

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners

Monday, July 13, 2009, 12:00 p.m. PRESENT: Eugene Tubbs, Jim Cooper, Mae Nachman and Carl Rasmussen.

ALSO PRESENT: Joel Lemke, Brenda Thomas, Rob Molski, Eric Niffenegger, Jaime Zdroik, Pat Planton of S.E.H. and Angel Gebeau of Earth Tech/AE COM.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Paul Adamski, Kim Halverson

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4. Discussion and action on using restricted Water funds to pay for the Fourth Ave. project and debt service for Well 11.

III. WATER OPERATIONS

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V. ADJOURNMENT

I. ADMINISTRATION

1. Approval of minutes of the June 8th, 2009 meeting.

Motion made by Carl Rasmussen, seconded by Jim Cooper to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2009 meeting.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

II. ACCOUNTING

2. Consideration of claims for the Water and Sewage Treatment Utilities.

Eugene Tubbs presented the statement of claims for the Water Utility for June. The balance as of June 1st, 2009 was \$1,586,048.16; the bank deposits recorded in June 2009 were \$450,244.91. Checks issued since the June 8th, 2009 meeting numbered 43191 through 43240 were in the amount of \$292,341.04. Checks numbered 43241 through 43272 for \$54,044.34 were presented for action on July 11th, 2009. The net balance on hand July 11th, 2009 was \$1,689,907.69.

Motion made by Mae Nachman, seconded by Carl Rasmussen to approve the Water Utility claims for the month of June 2009 as audited and read.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

Eugene Tubbs also presented the statement of claims for the Sewage Treatment Utility for June. The balance as of June 1st, 2009 was \$1,070,902.61; the bank deposits recorded in June 2009 were \$195,362.21. Checks issued since the June 8th, 2009 meeting numbered 26923 through 26948 were in the amount of \$102,462.95. Checks numbered 26949 through 26975 for \$32,945.87 were presented for action on July 11th, 2009. The net balance on hand July 11th, 2009 was \$1,130,856.00.

Motion made by Jim Cooper, seconded by Mae Nachman to approve the Sewage Utility claims for the month of June 2009 as audited and read.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

3. Report on Safe Drinking Water Loan Program funding for Well 11 and Clean Water Fund Loan for the sewer project.

Pat Planton of S.E.H. explained the funding for Well 11. The utility submitted an Intent to Apply in December of last year. The preliminary engineering report had to be approved and plan specs had to be into the D.N.R. by the end of April 2009. Projects that scored the highest on the funding list typically had significant water quality concerns.

Our Well 11 project will be 50% funded by grants (\$1,597,500). The other half will be funded by a low interest loan with an interest rate of approximately 2.3 to 2.4%. Some of the preliminary work for Well 11 that was completed in 2007 and 2008 will also be grant funded or principle forgiveness.

We will be opening bids for the Well 11 project on July 30th. Pat anticipates construction to start in early September. One of the requirements for the funding is that we have an executed contract by October 1st.

The Water Department has also applied for a \$750,000 grant through the Department of Commerce. Since we already received a large grant funded for the Well 11 project, there is no assurance that we'll get the money from the Department of Commerce. We should know if we will receive any grant monies from the Department of Commerce by the end of the month.

The applications for the Sewer Clean Water Fund were due at the end of last month for additional loan or grant money that would be put towards the Patch St. sewer project. The D.N.R. will review those and hopefully we'll know within a couple of months. The sewer project will be started before we know whether or not we will be receiving any money. If we would receive any money, it could be applied toward any interim financing we would have.

4. Discussion and action on using restricted Water funds to pay for the Fourth Ave. project and debt service for Well 11.

Brenda explained the restricted funds are from New Page's bills for machine #35. Currently we have no funds designated to come out of the restricted funds so we are requesting to use the restricted funds to pay for the Fourth Ave. project with an estimated cost of \$463,000 and the debt service for Well 11 with an initial approximate cost of \$108,000 annually for Phase I. Phase II debt service costs will be determined at a later date.

Motion made by Mae Nachman, seconded by Jim Cooper to approve using restricted Water funds to pay for the Fourth Ave. project and debt service for Well 11.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

Carl Rasmussen questioned if the last rate increase included the amounts we have now received grants for. Joel explained this would affect the future rate increases.

III. WATER OPERATIONS

5. Report on water distribution operations.

Joel explained we have two blocks of sewer and water mains completed on Fourth Ave. and they are working on the services for those two blocks this week.

A contractor was in town the last couple of weeks rebuilding hydrants that were recalled due to use of corrosive lubricant in them by the factory. This was done at no cost to us. The same contractor is in town this week painting fire hydrants.

The Patch Street project was originally scheduled to start next week but no equipment has been delivered yet so that will probably not start next week as originally planned.

The water operations report was distributed and reviewed.

A total of 171 valves have been operated in 2009.

6. Report on water supply operations.

Carl Rasmussen questioned whether the gallons pumped per K.W.H. were monitored.

Eric explained the efficiency varies due to depths of the pump, pressure in system and the combination of wells pumped. Eric explained we have to rotate the wells; we can't just keep using one well more than the others. The rehabilitation of the wells has helped them become more efficient. Pat Planton of S.E.H. and Eric will discuss the efficiency of the wells.

Our pumpage in June was 206,846,000 gallons, a decrease of 2,946,000 gallons of water from June 2008.

7. Report on water filling station installation.

Joel explained the bulk water filling station had been approved previously and with the quote received we are well within the budgetary dollar amount originally approved. Pictures were provided to the Commission as an example of what the filling station will look like once it's completed. An account will be established for each company using the filling station and they will be provided a code to punch in and then choose how much water they need.

The filling station is a safety feature for our water distribution system. Hydrants are a vulnerable point in the distribution system due to their visibility. There is always the possibility of backflow problems as well.

The quote from Municipal Solutions of \$33,058.75 does not include installation. Joel does not expect the installation to cost very much.

8. Report on Cross Connection Control Program.

The Cross Connection Control Program began two weeks ago. Hydro Designs started doing the public accounts first. Once the public accounts are completed they will then do the commercial and industrial accounts.

There were 20 public facilities completed in June.

IV. SEWAGE TREATMENT OPERATIONS

9. Report on Collection System Maintenance.

Rob stated they are working on the cutting, cleaning and jetting the sewers. Roots in the sewers are a continuing problem in Park Ridge. Now the roots are coming in through the laterals which run through easements in the backyards of the Park Ridge residents. Rob stated they are monitoring how well the RootX application worked in Park Ridge by checking to see how the roots are decaying.

The sewer report for the month of June was reviewed by the Commission.

10. Report on sewage treatment operations.

Eric stated the plant is running well.

B.O.D. (2.47 ppm), Phosphorus (0.725 ppm) and Suspended Solid (2.92 ppm) limits were met for the month of June 2009.

The next Water & Sewage Commission meeting will be August 10th, 2009 at noon.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Jim Cooper to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes all. Nays none. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED

12:41 p.m.

BOARD OF WATER AND SEWAGE COMMISSIONERS

EUGENE TUBBS, SECRETARY

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