

**Lanesboro Public Utilities
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 15, 2022 10:00 a.m.
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room and Zoom**

Present: Jon Pieper, Elliot Riggott, and Brian Roelofs (participated from 124 Albatross Road, Rotunda West, Florida)

Absent: None

Staff/Council Present: Jerod Wagner, Darla Taylor

Visitors: None

Regular Meeting:

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

- A. Agenda:** Member Pieper motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of Member Pay to Miscellaneous. Member Riggott seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- B. Consent Agenda:** Member Riggott motioned to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting, January 18, 2022
 - Accounts Payable
- C. Wastewater Treatment Facility Update:**
- D. Staff Update:** Supervisor Wagner noted the following:
 - Starr Energy will be working on the design plans to bring power to the proposed developments. The plan is to look at both areas as one project. Additionally a commitment from the developers will be requested before the upgrading of services will begin.
 - A recent capacity test with Dairyland Power went well.
 - At a recent UMMEG meeting it was discussed that they will be watching costs through February to determine if pricing will need to be adjusted. They believe the cost increases are stemming from the closure of the Geneva Power Plant.
 - He is still looking into trailer mounted trash pumps and what is available.
- E. City Council Update:** At the February meeting the council approved a pay increase for Mayor and Council members effective for 2023, discussed revision of city wide speed limits, received a report from the Fire department, and approved the transfer of assets from the Ambulance department to Preston Emergency Services. Council also reviewed the Emergency Services Building project, it was noted that water, sewer, and electrical services have already been upgraded at this location in order to meet the needs of the Fire department.

Regular Business

- A. Sobieniak - Storm Water Connection:** Member Pieper motioned to deny the request for funding to correct a storm water connection. Member Riggott seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

- B. Land Application Site:** Supervisor Wagner noted the desire to secure a long term location for the application of biosolids. The City currently has an agreement and is using a 10 acre parcel, however a long term solution should be identified. Letters have been sent out to area land owners twice, with no interest being returned. The existing treatment facility uses drying beds, however the new facility will be utilizing different technology. Discussion will continue.
- C. Call Center Quote:** The need for a service for property owners to contact for utility issues after hours was discussed. Member Riggott motioned to request a demonstration. Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- D. Fund Balances:** Administrator Peterson shared the current fund balances for the Utilities, as well reviewed debt service information. A discussion for the current fee schedule will be added to the March agenda.
- E. Continued Business:**
 - a. Housing Incentives:** Member Riggott motioned to not entertain any housing incentives at this time. Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Discussion was had regarding the significant cost to the Utilities to bring power to the developments, as well as the unknown costs associated with this. Motion carried with all in favor.
 - b. Water Connection, RLH:** No update was available.
 - c. Capital Projects:**
 - i. Pricing for replacing the relays as a 2021 project:** No new information was available.
 - ii. Quotes for valve replacement:** Supervisor Wagner noted that with the proposed Kirkwood project this year, several strategic valves would be replaced.
 - iii. Carbon Neutrality and Long Term Capital:** Members discussed the opportunity of the creation of a microgrid in the future, with the utilization of batteries.
 - 1. Rebate Offers:** No discussion.
 - iv. Drip Lines Investigations:** On going project, no updates.
 - v. Storm Sewer Investigations:** On going project, no updates.
- F. Miscellaneous**
 - a. Member Pay:** Member Riggott motioned to increase Public Utility Commission member pay in 2023 from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Member Pieper seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll call with members Pieper and Riggott voting in favor. Member Roelofs voted against. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn Regular Meeting: Motion was made by Commissioner Riggott to adjourn the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission at 10:53 a.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Pieper. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk