**Water & Sewer Commission Meeting**

**November 18, 2019**

The Independence Water & Sewer Commission met on Monday, November 18, 2019 at City Hall, 23688 Adams Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:25pm by Chad Miemietz. Present were Craig Konter, Tom Kloss, Jason Ekern, Katie Jo Jerzak, Jerry Dorriot, Dennis Pronschinske, Mayor Baecker, Joe Galewski, Eli Castleberry, and Kari Pedersen.

**Minutes:**

Motion by Craig Konter and seconded by Tom Kloss to approve the minutes as presented from the October 28, 2019 meeting. Motion Carried.

Motion by Jason Ekern and seconded by Craig Konter to move ahead on the agenda to Old Business item C. Motion Carried.

Ben Sylla arrived and took over leading the meeting.

**Old Business**

**WWTP Updates**

Went over a potential plan for an upgraded plant at the current WWTP site. With the proposed plan, all existing buildings would be demolished & new buildings would be put up with flood proofed foundations in order to conform with DNR floodway requirements.

In order to proceed with the potential on-site upgrade, all residents within 500’ must be notified and would need to sign off that they approve of the new building site. The Commission would like Kari to contact Nick Gamroth at the county to get the 500’ boundary mapped and letters sent to all those affected.

Motion by Jason Ekern and seconded by Chad Miemietz to move ahead on the agenda to Old Business item F. Motion Carried.

**RES Water Quality Trading Program**

Erin presented information on what RES is proposing to the Commission. RES and SEH confirmed that we need 300 lb of phosphorus /year. The bid that was presented includes permitting and all needed yearly reporting. A 20-year performance guarantee is included with the contract.

Erin will draft a contract and get it sent over for review.

**Ammonia Testing**

Dennis, Joe, and Eli will continue to monitor the daily levels at the influent. If they are above 35, they will put portable samplers out to try to find the source. They currently have a portable sampler at Bushy’s processing plant.

**Sludge Hauling**

The hauling has been completed and the bills are in. Slaby told the guys to keep an eye on the bars inside the tank so they don’t corrode over time and break off.

**FEMA Flood Plain Survey**

SEH is working on the hydraulic analysis, they should have it completed for the December meeting.

N**ew Business**

**Well Furnace Repair Invoice**

The bill for the repair hasn’t been received yet.

**Sewers Cleaned/Repaired**

Sewers were cleaned and videoed by R&R Waste Systems. One on Silver Dr needs to be sleeved & repaired.

**Furnaces at Sewer Plant**

A new control is needed for the furnace in the HW Building and influent building-they aren’t under warranty. The Commission suggests that as alternate to Schaffner’s, Dennis tries to contact Ben Aiona for HVAC work.

**Dennis Retirement**

Ben read a notice from Dennis that he would be retiring, January 3rd retirement date. Ben thanked Dennis for his service on behalf of the Commission and the city residents.

**Training**

Rural Water is having a Winter Operations course that Dennis would like Joe and Eli to take. It is on December 5th and costs $100 each.

Tests – no results back yet.

**Superintendent’s Report**

The Influent Sampler isn’t working, Dennis is in the process of getting quotes for a replacement.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Joe is doing really well, asking questions and learning the system.

Hydrants are flushed.

They have started turning valves and everything is going well.

**Date & Items for Next Month’s Meeting**

Monday, December 30, 2019 @ 6:15pm

* WWTP/FEMA Update
  + Survey Results
* Furnace
* Date for Budget Meeting

**Commissioner’s Comments**

Discussion on whether or not to involve the ERGC with the potential RES Project.

Motion was made by Chad Miemietz and seconded by Tom Konter for adjournment. Motion Carried at 8:41pm.

Kari Pedersen

Deputy City Clerk