Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse, WI 54601

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Commissioners Kurt Knutson, Robert Lynn, and Tim Ehler, Town Administrator Christina Peterson, Treasurer Sara Jarr, Public Works Foreman Terry Wright, Water Operator Dan Odeen, Eric Giese, Public Works (new)

ATTENDANCE LIST: Benard Lenz, CBS2 and Jon Strand, PE, CBS2

Call to Order at 4:36 p.m. by Chairperson Kurt Knutson.

Minutes from 04/13/2023
Motion by Lynn to approve meeting minutes from 04/13/2023, second by Knutson. Motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approve Bills Payable
Motion by Knutson to approve open invoices in the amount of $2,971.45 and paid invoices in the amount of $10,839.96, second by Ehler. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens’ Concerns
None

Old Business
Arbor Hills Well 2 – CBS2 Arbor Hills Reservoir Recommendation Review

a. CBS2 reviewed the conclusions from their study that evaluated the ability of the current well #1 and reservoir combination to handle the current demand (103 services), near-term growth (153 services), and long-term growth (359 services) of the Arbor Hills System. They determined that well #1 could effectively supply the water needs for all three scenarios. Even with well #2 in service, fire capacity is less than the goal of 1000 gpm for 2 hours. Knutson expressed his opinion regarding fire capacity by stating he feels it is not pertinent to any review and it should not be considered; the intent of well #2 is for redundancy and future growth.

b. CBS2 reported that an operational solution is already in place until the system’s growth and daily water system water demand warrants further investment. CBS2 also concluded that well #1 and the current reservoir can be used primarily and well #2 be used as an emergency backup.

c. CBS2 also evaluated the following:
   i. Adding a second reservoir to act as a settling basin for well #2 and this determined this would double the overall water age in the system, causing water to exceed the maximum water age target. Adding storage would not be ideal until use increases.
   ii. Pumping well #2 into the existing reservoir and alternating well #1 and well #2 via programing changes. A physical filter would be added in-line before the reservoir so well #1 and well #2 were treated before entering storage. This option would be a significant investment for a small utility and likely not feasible at this time.

d. Discussion of possible additional design changes which involve well #2 and the Arbor Hills System as a whole. Peterson offered the suggestion to consider completing engineering and projecting for the future now.

e. Lynn questioned if there is enough room to add a filtering system in the future. Also, he asked if the public works staff could complete any of the recommended planning or labor. Wright clarified that public works could not make any SCADA changes. He estimated such changes would cost approximately $15,000.00. Lynn also requested that the plan Wright previously recommended for removing Iron be reviewed. Wright explained that by raising the pump in well #1 (2 inches), adding a weir wall and utilizing better pipe placement using PVC, iron would be reduced. Lenz reminded the Sanitary Board that he and CBS2 are always willing to work with our team members and run models and calculations to assist in a plan the District devises.
f. Knutson requested 2 options to be finalized and available for review at the next Sanitary District #2 Meeting. CBS2 to work with Wright to prepare a cost estimate for well #1 changes which include SCADA updates with Energetics, pump change, adding a weir wall. CBS2 to research and coordinate the WI-DNR permitting that would be required. When considering permitting, Odeen reminded the Sanitary Board that testing water to waste was conducted last year during very dry conditions and recommended retesting. The Board agreed to retesting being completed by Public Works. As recommended by Peterson, CBS2 will provide a preliminary design proposal (20-25% complete) for adding filtration to well #2.

Motion by Knutson, second by Lynn to work with CBS2 at the hourly rate to prepare cost estimate for well #1 changes and a preliminary design for filtration at well #2, motion carried.

Kish Electric Generator Specification
a. Wright reviewed a copy of the specifications provided by Kish Electric along with a generator model that would work with our current systems and noted that the model would provide some fail-safe options when used. Wright also pointed out that the Sanitary District’s current systems have numerous connection types and amperages. The approximate cost to make all connections uniform would be $100,000.00. Jeff Milutinovik from Kish Electric will make himself available to review the specs. Wright will also send the specs out to get additional bids.

New Business
Annual Rural Mutual Insurance Company Policy
a. Sanitary District #2 premium is $12,461.34. Sewer $7,476.81, Water $4,984.53.

Motion by Lynn, second by Ehler to approve $12,461.34 for Sanitary District #2 contribution to annual premium.

Reports
Administrator
a. Peterson reported a recent conversation with the City of La Crosse attorney regarding approval of single sewer connections. An Ebner Coulee parcel was recently denied despite previously being approved by the WI-DNR. An open records request has been sent to the City requesting how all previous approvals and denials have been made.
b. Manhole elevations are being finalized in GIS system. When completed the data will be sent to Lenz.

Public Works
a. Wright reported that the water flushing was completed. Flushing will now be started on Wednesdays due to refuse and recycling collection.
b. A hydrant was damaged in the Lower Terrances due to a vehicle accident. Final billing will be submitted to the driver’s auto insurance claim for payment.
c. Fire hydrant flows to be tested this summer; lids may be recolored based on flow results. Results will be shared at next the meeting.
d. Level, the company to complete phase 4 of sewer lining has been in contact with Wright and has indicated that some trees may have to be removed, off Irish Ct.
e. Valley Well Rehab. Trees must be removed, and electric lines need to be moved by Excel before work can begin next year. Wright plans to use Hanson Tree Service after confirming their insurance coverage and pricing.
f. Odeen will have CMAR reports at the next meeting to review and approve as required. WI-DNR annual PFAS, lead and copper testing are due to be completed in June. Results will be shared when available.
g. The CCR report for Arbor Hills Well #2 will be changed to; “It was discovered that Arbor Hills Well 2 produces unacceptable levels of iron when first started. Because of this discovery, well 2 has been taken offline until a reasonable solution can be determined. We are continuing to test the well and work with engineers to find a solution in a timely manner.” Reports will be sent to all water customers by 6/30/2023.
h. Odeen requested to purchase a new line locator from Core & Main. The current locator is old and obsolete. The Village of Stoddard is interested in purchasing our unit. Odeen thinks $1,500.00 would be reasonable.

Motion by Ehler, second by Lynn to purchase a new line locator up to a purchase price of $4,500.00, motion carried.

Chairperson/ Commissioners

a. Lynn requested at the next meeting more discussion on connecting Wedgwood Valley and Greenwald Coulee Systems. Peterson explained that the discussion does not have to be listed as an agenda item. Also, that there is a detailed explanation in the Water System Master Plan.

Adjournment

Motion by Knutson second by Lynn to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Next Meeting – Thursday, June 8th, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. * Revised to June 15th, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Jarr, Town of Shelby