

**Lanesboro Public Utilities  
Regular Meeting, City Council Chambers  
Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 5:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Tom Dybing, Jon Pieper, and Don Bell

**Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jerod Wagner and Jeff Norby

**Visitors:** Bonita Underbakke

**Regular Meeting:**

Commissioner Dybing called the regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- A. Agenda:** Member Bell motioned to approve the agenda as submitted with the addition Power Plant Building Repair to Miscellaneous. Member Pieper seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Consent Agenda:** Member Bell motioned to approve the Consent agenda as submitted. Member Pieper seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019
  - Accounts Payable
- C. Council Liaison Update:** No update was available.
- D. Staff Update:** Supervisor Jerod Wagner noted the following:
1. A new lab for completing the testing for Wastewater has been identified, UC labs will pick up samples. This will help staff time, as currently a staff member drives the samples to La Crosse each time.
  2. Wagner and Administrator Peterson met with officials from MNDOT regarding Hwy 250 in town. At this time, it is not listed on their project list. However, consideration is being made to turn the segment of road over to the County. Discussion will be continued for planning purposes.
  3. Our forced outage capacity rate has increased from 10.26 to 23.53 due to the fact that many could not start generation during peak periods last year.
  4. Wagner and Administrator Peterson also met with School officials regarding the upcoming building addition and remodel. Several concerns were brought forward regarding Sewer, Storm Sewer, and Electrical. Staff will continue working with officials to address concerns.
  5. The solar field was initiated two days ago, everything seems to operating appropriately.
  6. A new service has been set for the new business operating out of the old creamery building. A portion of the bill to complete this will be passed on to the business due to the request for a larger service.
- E. Capital Improvement Review:** The capital improvement plan approved by the City Council was included in the commission member packets. Members reviewed the plan, as well discussed specific areas of town with infrastructure in need of repair. Members noted concern for planning and investigation of current infrastructure.

**Regular Business**

- A. Utility Policy Regarding Distributed Generation and Net Metering:** Members requested the discussion be continued next month, to allow for additional time to read through the material.

**B. Continued Business:**

1. **Cecko Waterline:** Supervisor Wagner provided two suggestions to help. The first would be to add additional fill up to one foot in some areas to help insulate. The second would be to not plow over the last manhole, again to help provide insulation. The homeowner is also looking into frost blankets to help protect his service lines.
2. **Work Session:** Member Bell requested a work session to continue discussion regarding placement of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Administrator Peterson reviewed that the Council had approved moving forward with the paperwork to acquire the land for the proposed site. It was discussed that the sessions should be held in the evening to allow for the public to attend as well. No date was scheduled for a meeting. Additionally, Peterson noted the need to update policies and ordinances, this would be ideal to do during work sessions.
3. **Dupont Electric:** A solution was identified by the engineer, and a quote was received from a contractor to complete the work. The contractor is scheduled to complete the work within one week, the homeowner has paid in full for the work to be completed.
4. **Auburn Sewer:** With help from The Rural Water Association a smoke test was completed in this section of town. One bad trap, and a few caps were found to be defective, however no major problems were identified. Additionally, the back flush on the water treatment facility has been ruled out as a cause of the gas smell occurring in some homes at various times.
5. **Red Hotel – Split \$220 past due bill for water:** Member Pieper motioned to forgive \$110, half of the remaining balance of the water bill. Member Dybing seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

**A. Miscellaneous:**

1. **Power Plant Wall Repair:** Commission members reviewed the quote from Bolander for repairs of the rear exterior wall. Additional quotes will be sought for the repairs.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Adjourn Regular Meeting:** Motion was made by Commissioner Pieper to adjourn the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission at 10:44 a.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson  
City Administrator/Clerk