

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner Bushke with the following roll call:

Members Present: Commissioners Bushke, Pasbrig, Lodahl, Guse and Engel; and Alderpersons Frings and Smith

Members Absent:

Others Present: Nathan Kempke, Christina Keller, JoAnne Hurst, & Sharon Fischer

Citizen Comments.

JoAnne Hurst, 207 N. German Street. Fixed sewer later and is asking for a refund. Has been told at Common Council meeting the City is not liable because it was an ordinance at that time.

Sharon Fischer, 145 Barwig Ave. Fixed her sewer lateral. She is asking for a refund.

Consent Agenda.**Minutes of September 4, 2018, Water Utility Bills, Wastewater Bills.**

Motion by Com. Pasbrig, second by Ald. Frings to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

Water Report.**Well & Distribution System Report/Discussion.**

Sept 13 Main/ Service break on Horicon St - service that connects the main to the car wash has been repaired and waiting for dry weather to replace the concrete patch. Fall hydrant flushing next week. About 25 hydrants will be flushed. Northeast Asphalt has done some asphalt patching and will return to finish. All watermains/laterals have been installed for the STH 28/67 reconstruction. Total lead service count was 20 for the project.

Wastewater Report.**WWTP & Lift station Report/Discussion.**

Flow to the WWTP has been elevated due to heavy rain. Mains and laterals have all been installed for the STH 28/67 reconstruction. Have heard from the vendor that Kekoskee/ Leroy ordered a pump with a flush valve for the well at the lift station. Next week Great Lakes will be in town to televise mains. Beaver Gunite is at the treatment plant working on the sludge tank. Still waiting on the generator switch, it is hung up in shipping. Conduit has been installed in the building for the temporary generator required when the switch is installed.

Manhole Inspections/Discussion

Will be jetting through October. Found a few manholes on the east side of the river that will be high on the list for repair. Around 20 leaking man holes have been found. Five or six manholes have been found that need to be rebuilt. Discussion of when to start fixing the high priority manholes. Nathan had presented a quote for fixing 12 manholes at a previous meeting. The Commission instructed Nathan to get bids again and get the worst manholes fixed.

Impact Fees and Connection Fees Discussion/Possible Action.

Christina and Nathan had a conference call with Bethany from Baker Tilly on connection fees and impact fees. Impact fees (water) are collected and regulated by PSC. Connection fees (sewer) are not regulated by PSC. Both fees are used to pay off debt from projects that were completed to accommodate city growth. The projects completed were the High Street water tower (impact fees) and the west side interceptor sewer (connection fees). Fees collected now are reimbursing the Utility for money spent paying off the debt for those projects. Suggestion to leave impact fees due to PSC regulations and revisit the connection fees after the debt is paid off in May of 2019.

Credits for Replaced Sewer Laterals Discussion/Possible Action.

Agenda item recommended from Common Council. The mayor suggests a \$1,000 credit for each property owner that fixed their lateral. Discussion included the belief that the City should be responsible for any credits since the Council rescinded the sewer lateral ordinance.

Motion by Com. Guse, second by Ald. Frings to send back to the Council. Motion passed 4-1, Ald. Smith voted no. Com. Lodahl and Com. Engel abstain.

Hurst and Fischer leave at 6:47 p.m.

Lead Water Service Abatement Program Discussion/Possible Action

The Commission would like to find out how much money was saved by using DNR loan funding and how much has been spent for lead service reimbursements. Nathan stated these figures could be calculated after all of the invoices from the STH 28/67 reconstruction are received.

Ald. Smith states that if a taxpayer has a lead service and their street is being reconstructed they can be part of the reimbursement program if funds allow through the DNR funding savings. Christina explained that the “savings” or “balance” the utilities saved from using the DNR funding would need to be in the budget as an expense to use as the “savings” for reimbursements.

If customers roads are not on a street that is to be reconstructed, the Commission will approve offering a test to check lead levels.

Motion by Ald. Frings, second by Com. Guse to offer customers that have lead services to have their water tested for lead at the expense of the Utility. Do 50 this month, and the rest in 2019. Motion passed 7-0

2019 Industrial Strength Charges

Proposed lab test costs. Com. Engel asked about farming out lab testing.

Motion by Ald. Smith second by Com. Pasbrig to approve 2019 Industrial Strength Charges. Motion passed 6-1. Com. Engel voted no.

Billing Adjustments.

1641 Dayton St

Nathan explained that the billing software caught the issue the month it occurred, but the person in charge of reviewing the alerts at that time failed to follow up on it. Due to the continued low usage, the software did not recognize the issue during the following months.

2050 Horicon St.

Motion by Com. Guse, second by Com. Pasbrig to back charge both customers the amount shown in the handouts included in the packets. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Com. Guse, second by Ald. Frings to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Christina Keller, Utility Accountant