



City of Rock Falls Public Works / Public Property Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 2-5-2015

Time Meeting Started: 5:30

Time Meeting Ended: 6:30

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Reitzel – Chairman	p	Mayor Wescott	p
Alderman Kuhlemier	p	Administrator Blackert	p
Alderman Schuneman	p	Clerk Arduini	p
Alderman Watts	p	Ed Cox	p
		Ted Padilla	p
		Larry Spinka	p
		Brian Frickenstein	p
Also Attended			

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
1. Call to order - Chairman Reitzel	Meeting was called to order at 5:30	Meeting begin 5:30pm
2. Approve Minutes of the January 8th, 2015 Public Works - Public Property Meeting	The minutes were reviewed by the committee	Minutes accepted
3. Old Business: a. Water rate discussion – Ted Padilla	<p>Water Superintendent Ted Padilla present the same increase as at the prior meeting. The increase for FY 2015-2016 would be \$.15 on the basic charge, and \$.10 on the usage per unit above minimum. The increase for FY 2016-2017 would be \$.10 on the basic charge, and \$.15 on the usage per unit above minimum. The increase for FY 2017-2018 would be \$.15 on the basic charge, and \$.10 on the usage per unit above minimum.</p> <p>Mayor Wescott Explained that usage has gone down, but the system still needs to be maintained and updated for the customers on the water system. Adm. Blackert explained that insurance rates are going to be higher this year, and that cost needs to be considered in budget which affects the rates. There was a great deal of discussion concerning collections of accounts receivables. A motion to accept the rate increase was made by Alderman Schuneman and second by Alderman Watts. Unanimous vote, carried</p>	The rate increase will be sent to City Council for approval
4. New Business: a. Sewer rate discussion	<p>Sewer Superintendent Ed Cox illustrated the effect of losing the major sewer customers, along with the maintenance of the new plant on the bottom line. Mr. Cox and Adm. Blackert showed slides of the proposed rate increase and the totals. The recommendation is to increase the pre-treatment rate from \$1.80 to \$2.00 per unit after the first 3. The increase for FY 2015-2016 would be \$.25 on the basic charge, and \$.20 on the usage per unit above minimum. The increase for FY 2016-2017 would be \$.25 on the basic charge, and \$.20 on the usage per unit above minimum. The increase for FY 2017-2018 would be \$.25 on the basic charge, and \$.20 on the usage per unit above minimum.</p> <p>A motion was made to accept the rate increase by Alderman Watts, and second by Alderman Schuneman. Unanimous vote, carried</p>	The rate increase will be sent to City Council for approval
b. Commercial Utility Reimbursement Grants Brochure and Application –	Adm. Blackert explained to the committee that “who is not eligible” language was added to the brochure so that the intent of the program is where the grant money is going. The goal is to get commercial property fixed up and increase	The brochure will be added to the council agenda for

Adm. Blackert	the EAV of the City. Many tax exempt organizations were asking for this grant. Alderman Kuhlemier reminded the committee how this grant came about due to a rehab of a housing complex. Mayor Wescott stated that this is another tool to be used for economic development because we own our utilities. A motion to send the brochure to the City Council for approval was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Alderman Schuneman. Unanimous vote, carried	approval
c. Request from Rhythm Quest for Percussion – Palooza 2015 -Mayor Wescott	Mayor Wescott explained that the Rhythm Quest will be hosting a Percussion Palooza, and they are again this year requesting permission to borrow the Louie Bellson’s drum set to display at the event. The drums will be on display on March 1 st , and will be returned the next day. A motion to allow the use of the drums was made by Alderman Schuneman, and second by Alderman Watts. Unanimous vote, carried	The drums will be allowed to be displayed during percussion palooza
d. Request for disposal of excess property - 1986 Bucket Truck	The truck was offered to the Park District, and they did not want it. The boom would be over \$2000 to fix, the tires are bad, and it is in bad shape. It would cost the city \$200 to run an ad to try to sell it. The street department will be able to purchase another used one from the Electric department in a few months for \$8000. The committee agreed to have it sold as scrap	The item will be placed on the agenda for sale
e. Facebook usage by Department Heads – Alderman Watts	Alderman Watts stated that when the Facebook page was set up, all of the department heads collectively agreed to use it. Over the last several months input from the department heads has dramatically dropped. Alderman Watts who administers the page needs information, and he is asking for more communication from all departments. Mayor Wescott will have this also discussed at the Department head meeting.	No action
5. Engineer’s Report – Brian Frickenstein	City Engineer Brian Frickenstein reported that the 7 th Avenue project will be ready for bids in March.	No action
6. Wastewater – Ed Cox Superintendent a. NPDES / Projects report	The committee reviewed the NPDES report, and Mr. Cox reported no violations.	Report accepted
7. Water – Ted Padilla Superintendent a. Update on Projects	Mr. Padilla reported that his department has been making a big push on GIS which is helping him find addresses that are not on the system.	No action
8. Street – Assistant Superintendent Larry Spinka	Mr. Spinka reported that his department has been battling the 15 inches of snow. They have one truck down, due to an injector pump. He has also been working on a bid for a new dump truck. Mr. Spinka would like to have a stainless steel bed on the new truck so that it can be put on another chassis later. He would like to see more slag used this year due to the dust issues they have with chip.	No action
8. Committee Member Items	Mayor Wescott wanted to have everyone help inform people that with the warm weather following this cold snap and snow things are going to be thawing. The sewer department will need to know of blocked and frozen catch basins to help prevent flooding. The sewer department will be using a brine solution to help thaw frozen catch basins.	No action
9. Adjournment	With nothing else for the good of the committee the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm	Meeting ends at 6:30pm

Committee Chairman