



Minutes of December 4, 2012

A meeting of the Wausau Water Works Commission was called to order at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall on December 4, 2012. In compliance with Wisconsin Statutes, this meeting was posted and receipted for by the Wausau Daily Herald on November 28, 2012.

1) **Roll Call**

Members present: President Tipple, Commissioners Otto, Winters and Utilities Director Marquardt.

Excused: Commissioners Million and Rebman

Others present: Dick Boers, Dave Erickson, Bob Thompson; Ken Ligman, Becher Hoppe Associates; Dennis Smith, 3516 Polzer Drive; Bonnie Shelton, WAOW TV; Amanda Seitz, Wausau Daily Herald.

2) **Approve Minutes of November 6, 2012**

Motion by Mr. Winters to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Otto. Motion carried unanimously.

3) **Director's Report on Utility Operations.**

- Repairs to the 14th Ave water main leak completed. Old main retired, new main bored under 14th Ave. 1st leak cost \$8,500, and then a 2nd leak was found which took 2 days to repair. The cost of that repair was \$17,300, and at that point it was determined that the pipe was too corroded and should be abandoned. We are still waiting on cost of boring.
- Westrum Leak Detection was asked if they would still honor 3 year contract and they agreed that they would.
- Chemical quotes have been received for water plant chemicals.
- Delinquent utilities have been added to taxrolls. \$741,774.31 was applied to the taxes, an increase of \$134,000 over 2011.
- Distribution has finished valve turning operations, and has made repairs to all the hydrants that were noted in the leak study.
- PSC has made changes to how they look at accounts. Will now need to split multi-family and irrigation accounts. They are also pushing conservation rates.
- Final clarifier #3 back in service.
- LW Allen has replaced the broadband lift station radios. Work was completed in 1 day to make sure everything was in operation overnight
- Proposals for the bar screen equipment was opened at BPW on 12/4. Seven proposals were received. Proposals will be reviewed and site visits scheduled.
- Siemens has completed their study at the WWTP.
- Visu-Sewer has started this year's sewer lining project.
- DPW hosts a winter kickoff which includes a rodeo each fall and Brad Wendtland,

a mechanic from the WWTP, was the winner of this year's roadeo, with 2 other water employees also finishing above the average.

- Water Loss Compliance report has been filed with the PSC, outlining what the problems were and what was done to find the issues. Dick Boers spoke to the testing of the water plant meter.

Motion by Mr. Otto to accept the Director's Report as presented and place on file.

Seconded by Mr. Winters. Motion carried unanimously.

4) **Authorize Agreement with Westrum Leak Detection Services for 3 Additional Leak Surveys**

After the leak detection survey completed, staff felt it would be prudent to enter into an agreement with Westrum to do additional studies in 2013, 2015 and 2017 and inquired if Westrum would hold the quoted price of \$8500 per year.

Motion by Mr. Winters to authorize an agreement with Westrum Leak Detection Services to perform leak surveys in 2013, 2015, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Otto. Motion carried unanimously.

5) **Review Sewer Consumption Policy**

Director Marquardt presented an overview of why the change was made to the sewer winter quarter adjustment. Based on a 2010 sewer rate study performed by Baker Tilley, it was recommended to have additional rate increases for 3 years after the 2011 increase. Dennis Smith, 3516 Polzer Drive addressed the Commission questioning the root cause that brought about the change and why there was such a significant rate increase. Director Marquardt indicated that Council has been reluctant in prior years to raise the rates needed to keep the utility in good financial shape.

No action taken.

6) **Review Chemical Quotes – Water Plant**

- Hydrated Lime – low quote provided by Western Lime at \$146.00/ton
- Sodium Hypochlorite – low quote provided by Wausau Chemical at \$0.93/gal.
- Sodium Silicate – low quotes were both provided by Milport and Wausau Chemical at \$0.1795/lb. Staff recommended awarding to local vendor, Wausau Chemical.

Motion by Mr. Otto to accept the low quotes as indicated above, and to award Sodium Silicate to Wausau Chemical, a local vendor. Seconded by Mr. Winters. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Wausau Water Works Commission was adjourned.

/s/ Keene Winters

Secretary