Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 14th, 2022
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse, WI 54601

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Commissioners: Kurt Knutson, Tim Ehler (Zoom 4:46 p.m.), Robert Lynn (Zoom), Town Administrator Christina Peterson, Public Works Director Terry Wright, Dan Odeen, Town Treasurer Sara Jarr

ATTENDANCE LIST: n/a

1. Call to Order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairperson Kurt Knutson.

2. Minutes from 03/17/2022
   Motion by Knutson, second by Lynn to approve meeting minutes from 03/17/2022.
   Motion carried unanimously.

3. Review and Approve Bills Payable
   Motion by Knutson, second by Lynn to approve $106,399.44 in open invoices (includes Olympic Builders Payment No. 20 WH #1, work completed – not retainage), and $2,045.99 in paid invoices.
   Motion carried unanimously.

4. Citizens’ Concerns
   None.

5. Old Business

   a. Arbor Hills Well #2 Water Testing
     Odeen reported that John Thom from SEH was onsite over the last 24 hours taking Iron readings (week 3 test). The iron levels read at the highest .38, and at the lowest .13. Thom has concluded that it is likely that WH #2 is not being ran long enough. Pumping water to waste shows significantly better reads. He suggested running WH #2 longer stretches of time at lower volume. 200-300,000 gallons of water has been wasted thus far. Peterson and Wright also commented that the draw down slough off or a well collapse may still be a cause of the high iron reads, but it is still unknown. Thom recommended televising the well to inspect if this is the source of the iron and to possibly rule a well problem out. Public Works has reached out to Municipal Well and Energenics to learn how to optimize operation of the well controls a testing kit for iron has been ordered.
     Peterson and Knutson asked Odeen if water quality or water use safety are too poor or unsafe, he stated that the iron in Well #2 is currently at an acceptable level.

     Wright reported on the testing Public Works completed on Well #2 in the past few weeks.

     **Week 1:** Public Works closed a valve at Heatherwood Pl. and Briarwood Ave. Another valve was turned off ⅓ way at Briarwood Ave. and Fen Lockney Dr. to force water one way and slow flow. Well #2 began leading the system. Step 1 showed some improvement. The resident on the corner of Heatherwood Pl. and Briarwood Ave. saw improvement. Leaving a value closed is an extra dead end. The benefit is having less iron particles.
**Week 2:** Both wells were placed on a 1-hour run time rotation and the readings were recorded. With this pumping rate change, there was significant improvement in iron reads.

**Week 3:** A 24-hour flush was completed, and iron readings were taken nearly every hour. Improvement in the reads were even better than the week 2 test.

Pump down testing started, iron went to below .3, .25. Well #1 & Well #2 are running at 30-minute pumping interval (they were set at 24 hours). The Arbor system will be flushed May 2. Final testing would be the change pump rates to find what is optimal.

Thom from SEH plans to contact Traut, the contractor who installed the well to see if they would be interested in televising the well to check for damage. Odeen clarified that Municipal Well installed the equipment in well Traut drilled. He also mentioned that the Vista Well will need to be televised in the coming month, therefore the Sanitary District may want to consider having both wells televised at the same time.

Wright suggested to let the Arbor Hills Well #2 run as it is, for now. It is known that some slough off occurred due to the draw down rate. If more problems occur, at that point televise and investigate more. He explained that there is only a 4-inch clearance to look, and it’s likely the well would have to be shut down, costing at least $5,000.00. Lynn and Knutson agreed that monitoring for the next few months is acceptable unless something changes.

b. Arbor Hills Well Project – Olympic Builders Pay Application No. 20 (retainage)

Peterson reviewed the contract and does not believe that retainage can be held at this point. She noted that the bond is in effect for warranty for 1 year after competition. The contact also states that we can request verification that all subcontractors have been paid. The warranty covers the remaining punch list items. Motion by Lynn, second by Ehler to approve additional $39,979.12 for retainage, Pay Application No. 20. Total $48,162.02. Motion carried.

6. Reports
   a. Administrator

   Boma Road Assessment. Meeting with Brian Reamer on 04/29/2022 from Ehlers to discuss financial planning, Boma Road will be part of the discussion.
   New water hookup policy/ordinance – timeframe to hookup.
   New portable Generator is being quoted (part of loan funds). Will need approval from DNR.
   New Iron Meter being purchased with loan funds (2000), Dehumidifier for WH #1
   Open House for New Well House is May 7th
   Back flow prevention program policy in development. Reimbursement? Lynn and Knutson requested a copy of the City of La Crosse’s program – perhaps tie into sewer study?
   Sewer study. Reaching out for proposals including firm where Lenz is now employed.
b. Public Works
   Additional sewer meter ordered - $18,855.20.
   Flow rite quoting for the additional sewer lining.
   Clements has taken pre-test for Water Operator Certification.
   Wright is working with Peterson to get a GIS system purchased/implemented.
   16 homes are still in “fail” status for sanitary home inspections. 138 homes have not been inspected. Wright suggested denying other Town services (i.e., brush, bldg. permits) until an inspection occurs. Peterson and Knutson only approved doing so for residents with sewer related approvals. They would like the list used as a “friendly reminder” to get an inspection done. Knutson and Odeen also suggest making checking the list part of a home closing process. Knutson further commented that having an ordinance regarding inspection be implemented.

c. Chairperson/Commissioners
   Lynn would like inspection issue and implementing an ordinance revisited.

7. Adjournment
   Motion by Knutson to adjourn at 5:27 p.m., second by Ehler. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Jarr, Treasurer

Next Meeting Thursday, May 12th at 4:30 p.m.