



City of Rock Falls Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 12-17-2018

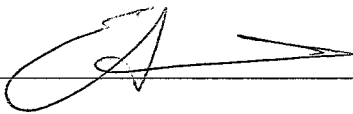
Time Meeting Started: 8:15am

Time Meeting Ended: 9:13am

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Schuneman – Chairman		Ted Padilla	
Alderman Kuhlemier	p	Ed Cox	p
Alderman Logan		Dick Simon	p
Mayor Wescott	p	Wayne Shafer	p
Shane Brown	p	Diane Hatfield	p
Tom Myers	p	Eric Arduini	p
Kim Groharing	p	Adm. Blackert	p

Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
CALL TO ORDER A. Roll Call	The meeting was called to order by Shane Brown at 8:15am	Meeting begins at 8:15am
B. Review of Minutes from November 19, 2018 meeting	A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Mayor Wescott to approve the minutes.	Motion carried
MANAGEMENT/STRATEGY/CAPITAL PROJECTS		
C. New Business 1. Utility Office a. Review and discuss late fees for State of Illinois utility bills	Diane Hatfield informed the Committee that she has been trying to clean up four accounts with the State of Illinois. They will not pay the late fees because of the "State Prompt Payment Act" of 2005. They were near \$60,000 behind, and 15 months late at one time. They are now about five months behind. Because the State refuses to pay late fees, they will be cut like any other customer if the State fails to pay their bills. A motion to write off the fees was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Kim Groharing. A letter explaining our position will be drafted and sent to the state. Copies will also be sent to state legislators.	Motion Carried
2. Water Department a. Superintendent update	Tony Poci informed the Committee that the Filter 1&2 projects are finished. The department has been working on leaks. The new water employee will begin January 7 th .	No action
3. Wastewater Department a. Superintendent update	Mr. Cox reported that the filter replacements have been finished. ComEd drilled through the force main along the railroad berm. The city has hired Civil Construction to make the repairs, and they should be done today. ComEd knew this work was in the City easement, and never informed the City that this project was happening. ComEd should be responsible for the repair, and the additional man hours needed to keep two factories up and running while our crews are pumping to keep them on. The ComEd contractor did not have the JULIE called back in after snowfall. The contractor said that the City gave an "All clear" which the City does not do.	No action
b. Lakeside update	One Spaans bearing is now totally shot. The Lakeside bearings, and gearbox should arrive at the end of February.	No action
4. Electric Department a. Superintendent Update	The West 7 th Street project needed an additional bore due to the age of the wire. The river is getting back to normal levels, and the hydro is running. There were 2 outages. Save-A-Lot used \$3723.00 of the IMEA efficiency grant. The remainder (\$34,000) will go toward a (\$45,000) project of replacing streetlamp heads with LEDs.	
b. Review and discuss ComEd proposal for Avenue A Substation	ComEd will be putting together a team to provide engineering for the Avenue A substation project. When finished it will help both systems handle outages better. ComEd wants a deposit of \$100,000 to begin. Itemized bills will be given from ComEd to BHMG. A motion was made	5 aye - Motion Carried

	by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Tom Myers to send the agreement to the City Council for approval.	
Discussion of request by Coloma Township Park District for installation of service at new shelter in Centennial Park.	The Park district would like to build a new shelter at the south end of Centennial Park. A motion was made by Alderman Kuhlemier, and second by Kim Groharing to approve the request, and bill for materials only on the install.	Motion carried
5. Fiber/Broadband Department a. Superintendent Report and updates	The build out may run one week into January as work is finished on Route 40. The first two residential customers will be hooked up this week. There may be some installation delays due to weather. Due to experiencing more loss than anticipated, Fibernet is working with the vendor on the fiber splices.	No action
b. Marketing update	MindFire ran a boosted post on Facebook and saw 11 new signups added.	No action
c. School E Rate Update	The schools had a 15 year deal with the City to pay \$100.00 per year for the use of fiber that the City had installed. The agreement ended in 2015, and nothing had ever been paid. Moving forward the contractor that is using the City fiber to supply broadband to the schools should compensate the City for it, or install their own. A motion was made by Mayor Wescott, and second by Alderman Kuhlemier to have the City Attorney draft a letter to the schools explaining the fees associated with leasing this fiber from the City. The new agreement will have to be figured in by all bidders in the next round of E-Rate bidding.	5 aye - Motion Carried
a. Review and discuss Final FY20 Capital Plan as revised	The committee reviewed the capital plans. The capital plans are higher this year due to major projects under way. Large projects include the Red Zone camera project for Sewer Department, and the Avenue A substation for Electric. A motion to approve the capital budgets as presented was made by Kim Groharing, and second by Tom Myers.	5 aye - Motion Carried
b. Bill Wescott – Update on APPA Governance training.	The class will be held January 18 th from 8:30am to 4:30pm. IMEA will be there to discuss energy markets.	No action
D. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting will be on January 28 th	No action
E. Committee member items	The Committee spoke about the APPA legislative rally, and Mayor Wescott thanks everyone for being a part of the Committee.	No action
F Adjournment	With nothing else for the good of the committee, a motion was made by Tom Myers, and second by Kim Groharing to adjourn the meeting.	The meeting was adjourned at 9:13am.



Chairman