

BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 10, 2020

Mr. Boytim called the meeting to order in the meeting room of the former fire station at 7:13 p.m. Answering roll call were Mr. Robert Boytim and Mr. James Keys.

Also present were Fiscal Officer Rhonda Sowers, Water Superintendent Tony Joyce and Councilman Dean Dorko.

There were no visitors.

Mr. Keys moved to approve minutes of the February 11, 2020 regular meeting with a correction to state the date of the special meeting would be February 13, 2020 not March 13. Second by Mr. Boytim. Minutes approved as corrected by unanimous vote.

Mr. Keys moved to approve minutes of the February 13, 2020 special meeting. Second by Mr. Boytim. Minutes approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

Mr. Keys moved to approve payment of bills totaling \$32,929.61 including February payroll. Second by Mr. Boytim. Vote: Mr. Keys-yes, Mr. Boytim-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Boytim again presented his plan to increase minimum water rates by \$1.00 per month and reduce the monthly minimum usage in order to give each water department employee a \$1.00 per hour raise. Mr. Boytim noted the high employee turnover rate and said pay needs to be increased in order to keep water operators.

Mr. Keys again said he does not oppose employee raises but feels it is unfair to water customers to increase rates until the department shows it has made every effort to implement cost reduction measures. He believes if employees adopt such measures it would justify asking Council for pay raises.

Discussion followed on ways to cut expenses for both personnel and supplies. Mr. Boytim said he'd like to see the plant run this summer with three full-time employees rather than four. Mr. Joyce said it could be done but he doesn't think one of the employees would like that. The Board agreed that saving the cost of a fourth full-time employee would provide sufficient money for raises.

A lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Joyce said \$1.00 per hour raise is not enough incentive. He asked that a fourth water operator be hired now and cost saving measures be studied later.

Regarding repairs to the pipe which feeds caustic soda to the clear well, Mr. Joyce feels it is preferable replace the pipe rather than attempt to clean sediment buildup from the existing pipe. The Board approved up to \$10,000 for this project and told Mr. Joyce to proceed with replacement if it costs under that amount.

Mr. Joyce submitted the following quotes for cleaning/inspecting the water tower: Pittsburg Pipe, \$1,250.00 to inspect only; Midco, \$2,800.00 to inspect and clean; and Dixon, \$3,000.00 to

inspect only. Mr. Joyce stated the inspection is the most important thing to have done now. Mr. Keys moved to authorize up to \$2,800.00 to inspect and if necessary clean the water tower. Second by Mr. Boytim. Vote: Mr. Keys-yes; Mr. Boytim-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Keys moved to return water service deposits of \$50 each to Mike and Karen Holmes, Cregan's Cottages, LLC and Kelly Sill. Second by Mr. Boytim. Vote: Mr. Keys-yes, Mr. Boytim-yes. Motion carried.


There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Keys and seconded by Mr. Boytim to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.

APPROVED:



Robert S. Boytim, President
Board of Public Affairs

Attest:



Rhonda Botti Sowers
Fiscal Officer