



405 2nd Avenue West
Halstad, MN 56548

Halstad Municipal Utilities Commission met 8/11/20 at 10:00 AM at the Utilities Office.

Commissioners President Tom Maroney, Darin Johnson, Ron Gotteberg
Staff- Lucas Spaeth- Superintendent, Allison Tice- Office Coordinator

Additions to agenda – NA

Approval of agenda – Motion Johnson, Second Gotteberg, M/C

Approval of minutes – Motion Johnson, Second Gotteberg, M/C

Check and credit card approval – Motion Gotteberg, Second Johnson, to approve expenditures. M/C

Financials Reviewed Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet- Reviewed. Reviewed none pays.
One business has outstanding bill for apartment complex.

Street light updates for Wimmers, solar, and street light pole discussion with Superintendent. Working to add, replace, or fix multiple lights.

Staff updated Commissioners with Covid-19/ CARES Act. Discussed open door operations, looking at ways to protect office with additional barriers, bigger presence online ecommerce and paperless option billing.

L. Spaeth updated on accident with payloader and business wall. Small fix considering equipment involved- \$950 for repair to building.

L. Spaeth talked about the Lead and Copper test provide by MDH and homeowner participation. Lead and Copper tests were well below any action level. Spaeth also informed Commissioners that Well Head Protection Planning is still underway. Staff is working for final plan December of 2020. Contingency plan draft was presented for comment in the WHP plan.

Electric Mapping for HMU was postponed due to some staff and COVID related circumstances. Schedule to start August and take 5 days.

Commissioners were presented a land dispute that MN Northern Railroad had with the removal of materials on railroad purchased land. Land is owned by HMU and FireFrost Atv club which we had given some leeway time to remove rail and rail ties. When Railroad started removing 12 plus inches of gravel. Railroad would like to continue removing just 6 inches of rock- considered ballast. Commissioners discussed and agreed to 6 inches could be considered ballast.

Wastewater update given by Spaeth that we would likely see some small percentage increase in Hauled Sludge cost for 6-12 months. Moorhead will not accept hauled sludge starting in October for 6 months. The annual permit is filed for one year and we can adjust when Moorhead is ready after 6 months.

Wholesale power rate for 2021 was reviewed on preliminary numbers.

Purchase Agreement for 1050 feet more or less of old railbed owned by Valley United Elevator was presented for approval. Motion by Gotteberg to approve purchase agreement with partner FireFrost for \$1 and legal fees; Seconded by Maroney. Discussion ensued that to make the connection from existing rail land on the south side of Halstad to the city limits it would be prudent. M/C

Water tower maintenance contract was present from KLM engineering. L. Spaeth said qualifications of KLM are good and that they have many recommendations in the industry. Maguire Iron had been doing maintenance in Halstad but had not been into complete maintenance for 4 years. Motion by Gotteberg to approve KLM ten year contract; Second by Johnson. M/C

Spaeth presented concrete work in front of HMU office doors to meet ADA requirements. Spaeth added that the

Sunrise apartments needed some concrete in its front and the city small concrete projects that could be worked together. Work should be done September.

Superintendent report L. Spaeth- Many virtual meetings attended with MRWA, NW CERTS, Minnkota, NMPA during COVID. Upcoming meetings planned with NMPA and Minnkota. Reported on work for the City sidewalk project and flood plain.

Next Regular Meeting Date – September 15 10:00 AM

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Johnson, second Gotteberg. M/C

Meeting Adjourned 11:20 AM

Secretary

Lucas Spaeth