



405 2nd Avenue West
Halstad, MN 56548

Halstad Municipal Utilities Commission met 11/1/24 at 1:00 PM at the Utilities Office.

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

Additions to agenda –none

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

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

Check and credit card approval – Motion Gotteberg, Second Maroney, to approve monthly claims for September. Discussed M/C

Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet- September sales and monthly discussed. Year to date financials presented by Tice. Financial improvements after rate increase for electric and Water and wastewater.

Water Project update given by Spaeth. USDA funding application submitted October 23, 2024 for financing rural water project. November 6th court hearing for the West Central Regional Water District (WCRWD) in Clay County Court.

Spaeth updated Commission of Northern Municipal Power Agency contract discussions and planning.

Tice presented new contract language that made both similar with Perley and Borup contracts. Pricing with additional wages and insurance requirements. The contract would be modified to use with WCRWD.

Red River Valley Cooperative Contract was discussed.

Furuseth Property Acquisition of 11.79 acres to consider a split with the City of Halstad pending approval of all parties. Spaeth directed to proceed.

New employee presented. Motion Gotteberg to hire: Second Johnson to offer position to Josh Poehls.

Proposed wage increase presented 3.75% for fulltime and fifty cents for seasonal/ parttime employees. Motion Maroney: Second Gotteberg M/C

Tice presented rate adjustments for Refuse. Fuchs Sanitation had proposed increased rate to City that would also require changing to pickup of rolling cans for residents. Motion to approve rate increase Gotteberg: Second Maroney M/C

Superintendent report by Spaeth included proposed wholesale rate increase in April 2025 from NMPA. Tice had looked at the annual cost and we would need to see what happens in April. Mapping updates happening with RRV Coop as part of contract. Also looking at 2024 order of electric materials. Staff had not been notified about the Commerce grant for Grid Resiliency. Generators last run October 2. Midwest Assistance Program would work with Tice, Johnson, and Spaeth.

Spaeth had discussions with employee to move into a Lead Operator role in 2025. Would clarify a hierarchy and give some responsibility to

Next regular council meeting, November 18, 2024.

Next Regular Meeting Date –

No other business to discuss.

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

Meeting adjourned 2:45 PM

Secretary- Lucas Spaeth