



## City of Rock Falls Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/23/2021      Time Meeting Started: 8:15 am      Time Meeting Ended: 9:35 am

Members		Also Attended	
Tom Myers - Chairman	A	Ted Padilla	X
Alderman Snow-Vice Chairman	X	Matt Trotter	X
Alderman Wangelin	X	Dick Simon	X
Alderman Dowd	X	Wayne Shafer	X
Mayor Kleckler	X	Diane Hatfield	X
Shane Brown	X	Administrator Blackert	X
Kim Groharing	X	Matt Cole - City Attorney	X
		Alderman Devers	X

Ordinance/Topic	Discussion	Plan of Action
CALL TO ORDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 8:15 am</li> </ul>	Meeting begin at 8:15 am
Public Comment- Customer Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robbin Blackert presented sewer main/lateral issue and maybe in the future the City might consider a cost sharing agreement with Kapp's Banquet Facility.</li> <li>Christopher Kenny did not appear at the meeting so Diane Hatfield commented that Mr. Kenny had an issue of why the Utilities Department hadn't contacted him to tell him he could turn off part of his utilities.</li> <li>Kerry McGrady commented on his misfortunes of his history with his hot water heater and how expensive the water usage has become.</li> <li>Scott Lodor did not appear at the meeting so Diane Hatfield commented on Mr. Lodor's refusal to pay the disconnect fees.</li> </ul>	No Action
Review of Minutes from July 19, 2021 meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin and a second by Alderman Dowd to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2021 meeting.</li> </ul>	Motion carried, minutes approved
Fiber/Broadband: Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wayne Shafer reported SurfAir construction continues to be very active.</li> </ul>	No Action
Utilities Office: Superintendent Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diane Hatfield presented information on how positively the 2019 overhaul of customer deposits have made to the accounts receivables.</li> </ul>	No Action
Water Department: Superintendent Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ted Padilla reported of an upcoming large project for the deterioration of overflow pipe.</li> <li>Informed everyone of the upcoming Fire Department hydrant flush.</li> </ul>	No Action

Wastewater Department: Superintendent Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robbin Blackert reported that the operation of the sewer plant has officially been turned over to the new Superintendent Matt Trotter. Ed Cox will be officially retired as of September 3<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>• Matt Trotter reported of the filter problems at the plant.</li> </ul>	No Action
Wastewater Department: Purchase of Superintendent Vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robbin Blackert requested approval to purchase Superintendent vehicle. Based on the needs of this vehicle, it will no longer require a pickup truck. The existing pickup truck will be transferred to another city department. A motion was made by Alderman Wangelin and a second by Alderman Dowd to approve purchase of pre-owned Superintendent vehicle not to exceed \$32,000 and forward to Finance Committee.</li> </ul>	Motion carried unanimously, forward to Finance Committee
Electric Department: Superintendent Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dick Simon reported reliability is good but outages were up a bit this month. Department is looking into more protection concerning these outages.</li> <li>• Hydro output is back up this month.</li> </ul>	No Action
Electric Department: AMI Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dick Simon reported collectors/repeaters will be programmed and installed the second week of September. This project will continue over the next two budget years.</li> </ul>	No Action
Electric Department: Generators 1 & 2 Black Startup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dick Simon reported of the need for testing of a black startup of generators 1 &amp; 2. This would involve hopefully only 15 minute interruption of service to affected customers but could be up to a couple of hours.</li> </ul>	No Action
Electric Department: FY 22 Rate Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dick Simon and Robbin Blackert reported with the pending legislation changes it would be more cost effective for the City to postpone the rate study until these changes go into effect.</li> </ul>	No Action
City Attorney: Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Cole updated the Committee that Rock Falls Apartments continues to move toward trial.</li> <li>• Industrial Park sewer connection—Since the waiver request was not approved by City trial took place on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. A decision should be made by October.</li> </ul>	No Action
Utility Manager: Agreement with Willett Hofmann & Associates for Unsewered Communities Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robbin Blackert reviewed the engineering agreement with Willett Hofmann &amp; Associates. A motion was made by Kim Groharing and a second by Alderman Dowd to approve the engineering agreement with Willett Hofmann &amp; Associates in the amount of \$24,000 paid for with Unsewered Communities Grant funds and forward to Council for approval.</li> </ul>	Motion carried unanimously, forward to City Council
Utility Manager: APPA Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robbin Blackert inquired about interest in APPA Training.</li> </ul>	No Action
Next Meeting Date & Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next meeting will be held on September 27, 2021 at 8:15 am in Council Chambers.</li> </ul>	No Action
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With nothing else for the good of the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am</li> </ul>	Meeting ends at 9:35 am

Committee Vice Chairman

---