



Minutes of January 7, 2014

A meeting of the Wausau Water Works Commission was called to order at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall on January 7, 2014. In compliance with Wisconsin Statutes, this meeting was posted and receipted for by the Wausau Daily Herald on January 3, 2014.

1) Roll Call

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

Others present: Dick Boers, Dave Erickson, Kevin Fabel, Robert Thompson, Lori Wunsch, Michael Loy; Ken Ligman, Becher Hoppe Associates; Don Swailes, AECOM.

2) Approve Minutes of November 5, 2013

Motion by Mr. Rebman to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2013 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Winters. Motion carried unanimously.

3) Director's Report on Utility Operations.

- Welcome to Joe Gehin to Utility Commission.
- Six main breaks in December, additional one on New Year's Day.
- Staff is rehabbing filters at the water plant. Piping sent out for sandblasting and painting.
- Quotes being obtained for storage system inspections.
- Working with Neptune on propagation study to switch over to a fixed network reading system.
- Delinquent water and sewer bills transferred to taxrolls. Amount transferred was \$681,551.49 which is down from 2012.
- Bob Thompson, who has worked for the Utility/City for 35 years, will be retiring. This has opened the door for reorganization.
- Arsenic limits spiked last fall in regard to the land spreading. We are doing some additional testing and are hoping the limits will go back down, and everything will settle out.
- Screens have been installed by Staab Construction, and are working well.
- Stainless Specialists will be installing a new air make up unit.
- Issues with effluent and influent meters being out of sync appear to have been resolved with cleaning and removal of a rock.
- Used truck was purchased to haul sludge from the plant to the storage barn.
- Discharge pipe at Stettin Lift Station was found to be leaking. Temporary repairs were made, but need to wait for parts to do a permanent repair. DNR was notified of the spill.
- Michels has asked for an extension to complete the slip lining project due to weather.

- Eric Donaldson, DNR, has taking a position with Mosinee Papers.
- James Napierala has started as the newest intern at the WWTP.
- Becher Hoppe has been working on inflow into the sanitary system, and has found an issue on a combined sewer on 1st Street/Washington. Pipes are about 30 feet deep, and we need to determine best way to handle the repairs.
- DNR is starting to determine phosphorus levels that can be discharged into the Wisconsin River watershed. A number of communities have joined to create an intra-government body and will hire a consultant to review.

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

Seconded by Mr. Gehin. Motion carried unanimously.

4) **Review Chemical Quotes for Lime, Sodium Silicate, Sodium Hypochlorite**

Chemical quotes were received with the lowest quote for each chemical being:

Graymont \$151.00/ton – hydrated lime

Milport \$0.1780/lb. for Sodium Silicate

Hydrite Chemical Co. - \$0.89/gallon for Sodium Hypochlorite

Motion by Mr. Gehin to accept the low bids of Graymont, Milport and Hydrite for the respective bid per staff recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Rebman.

5) **Approve Agreement for the Establishment and Operation of the Wisconsin River Municipal Discharge Group.**

Director Marquardt explained the establishment of the Wisconsin River Municipal Discharge Group which affects both wastewater and storm water utilities. Membership fee would be based on population. Wausau's cost would be \$5000. Group would hire a consultant and monitor the DNR's efforts. Felt more communities would carry more weight in regard to the discharge permits for phosphorus. Staff recommends joining the group.

Motion by Mr. Otto to approve spending \$5000 to join the Wisconsin River Municipal Discharge Group. Seconded by Mr. Rebman. Motion carried unanimously.

6) **Water Utility Reorganization**

With retirement of Bob Thompson, reorganization was discussed. Discussions started with Deb Geier's Utility Analyst position, taking some of her current duties and moving them to a Utilities Resources Manager, along with adding some of the duties from Bob Thompson's current position, while moving some of the other duties to the Senior Distribution Maintainer, Scott Boers, making this position equal to the Senior Sewer Maintainer duties. Finance will hire a full time accountant to handle the utilities finances and other accounting duties.

7) **Appointment of Recording Secretary for Wausau Water Works**

With Deb Geier taking a new position, Lori Wunsch, Public Works Administrative Assistant, will take over duties of the Recording Secretary for Wausau Water Works.

Motion by Mr. Rebman to confirm the appointment of Lori Wunsch as Recording Secretary. Seconded by Mr. Winters. Motion carried unanimously.

8) **Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Gehin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Rebman. Motion carried unanimously.

/s/ Keene Winters

 Secretary