



City of Rock Falls

Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/25/2021 Time Meeting Started: 8:20 am Time Meeting Ended: 9:50 am

Members		Also Attended	
Alderman Schuneman - Chairman	X	Ted Padilla	X
Alderman Wangelin	A	Ed Cox	X
Alderman Snow	X	Dick Simon	X
Mayor Wescott	X	Wayne Shafer	X
Shane Brown	A	Diane Hatfield	X
Tom Myers	X	Administrator Blackert	X
Kim Groharing	A	Matt Cole - City Attorney	A

Ordinance/Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
CALL TO ORDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 8:20 am 	Meeting begin at 8:20 am
Review of Minutes from December 21, 2020 meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A motion was made by Tom Myers and a second by Alderman Snow to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2020 meeting. 	Motion carried, minutes approved
Utilities Office: Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diane Hatfield reported that the Utilities Office is back to full staffing schedule. 	No Action
Utilities Office: Write Offs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diane Hatfield presented fourth quarter writeoffs. A motion was made by Mayor Wescott and a second by Alderman Snow to approve October through December 2020 writeoffs in the amount of \$7,397.03 and forward to Finance Committee. 	Motion carried, To Finance Committee
Water Department: Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ted Padilla reported his department is experiencing some extra work due to the fiber construction. This extra work is to make sure ordinances are followed correctly. Ted Padilla as well as Administrator Blackert commented the City will be invoicing Cimco for the water usage as well as water main breaks. This is a result of the fire from last week. A letter will be sent suggesting other alternatives going forward. 	No Action
Wastewater Department: Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ed Cox reported the plant is running well. 	No Action
Wastewater Department: Rock River Watershed Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ed Cox reported the tour of the plant went well. Seed money in the amount of \$5,000 is being sent this week and will be applied towards annual fee. 	No Action
Electric Department: Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dick Simon reported reliability, power outages and hydro are doing well. 	No Action

Electric Department: AMI Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dick Simon reported with the AMI meters currently installed, ERTs will be turned that will allow approximately 750 existing meters to be read through the new Tantalus system. 	No Action
Electric Department: Legislative Rally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dick Simon reported the rally will take place via Zoom March 1st 2nd. If anyone is interested in participating, please sign up by February 4th. 	No Action
Electric Department: Selmi's Service Charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dick Simon presented a request by Selmi's to only charge 1 customer charge instead of the required three. The Committee decided not to do so at this time. Dick will work with customer to come up with alternatives. 	No Action
Fiber/Broadband Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wayne Shafer reported construction started last Monday and will proceed in phases (rather than fiberhoods) and should be completed by year end. 	No Action
City Attorney: Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Matt Cole's absence, Administrator Blackert reported a thorough response for Civic Plaza will be prepared with a court date of April 12th. The City is getting estimates for 2103 Industrial Park Rd. Well to City-no new changes to report. 	No Action
Utility Manager: Draft of Capital Budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Blackert reviewed the updates on the draft of the Capital Budgets for each department. A motion was made by Alderman Snow and a second by Tom Myers to approve the draft of the capital budgets. 	Unanimous Approval
Utility Manager: Ground Lease Offer - US Cellular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Blackert present an offer to purchase the ground lease with US Cellular. A motion was made by Mayor Wescott and a second by Alderman Snow to not approve this offer. Administrator Blackert will contact US Cellular with this outcome. 	Motion carried
Utility Manager: Usage Comparison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Blackert is hoping with the businesses going to Phase 4, usage will return to more normal levels. 	No Action
Utility Manager: Chicago Tribune Article re: Prairie State Coal Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dick Simon and Administrator Blackert both commented about this article and wanted the Committee to be aware of these issues. 	No Action
Next Meeting Date & Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next meeting will be held on February 21, 2021 at 8:15 am in Council Chambers 	No Action
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With nothing else for the good of the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am 	Meeting ends at 9:50 am



Committee Chairman