**Water & Sewer Commission Meeting**

**May 26, 2020**

The Independence Water & Sewer Commission met on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at City Hall, 23688 Adams Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm by Ben Sylla. In attendance were Chad Miemietz, Jason Ekern, Tom Kloss, Craig Konter, Eli Castleberry, Joe Galewski, Erin Delawalla, and Kari Pedersen.

**Minutes:**

Motion by Chad Miemietz and seconded by Jason Ekern to approve the minutes as presented from the April 27th meeting. Motion Carried.

**Old Business**

**Phosphorus Trading Discussion/Possible Action**

Went over the new proposal from RES with a cost of $869,000. Erin from RES reported that she was able to confirm with the DNR that this project would qualify for a Pilot Program 0% interest rate loan. Trempealeau County wasn’t able to provide any further information before this meeting.

Motion by Jason Ekern and seconded by Tom Kloss to table this item to give time for Trempealeau County to give more information. Motion Carried.

A special meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9th to decide which route to proceed with.

**SEH Updates**

Went over the memo that was provided by SEH.

**Ammonia Update**

Still getting some spikes coming into the WWTP. The Commission would like Joe to keep testing to try to narrow down where it could be coming from and follow up with the users as needed.

**Grease Control Update**

High amount of grease are still coming into the plant daily. The guys will be going to businesses to do grease trap and record inspections and ammonia checks to try find where it is coming from.

**Screener Update/Tank Cleaning**

The screener install is complete and is fully functioning, bypass is no longer being done. The next step is getting approval/permits from the DNR to do the tank cleaning, probably a month or more from now. Ben talked with Gary Skroch in Arcadia and when we are ready, Arcadia’s plant will be able to take all of our waste to be processed.

N**ew Business**

**Sludge Hauling**

This was completed by Slaby Septic and hauled out to Waldera’s.

**SEH Water & Wastewater Engineering Contract**

Joe and Eli would like the Commission to consider getting rid of the 1998 Chevy ¾ truck with plow that is owned by the Utility. In recent years it has only been used for valve turning and it isn’t needed any longer. Motion by Chad Miemietz and seconded by Craig Konter to put an ad in the newspaper listing it for sale on sealed bids to be opened at June’s Commission meeting. Motion Carried.

**Training**

Joe and Eli took a lab class with Kay from Rural Water; received credits. Based off Kay’s suggestion, the guys will be purchasing a $75 “Wastewater Microbiology” book.

**Superintendent’s Report**

* A DNR violation was received for copper due to piping.
* Flushed hydrants; 10 of them need to be rebuilt; 2 rebuild kits will be purchased so this can be done.

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

Tuesday, June 9th at 6:15

* Phos trading/Action
* NIC Sewer Backup

Monday, June 29 @ 6:15

* SEH Update
* Ammonia/Grease update
* Tank cleaning
* Sealed Bids Opening

**Commissioner’s Comments**

A letter Warners was gone over regarding another sewer backup into their property (NIC). Kari will respond to them requesting that they submit costs for fixing it. A plan to get the problem fixed will get put together.

Motion was made by Chad Miemietz and seconded by Jason Ekern for adjournment. Motion Carried at 7:35pm.

Kari Pedersen

Deputy City Clerk