

Minutes of the Oconto Utility Commission held on August 5th, 2024

“Unapproved”

- 1.) Call meeting to order by Chairperson Vandenlangenberg @ 5:01 p.m.
- 2.) Roll Call: Members Present: Dan Zoeller, Brian Vandenlangenberg Earl Uhl, Ron Filz, Steve VanCampenhout , Utility Manager Matt Beekman, Mayor Martin, Ben Thome
Also present: Utility Clerk Megan Garrity and as recording secretary
- 3.) Approval of Agenda: **Motion by Uhl, second by VanCampenhout to approve the agenda as presented.**

5 ayes M/C
- 4.) Approval of Meeting Minutes from 7/15/2024. **Motion by Filz, second by Uhl to approve of the minutes from 7/15/2024 as presented.**

5 ayes M/C
- 5.) Public Input: none
- 6.) Correspondence:
 - a.) Employee Input: Thome mentioned that the meeting with moonshot went well and that they should be able to get some funding for the Backup Generator. Another meeting is scheduled with them and they will look into different options for pricing.
 - b.) Electrical Costs: VanCampenhout noticed that Well #5 is higher than normal, Beekman explained that was from the cleaning that needs to be done.
 - c.) WWTP Flows: Everything is consistent and ordinary.
 - d.) Septic Hauler Comparison: Everything is consistent and ordinary.
 - e.) Monthly Report: 120 new meters installed last month, averaging 6 per day. The water loss was from the water main break on Brazeau Ave which was estimated for 2 days.
 - f.) 818 Park Ave- Pipe issues: Beekman stated that this isn't the first house that they have had a problem with piping when changing the meters and the other homes understand the plumbing in the homes are their responsibility. 818 Park Ave is 1 of 2 home in the whole city that doesn't have a shut off valve before the meter which is why the employee shut the water off at the curb stop. All members agreed that this bill that is asked for the Utility Commission to pay has been denied due to home owners are responsible for their own plumbing from the curb into the home. A discussion about when entering the home and noticing bad plumbing areas to give them written notice that we won't be changing meters that day and to give them 2 weeks to correct/ change that area before meter can be replaced.
 - g.) Updating/ Changing Current Tariff: Beekman received the paperwork to start this process and will be working on starting the process this week.
- 7.) Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:
 - a.) Value Engineering of WWTP Upgrade: Beekman stated that the coating for the Deduct Septage Receiving tank should be done to the exterior before fully installing but the interior could wait. All the numbers are here other than mechanical work waiting for that number still. Builder's Risk Insurance will be different Beekman is waiting for an update on that. All members agreed to leave the Masonry Block at 12' instead of 8' block. Will have around 200 loads of fill, talked about options with selling the fill to save on trucking cost. Blacktop would be waiting. The asphalt shingles quote isn't final yet but a close estimate. VanCampenhout talked about installing a metal roof to save money in the long run. VanCampenhout also asked about change orders to protect the city from addition cost, 15% contingency was discussed with options on where that money would be coming from if needed to be used.
 - b.) Additional Bonding for WWTP: Beekman stated that didn't have the final numbers in time due to waiting for the Value Engineering to come back so will have more information at the next meeting.

8.) Approval of Accounts Payable from July 10, 2024 to August 1, 2024 in the amount of \$18,867.50.
Motion by Filz, second by VanCampenhout t to approve of Accounts Payable from July 10, 2024 to August 1, 2024 in the amount of \$18,867.50.

5 ayes M/C

- 9.) Revenue & Expenditures Guidelines from 2024: Discussion about page 3 Miscellaneous Revenue for Interest on Investments wondering if that should be higher and talked about the revenue for the utility installation permits.
- 10.) Committee may vote at approximately 5:53 p.m. to convene into Closed Session pursuant to notice duly given and as allowed by Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) for the consideration of employment for the following items:
- a.) Hiring chosen candidate for Water Operator Grade 1
- 11.) Committee may vote at 6:10 to convene into Open Session pursuant to notice duly given and as allowed by Wis. Stat. 19.85(2) for remainder of the agenda.

Motion by VanCampenhout, second by Filz to convene into open session at 6:10 pm

5 ayes M/C

12.) Action/ Discussion on Matters from Closed Session: **Motion by VanCampenhout, second by Uhl to hire chosen candidate for the Water Operator Grade 1**

13.) Next Meeting Date & Time: Wednesday September 4, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

14.) Adjournment: **Motion by Uhl, second by VanCampenhout to adjourn @ 6:15 p.m.**

5 ayes M/C

Meeting minutes submitted by: Megan Garrity, Utility Clerk