

**Lanesboro Public Utilities
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 20, 2021 10:00 a.m.
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room and Zoom**

Present: Jon Pieper, Don Bell and Elliot Riggott
Absent: None
Staff Present: Jerod Wagner and Darla Taylor
Visitors: Council Member [Mindy Albrecht-Benson](#), Jake Pichelmann

Regular Meeting:

Commissioner Pieper called the regular meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

- A. Agenda:** Member Pieper motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of WWTF Project update. Member Bell seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll call with all in favor. Motion carried.
- B. Consent Agenda:** Member Bell motioned to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Member Pieper seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll call with all in favor. Motion carried.
 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March 16, 2021
 - Accounts Payable
- C. Wastewater Treatment Facility Update:** Jake Pichelmann of Bolton & Menk provided an update on the Treatment Facility project. The house has been taken down, allowing for additional staging area. The project is estimated to be 7% complete. It was noted that the dewatering pipe will be used as needed throughout the project, however may not be needed once the underground work is completed.
- D. Staff Update:** Supervisor Jerod Wagner noted the following updates:
 - The issue with the Hydro operations was identified as a gate structure parameter problem. The issue is now corrected and the Hydro unit is operating as expected. At times with the Hydro operating and the Solar input, there is not energy being purchased.
 - Battery storage at the current time is not cost effective, however is something that should be considered in the future.
 - Members requested detailed figures on the difference between the amount that Dairyland purchases power back, and the amount that we pay for energy that would re-enter our system. Discussion to be continued next month.
 - A part of the trickling filter, the rotary distributor was identified as not working. A new belt was installed and it seems to be working correctly now. As a result of this malfunction we did fail a sample test, and are working with our representatives to verify we are now compliant.
 - We are still looking for a landowner willing to participate in a Land Application Program.
 - Wagner suggested purchasing a ½ ton pickup truck for everyday use for LPU. Additionally Wagner suggested purchasing a galvanized dump trailer. Members requested additional information for the next meeting.

- Power outages on the South side of town were due to outages with MiEnergy. A suggestion was made to create an address or name that would be recognized when homeowners in this area are attempting to call in outage information.
- E. **City Council Update:** City Council is considering the purchase of a replacement truck for the Street Department. Council also held the annual Local Board of Appeal and Equalization during April.

Regular Business

- A. **Resolution 2021-1, Call 2010A Electric Revenue Bond:** Member Riggott motioned to approve the resolution. Member Pieper seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
- B. **Continued Business:**
 - a. **Electric Rates:** No information has been received from Gary Price, Wagner will invite him to the next meeting for feedback on the proposed rate schedule. Member Pieper motioned to table the discussion. Member Bell seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
 - b. **Automate Generator Quote:** Discussion was had regarding the ability to convert to a dual fuel equipment as well as the importance of automating the existing unit. Member Pieper motioned to table the discussion. Member Bell seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
 - c. **2021 2022 Rebate Form:** Discussion will be continued.
- C. **Miscellaneous:**
 - a. Members discussed the possibility of using the existing Park truck as a vehicle for the Utilities. Administrator Peterson noted that the Council will be considering options at their special meeting next Tuesday.
 - b. Member Pieper suggested that members of the community be involved in the creation of the developer agreement. Administrator Peterson noted that the City Attorney and City Engineer are also involved in creating the agreement. Peterson will share this idea with the City Council for consideration.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 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 10:57 a.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk