

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

3:30 p.m.

Monday, February 24, 2025

Present: James FitzGerald
Ron Bautch
Sylvia LeBlanc
Michelle Ketola

Absent: Larry Carter

Lana Fralich, City Administrator
Mike Miller, Public Utilities Superintendent
Hannah Patenaude, Bolton & Menk via ZOOM
Brian Guldán, Bolton & Menk via ZOOM
Josh Stier, Bolton & Menk via ZOOM

FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

FitzGerald welcomed new board member, Michelle Ketola.

Agenda – Motion by LeBlanc, second Bautch to approve the Agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes – Motion by LeBlanc, second Bautch to approve the minutes of January 22, 2025 Regular Meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Communications/ Public Comments – None at this time.

Department Head Update – See below

Old Business –

Water Treatment Facility- Brian Guldán, Bolton & Menk provided preliminary pricing estimates received from Magney Construction, the CMAR on the project being over . Discussion followed regarding higher costs than estimated, water main looping, inadequate chlorine contact time, Build America Buy America (BABA) requirements, funding, low interest loans, affordability grants, current water rates and the likeliness of needing to increase rates to pay the debt on the PFA loan. Further discussion on the costs to repair, the timing for the needs to repair the system, the high pressures in the system and increase in water breaks, timing to repair the system, finding additional funding, that the city is in an opportunity zone and has historic significance, the concern for senior citizens and low-income households, and the impact on the mining company and businesses. Consensus of board is to have Guldán run number at current rates to determine loan amount needed and household equivalent to pay debt load and provide at next meeting.

Waste/Water SCADA System- Miller reports engineer has been on site this week, final steps of the project will begin July with estimated completion in August.

Boathouse Bay Utilities- Miller reports that construction will start in the spring, 90% of main waterline is in ground, two lift station boxes, and two hydrants.

Lake County CSAH – Project plans are moving ahead, discussion regarding the concrete area by the school needing to be removed to replace water lines, how project will affect the water line to the water tower, and the contractor that Lake County hires will tie in all water lines during project at city expense.

Citywide Street Utility Assessment Policy- Draft special assessment policy will be emailed to Public Utilities Commission members.

Hydrants- Discussion regarding number of hydrants needed and moving forward with obtaining hydrants at a discounted cost. Consensus of board is to recommend Council approve Bolton & Menk to put together a quote package and obtain pricing from local suppliers.

New Business – None at this time.

Motion by Bautch, second LeBlanc to adjourn at 4:51 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lisa Christenson