



405 2nd Avenue West
Halstad, MN 56548

Halstad Municipal Utilities Commission met 9/25/20 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 to approve by Gotteberg , Second Johnson, M/C

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

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

Financials Reviewed Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet- Reviewed impact of Off peak summer adjustments and benefits not realized in the past.

Staff updated Commissioners with Covid-19/ CARES Act. Staff has some cleaning, PPE and working tools on order for social distancing and separate utensils for staff to limit cross contamination.

L. Spaeth updated on Arc Flash study where Johnson helped map with Isaac, Tony and Lucas for the distribution electric system. WSN will update our Arc flash ratings for the distribution system.

L. Spaeth talked about the water tower maintenance took place September 15th by KLM engineering. The report was not finalized but we should expect some high cost- painting.

L. Spaeth talked about difficulty in doing ripple testing this fall/ winter will be during Covid pandemic. Staff will attempt to make appointments with consumers but will not make inspections mandatory.

Wastewater update given by Spaeth starting with some fixes to I&I taking place after MRWA assisted staff in smoke testing half of the sewer mains in town. Multiple problems with inflow were recognized and staff will fix or plan the repairs. Staff also noticed lack of sump pumps running outside. Inspections will need to follow residents that have no visual sump lines. Inspection policy states can be “random” but staff will need to make arrangements during pandemic.

Electric Vehicles (EV) strategy for the city of Halstad and possible work with NMPA and MPCA grants for planning and construction of public chargers.

L. Spaeth presented A draft policy section 4.4 change for Sump Pump waiver. Waiver would include cost to connect sewer and charges applied to customers willing to comply with \$25 monthly winter rate November – February. And \$50 noncompliance fee March- October. Commissioners voiced concern and staff will update policy to reflect other options for customers and inspection processes.

Superintendent report L. Spaeth- Commissioner were made aware of upcoming meetings including East Central Water District water system approach, Minnkota, and City Council. Tice updated Commissioners about health insurance credit from spring and Wellhead protection plan to finalize this year.

Next Regular Meeting Date – October 20

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

Meeting Adjourned 12:35 PM

Secretary

Lucas Spaeth