

## **Water & Sewer Commission Meeting January 29, 2024**

The Independence Water & Sewer Commission met on Monday January 29, 24 at the City Hall, 23688 Adams Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:20 pm by Tom Kloss. In attendance were Richard Warner, Joe Galewski, Tom Kloss, Tom Jensen, Matt Anderson, Julie Dascher, Tim and Racheal from Davy Engineering.

**Proof of Giving Public Notice Yes**

**Approval of Minutes –December 27,2023 and January 15, 2024**

Motion by Tom Kloss to approve the minutes from December 27,2023 and January 15,2024 meetings as presented. Second by Richard Warner. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:**

Matt Anderson stated he sometimes doesn't receive his Water & Sewer bill. The council asked if the address was correct on his bill? He said "yes." He stated he farms and it's hard for him to get to the City Hall to pay his bill. It was suggested to sign up for Auto pay, mail a check, money order or use the City's drop box located by the City Hall entrance door.

**Old Business:**

**A. Discussion with Possible Action FOG-Ordinance for Grease Trap**

Joe contacted other municipalities to ask how often the grease traps are cleaned. They said yearly and 6 months. Joe suggested changing the ordinance to say the grease traps need to be cleaned every 6 months and they need to be inspected to be sure they are getting done. Customers can send in a photo or have Joe look at the grease trap after it's cleaned. The City Council would need to approve the changes to the ordinance. Tom Jensen asked how much the cost would be to hire someone to clean the grease traps and Joe said Slaby Septic charges \$200.00.

**B. Discussion on High Ammonia at Public School**

Joe tested for Ammonia at the public School, but no results are back yet. Tom said we need to document everything we do at the Public School. If the results are high, we need to check again next month, then if the numbers are still high, we need to take action with fines.

**C. Discussion with Possible Action-Wegman Concrete Construction about cracks in the concrete on Main St.**

Tom Kloss checked the concrete on Main Street by Northern Investment and there's the same amount of cracks as there is everywhere else.

**D. Update 120 Water**

Joe had a zoom meeting and there was not much done. They got ahold of Mark Garlick to find out the year homes were built. Joe felt not enough was being done. Joe will continue to work with 120 Water.

**E. Update with Davy/Discussion/ Possible Action**

Tim from Davy Engineering believes that SEH should have given more details on the draft plan. Tim talked with LaVerne Wednesday Jan.24, 2024 and sent information to him. SEH should give information in 2 weeks after they receive the letter from LaVerne. Tim estimated the cost of the facility plan would be \$15,000.00. Tom Jensen suggested asking SEH for a partial refund for not completing the plan the city had paid for.

**New business:**

**A. Discussion with possible Action BOD & SS Formulas for Sewer Ordinances**

Tim from Davy Engineering is working on the formulas.

**B. Review the Updated 2024 Water & Sewer Rate Sheet**

Motion by Tom Jensen to approve the 2024 Water & Sewer Rates. Second by Richard Warner.

**C. Discussion with Possible Action on Sewer Rates for Unmetered customers.**

Motion by Richard Warner to charge a monthly Sewer Rate not to exceed \$85.32 at 23821 Howard St. Second by Tom Jensen. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

**D. Date for future meeting.**

Monday Feb. 26,2024 at 6:15 p.m.

**E. Superintendent's Report**

Joe will contact Osseo Electric to replace some lights that are out as it is a safety issue.

**F. Items for Next Agenda**

**Old Business:**

- A. Discuss Possible Action FOG-Change Ordinance for grease trap.
- B. Discuss High ammonia at Public School.
- C. Discuss with Possible Action Wegman Concrete about cracks in concrete on Main St.
- D. Update on 120 Water.

**New Business: None**

**H. Commissioner's Comments - none**

**Adjournment at 8:34 pm.**

Julie Dascher  
Deputy Clerk