



## Minutes of February 4, 2014

A meeting of the Wausau Water Works Commission was called to order at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall on February 4, 2014. In compliance with Wisconsin Statutes, this meeting was posted and receipted for by the Wausau Daily Herald on January 31, 2014.

### 1) **Roll Call**

Members present: President Tipple, Commissioners Gehin, Rebman, Winters (arrived at 1:40 p.m.) and Utilities Director Marquardt.

Others present: Dick Boers, Dave Erickson, Deb Geier.

### 2) **Approve Minutes of January 7, 2014**

Motion by Mr. Gehin to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2014 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Rebman. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

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

- There have been 11 breaks as of January 1<sup>st</sup> and 60 freeze ups as of today. With frost levels in the five foot deep range, it was decided to contact properties that have had freeze-ups in the past to advise to start running their water to lessen the possibility of freeze-ups. It was noted that some area communities are having all residents run their water.
- Cross Connection inspections on city-owned properties will start as soon as the weather eases.
- Large meter change-outs are scheduled to begin in February.
- A public hearing was held last week for legislation regarding delinquent utility bills. The proposal is to allow for tenants names to go on the water bill and property owners are notified of delinquencies, along with delinquencies reported on CCAP. Part of the bill will also require the tax intercept program where the City could collect money from the tax intercept program and reimburse the property owner for delinquencies. The bill would still allow municipalities to put the delinquent bills on the tax roll.
- Deb Geier and Scott Boers started their new duties on January 27.
- We are on track to meet our permit discharge limits for January. The first quarter test results indicated we are meeting the high quality limits for sludge. We had exceeded the limit for arsenic last fall.
- The air make up unit for the bar screen room has been installed and is working well.
- Michels has completed the cured in place sewer lining project that was started last fall. The contract was extended due to the cold weather.
- Ken Rye has been working with Infratech and the Fire Department to set up protocols to enter the 1<sup>st</sup> Street sewer. This manhole has been a source of

inflow into the plant. We hope to complete repairs this winter before the snow melts.

- A bill has been introduced on limits placed on phosphorus. Instead of making treatment plants get to very low limits (.1 to .4 mg per liter) there will be some interim limits to achieve.

Motion by Mr. Rebman to accept the Director's Report as presented and place on file. Seconded by Mr. Gehin. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

4) **Review Proposals and Make Recommendation for Inspection and Cleaning of Storage Tanks and Reservoirs**

Quotes were received for inspection and cleaning of storage tanks and reservoirs with the lowest quote received from Lane Tank Company as their quotes included inspections and cleaning costs.

Motion by Mr. Rebman to accept the quote from Lane Tank Company with the understanding that additional costs associated with cleaning are not anticipated. Seconded by Mr. Gehin. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

A quote in the amount of \$3,300 was received from Liquid Engineering for divers to inspect and clean the 1,000,000 gallon clear well in the Water Plant. Only one quote was received as most vendors use robots rather than divers. It was felt that the robots would get hung up on the number of obstacles in the clear well.

Motion by Mr. Gehin to accept the quote from Liquid Engineering. Seconded by Mr. Rebman. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

5) **Discuss Supporting the Clean Waters, Healthy Economy Act.**

Director Marquardt explained that there is a bill proposed regarding limits of phosphorus levels. Some feel the levels are being reduced to unmanageable levels. Currently the City ranges between .5 and 1. The proposal would reduce the range to .1 to .4. This would affect both wastewater and storm sewer and cost a great deal of money for the infrastructure to reduce the limits. The bill suggests allowing interim limits to give municipalities time to reach the new limits. Part of the bill would require a payment of \$50 to the DNR for every pound of phosphorus that we are not removing. This would get funneled back to the Counties to help with programs on non-point sources.

Motion by Mr. Winters to draft a letter of support for Commission review including a request to look at better options for non-point sources and determine whether they can be addressed more economically. Seconded by Mr. Gehin. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

6) **Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Rebman to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Winters. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

/s/ Keene Winters

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Secretary