



NOT APPROVED

Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 15, 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

ATTENDANCE LIST: See Attached.

Call to Order at 4:31 p.m. by Chairperson Kurt Knutson.

Old Business

Generator Advertisement for Bids

Jeff Milutinovik from Kish Electric reviewed a generator specification that would work with our current systems and noted that it will work with the numerous connection types and amperages that we have. The specs that have been provided will be used to send out for bid. Motion by Ehler to advertise for using the specification provided by Kish Electric, second by Lynn. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizens' Concerns

Several Residents of the Arbor Hills Neighborhood were present to express their concern about the high iron content and discoloration of the municipal water supply. They brought a full water bottle to show the discolored water, photos, a discolored white t-shirt, and dark water filters taken from a residential filter system. The discussion involved many comments from the residents and information from Water Operator Dan Odeen. The key comments are noted below:

1. Pat Stiphout, W5726 Heatherwood Place. Spoke on behalf of the Arbor Hills residents in attendance and reported that since the construction of the new well, there have been problems. They feel it is a health hazard and they do not cook, drink, or wash with the water provided. They request that something is done to correct the water quality immediately or cut their water bills in half.
2. Odeen explained after the reengineering, the Arbor Hills system no longer has the low flow jockey pump and only has larger pumps. He expressed that that he has not received any unsafe water samples but that high iron levels are an issue.
3. David Reed, N2300 Briarwood Avenue. He feels that nobody has taken responsibility for the well or water quality and discoloration problems. He would like more detailed reporting on what is in the water and an explanation as to why they are paying such a high rate for water service. Reed also reported that his dog is sick often and believes the water since the new well came online may be the culprit.
4. 2341 Briarwood, Randy Starkey. He thanked Odeen for his efforts but noted that Odeen cannot do this alone. Starkey asked where the water samples are taken and suggested spot testing at homes. Response: Odeen said that he does have a test point off the main. He has also done some testing at homes. He offered for residents to call Town Hall and request a test done at their home. Odeen mentioned that we are looking into solutions. Knutson stated that the District will be notifying the engineer and will work towards a quicker remedy. He will be looking into this, will have a discussion on discounts and will send a letter to residents explaining what the District will be doing. The residents suggested communication could be done on their neighborhood Facebook page.
5. Odeen answered questions regarding water quality test results. He explained that test results are sent to residents once a year. Odeen offered to test water from homes and gave his phone number to the residents. He would test for Iron and Chlorine.

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6. John Patterson, W5749 Heatherwood Place, questioned the high water rate, who is all paying, and why the second well was constructed.
7. Therese Regner, N2318 Loch Narin Court, explained that at time of initial installation, the pipe mains were laid on clay which she thinks is the cause of problems with the pipes. She also mentioned that The Town of Shelby took over the Arbor Hills Development as is when the original contractor went bankrupt.

Knutson committed to accelerating the progress on the review of solutions. Information will be sent to Becky Potts, admin for the Arbor Hills Facebook page to post.

Old Business

1. **Generator Advertisement for Bids** (moved to beginning of agenda)
2. **Arbor Hills Well #2 – Compressor issue, watermain breaks**
Wright reported on the compressor failure at Well #2. He suspects that a sensor on the pressure tank was not installed correctly, causing an air leak. This caused the compressor to run too often and fail. When it failed, the large pumps cycled frequently to maintain pressure and water hammer occurred, causing two watermain breaks. The original compressor is being replaced under warranty. The new compressor purchased will be used as a backup. Discussion about option for Well 1 Reservoir. Kurt asked if the planned reinstallation of a jockey pump and raising large pumps further from bottom of reservoir would be sufficient, or if the weir wall modification is still needed. Lynn asked if CBS Squared was preparing plans for the work at Well 1 Reservoir. Odeen and Peterson will check with CBS Squared to get the project moving along.
3. Arbor Hills Lift Station Rehab – tabled.

New Business

1. **Skemp Property County F – Municipal Water and Sewer Inquiry**
Skemp property representatives, Gregory Sauer, Ted Skemp, and Bob Skemp Jr., asked the status of the search for an agreement from the early 1970's referencing water and sewer assessments for the future development of the Skemp property along County F. Peterson acknowledged she received the supporting documents from Kevin Roop in January 2023 and has searched for the original agreement and has not found anything yet. The representatives would like to draft a new agreement. They agreed to submit the first draft for the Sanitary District to review.
2. **Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR)**
Odeen gave a summary of the report for the 2022 year.
Motion by Lynn to approve the Compliance Maintenance Annual Report, second by Ehler. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Administrator / Public Works

Peterson and Odeen reported the status on the following:

- a. Sewer lining contractors have been authorized to begin.
- b. The new line locator from Core & Main Locator is on order.
- c. Valley Pumphouse - Tree contractor has been authorized to begin. No date scheduled yet.
- d. Request for water credit for running water after flushing – staff are following policy and not issuing a credit.

Minutes from 5/18/2023

Motion by Ehler to approve meeting minutes from 5/18/2023, second by Lynn. Motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approve Bills Payable

Motion by Ehler to approve open invoices in the amount of \$2,564.51 and paid invoices in the amount of \$5,286.15, second by Lynn. Motion carried unanimously.

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Closed Session Motion by Knutson, second by Lynn to go into closed session at 6:15 p.m., pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business in relation to the Sewer Agreement with the City of La Crosse. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Session Motion by Knutson, second by Lynn to go into open session at 7:03 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by Ehler, second by Lynn to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Next Meeting – Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Jarr & Christina Peterson, Town of Shelby