview of the need for the study, and provided a cost estimate from Gary Price. Member Bell motioned to approve conducting the Rate Study, and contracting with Gary Price to complete the study. Member Riggott seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Smith Schafer & Associates – 2019 Audit:** Member Bell motioned to approve Smith Schafer & Associates to complete the 2019 Audit. Member Riggott seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- C. Continued Business:**
 - 1. Water Rate Comparison:** Administrator Peterson reviewed the examples for two businesses, single resident, family resident, and part-time accounts for a rate comparison between 2018 and 2019. It was noted that the new rate structure did not

increase conservation. The commission would like to revisit the water rate structure in the end of 2020.

2. Mapping: No new update was available. A review of the need and project was given.

A. Miscellaneous:

- 1. Meeting Date and Time:** Member Riggott noted he will try to rearrange his work schedule with the meeting date and time. For now, the meeting date and time will stay the same.
- 2. WWTF Schedule:** A tentative timeline for the Wastewater Treatment Facility was provided within the packet.
- 3. Dam Project Update:** As noted earlier a preconstruction meeting was held for this project. Supervisor Wagner noted that an electrical drop will be needed for the gates, as well as temporary power during the project. It was noted that the trail is not planned to be used as much for construction, keeping it open for use. Member Pieper noted concern for the driveway into the dam parking area, and how it will be maintained during construction. Administrator Peterson will check with the engineers to ensure there is something within the contract to be sure it is protected.
- 4. Don Bell:** Member Bell presented a letter to commission members noting his opposition to the Wastewater Treatment Facility Project. He requested to be listed on the February City Council agenda.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn Regular Meeting: Motion was made by Commissioner Bell to adjourn the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission at 10:50 a.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Riggott. Motion carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk