



**RIVER FALLS UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
May 21, 2018
Council Chambers, City Hall**

The regular meeting of the River Falls Utility Advisory Board was called to order by Utility Advisory Board President Adam Myszewski at 6:30 p.m.

Utility Advisory Board Present: Adam Myszewski, Diane Odeen, Patrick Richter, Tim Thum, Duane Pederson, Kevin Swanson, Mark Spafford and Kellen Wells-Mangold

Utility Advisory Board Absent: none

Staff Present: Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Utility Administrative Assistant Lanae Nelson; Assistant City Administrator Julie Bergstrom; City Treasurer Sue Langer; Electric Line Superintendent Wayne Siverling; Wastewater/Water Superintendent Ron Groth; City SCADA Engineer Greg Dietsche and Engineering Technician & GIS Mapper Tamarra Jaworski.

Approval of Minutes:

April 15, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes

MSC Odeen/Richter approve minutes. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Utility Director Westhuis welcomed newly appointed UAB Members Kellen Wells-Mangold and Mark Spafford.

St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center (SCVBIC) Director Danielle Campeau thanked the UAB for their sponsorship of the SCVBIC. Westhuis and Myszewski presented a \$55,000 check to Campeau at the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Acknowledgment of the following minutes:

West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission: 3-15-2018;

POWERful Choices Committee Meeting: 4-12-2018

MSC Pederson/Thum approve Consent Agenda. Unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Tabled Resolution from April 16, 2018 UAB meeting on Recommending Ordinance Change for Backwater Valves

Westhuis and Wastewater/Water Superintendent Ron Groth gave an update. They will be working on three action items regarding backwater valves instead of an ordinance change recommendation. The action items are:

- 1) Pursue Enforcement: Pursuing enforcement of the State Plumbing code related to backwater values regarding new and existing buildings that are subject to backwater valves.
- 2) Education: Westhuis has begun a two-year public education campaign on sewer, what a homeowner owns and is responsible for, what not to flush in the sewer pipes, insurance policies for backups, and the importance of backwater valves.
- 3) Continued Maintenance: The Water Department will continue a proactive approach on cleaning, sewer lining, and a regular televising program to ensure a reliable sewer system. No action is needed on the tabled resolution; instead the focus will be on the public education campaign.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 2018-07 – Supporting Bid Award for the 2018 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project

Engineering Technician & GIS Mapper Tamarra Jaworski gave the annual presentation on professional services support for the sanitary sewer lining project of the city. Jaworski presented a video and explained further details on how sanitary sewer lining installation works, the maintenance needed and the importance of pipe rehabilitation of existing sewer systems.

Jaworski, Groth, and Lead Water Works Operator Greg Koehler have met and reviewed videos on the sewer mains that need lining this year. The decision was determined by a rating scale and, is also based on yearly maintenance, when the mains are cleaned. The following streets need lining: Grove, Pearl, Fremont, Fall, Third, Cedar, Fourth, Eighth, Broadway and Charlotte. There is a need for 5,249 feet of pipe that need to be cleaned, televised and 111 service laterals to be cut or capped. Jaworski explained that the city has worked with Visu-Sewer Inc. last year and were pleased with their work.

Spafford asked about the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTMs) and wanted to know if this lining is related to the 2008 Sanitary Sewer Collection System Study. Jaworski said yes, the study reviewed the city's sewers infrastructure on pipeline repair and every year has a scheduled sewer televising. The study and plan is updated every year. It is on schedule for the televising of the city sewer mains which are showing signs of deterioration on the original pipes. Lining pipes have roughly a 50-year life span. There was further discussion from Groth, Richter, Jaworski and Westhuis. Jaworski provided a video showing the pipe system, the cracking, and the lining of pipes.

The lowest bid of \$130,943.35 came in from Visu-Sewer, Inc. which is below the recommended supporting bid award for the 2018 Sanitary Sewer Lining project of \$175,000.

MSC Odeen/Swanson to move for the approval of the resolution. President Myszewski asked for any further decision; seeing none he asked for a vote on the resolution. The resolution passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

AMI Update and Report

City SCADA Engineer Greg Dietsche and Electric Line Superintendent Wayne Siverling gave an update on Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technology. It is an operating system for meters to communicate, giving information on billing, outage detection along with the ability to disconnect and reconnect meters at City Hall. Currently AMI is in a pilot project with 157 meters installed in the city. The project plan is a three-year installation period for water and electric and a resolution will be brought to City Council in late 2018 or early 2019.

Hydroelectric Report

Westhuis and Siverling presented an update on the hydroelectric for Junction Falls and Powell Falls. The hydroelectric dams were back online in May. Spare parts were used for repairs which saved money. The resolution was ~\$13,000 and cost was ~\$8,000.

2017 Annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

Wastewater/Water Superintendent Ron Groth presented 2017 Annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This water quality report is required by the federal government and is reported to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and is distributed consumers' information. It shows that the water quality in River Falls is safe, consistent, meets or exceeds the required guidelines.

Finance Report

Assistant City Administrator Julie Bergstrom gave a brief overview of the finance report. The City Council is being asked to approve the sale of \$2,600,000 in Electric revenue bonds to fund the improvements of the power plant substation which would fund half of the project. These bonds will be the only debt for the Electric utility as it is currently debt free. No action is requested from the UAB; this is only informational. The proposed term is 10 years with an estimated interest rate of 3.5 percent.

The Electric utility has used cash reserves to fund some of the project costs related to the substation project. The cash reserve position is still very healthy. The Water fund had expenses on Well #5, which has caused it to have a greater expense than revenue thus far this year. During irrigation season there will be more revenues than expenses. Sewer and Stormwater funds are running on track in 2018.

Utility Dashboards

The 2018 April utility dashboards of Electric, Water, Wastewater Treatment Plan and POWERful Choices were included in the UAB packet for review.

Monthly Utility Reports

The 2018 April monthly utility reports were in the UAB packet for review.

Director Report

Westhuis provided updates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Westhuis recognized Duane Pederson who is retiring from the UAB with a plaque. Pederson has served since 2012. He was also the Mayor from 1990-1997, a Council Ward representative from 1976-1981 and District 4 representative from 1984-1987.

ADJOURNMENT:

MSC Odeen/Richter to adjourn. Unanimous.

Myszewski announced meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Reported by: Utility Administrative Assistant Lanae Nelson

Adam Myszewski, President