

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RICHLAND CENTER
MUNICIPAL UTILITY COMMISSION
Wednesday, April 10, 2024 4p.m.,
Meeting Room, WWTP 29847 Cty Hwy TB Lone Rock, WI 53556
This Meeting was held in person and via WebEx Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Members present: Downs (4:47p.m.) Sawle, Nice, Schaub, Heiar, and Collins

Members absent: Melby

Other present: Mueller, Krueger, Fischer, Gerald Klatt, and Gald (via phone)

President Sawle called the meeting to order at 4p.m. The meeting had been properly posted.

Motion by Heiar, second by Schaub to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

Treasurer's report was received and filed.

Motion by Collins, second by Heiar to approve the Electric bills for April totaling \$642,269.16. Also acknowledges the balance for March, thus totaling \$906,508.22. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Schaub, second by Sawle to approve the Water bills for April totaling \$52,954.58. Also acknowledges the balance for March, thus totaling \$111,849.92. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

Motion by Schaub, second by Collins to approve the Sewer bills for April totaling \$131,185.39. Also acknowledges the balance for March, thus totaling \$221,923.43. All voting aye on roll call, motion carried.

For safety Scott Gald reported that the Electric Utility did receive the Diamond Award for Safety from APPA.

President Sawle would like to have the personnel committee meet with Attorney Zach to go over the personnel handbook. The committee will bring the updates to the May meeting. He would also like to have the supervisors attend the meeting. The week of April 22nd is being discussed for the date.

Electric Superintendent Gald reported that they have been working on conversions since the weather has been good. The floor at the shop has been completed and the counter tops are in. The inventory is all organized. The cameras have also been installed. Scott has been in New Orleans since Sunday for the APPA conference. AMI meters will be in late summer. The Electric Utility was recognized for Electric Service Reliability.

Water Superintendent Krueger reported that there was a preconstruction meeting with G-Pro on 3/19. They have a start date of May 6th, although with the weather it might be delayed. Staff completed 140 meter changes. Switching to M Care made things go smoothly. Terry took his groundwater exam on March 26th and does not have the results back yet. There are 10 locates called in so the water department can start digging for the unknown lead services. We joined the lawsuit for PFAS and now we have been requested to provide 10 years of pumping data and well capacity. We have had no detection here but we need to get that in for the future if needed. They have started valve exercising and the tool that is used had a piece fall into the valve. They have been trying to fish it out with no luck. The guys do not want to turn valves by hand so they are currently working through it. Andy Zimmer sent an email update there was a walkthrough for Phase 2. We sent letters for the public information meeting on April 23rd at City Hall.

Wastewater Superintendent Fischer reported that he should start testing for PFAS but since Steve has already tested his water system and has no detection, he is not planning on testing. There have been 4 sewer backups. All four are due to flushable wipes that are not flushable. Todd thinks that we need to make a public service announcement regarding this issue. The rate study is getting finished up, possibly be on the agenda for the May meeting. There have development team meetings once a month but now that has been changed to twice a month

so they are able to stay up on things. It has been a challenge working with the newer department heads for street and parks. Ashley mentioned that the city might be more interested in not doing a big street project and focus on developing the land for the hospital.

Office Manager Mueller reported that the auditors are working on the PSC reports to get them filed. They should have the audit done soon as well. Jeff Stanek from Waupun has been helping Vanessa get our utility data in reports for the commissioners. The billing error has not been an issue this month. There was one student that completed a form for the scholarship but his father is an employee.

There was nothing for correspondence.

There was no public comments.

Heiar said it was good to be back. President Sawle mentioned that after the last commission meeting a few of our superintendents were given grief by the city administrator with something that was not said at our last meeting. He didn't like that this happened because we have been working very hard to improve communication with the city. Collins commented that he feels that the billing error was handling well with customers.

Motion made by Collins, second by Heiar to move in to close session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require. The purpose of close session is to inform and discuss a water meter discrepancy for an industrial customer. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

Motion made by Collins, second by Downs to reconvene in open session. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried.

Motion by Heiar, second by Sawle to adjourn. All voting aye upon voice vote, motion carried without dissent at 5:26p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Vanessa Mueller