

CITY OF BARRON
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE BARRON UTILITY COMMISSION
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019, 3:00 P.M.
CITY HALL-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1456 E LASALLE AVE

1. Call to order

President Amundson called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. Quorum was declared. Commissioners in Attendance: Marvin Amundson, Joe Johnston, Gene Redlich, Ken Petersen and Bob Missling.

Others present: Utility Manager Rick Jari, Mayor Ron Fladten, CLA Auditor April Anderson, MSA City Engineer Teresa Anderson, Aaron Weber and Office Coordinator Sande Hause.

2. Approval of the minutes from April 8, 2019 Regular Commission Meeting and Annual Meeting.

Motion by Redlich, seconded by Petersen, to approve the minutes of April 8, 2019 Regular Commission Meeting, as printed, voice vote:

Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Petersen, seconded by Missling, to approve the minutes of April 8, 2019 Annual Meeting, as printed, voice vote:

Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion carried.

3. Approval of the bills.

Motion by Petersen, seconded by Redlich, to approve the May bills, including ratifying late bills, as presented, voice vote:

Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion carried.

4. Review Financial Reports.

Hause presented the March 2019 Electric, Water and Sewer Utilities balance sheets/financial statements.

5. Plant Operations Reports.

Jari reported on the plant operations report, profit and loss statement for electric service for the City of Barron and Jennie-O Turkey Store, peak demands report and water sold vs water pumped report. Water loss was at 3% loss for the month of April and at 1% loss average for the year.

6. Discussion of outcomes of previous business.

The spring bid is complete. Waiting for the new bucket truck before putting old bucket truck out for bids.

7. Presentation of 2018 Annual Audit and Financial Statements by April L. Anderson of Clifton Larson Allen, LLC.

April Anderson presented financial statements of 2018 audit. Utility accounts were discussed. The electric department rate of return is at 3.44% and the water department is at 2.88%. The goal rate of return is 6% for each department. Auditors will be looking into a rate increase for the electric and water departments, with the focus on the water department due to the increased expenditures for the water tower project.

8. Appearance by Teresa Anderson MSA - update Water Tower #2 project.
The bid has been awarded to the contractor and the pre-construction meeting will be scheduled soon.

9. Discuss and consider interim financing for water tower #2.
Aaron Weber reviewed the letter from 3/11/19 with the Commission. Motion by Redlich, seconded by Petersen, to approve the loan - not to exceed 2.3 million dollars - as recommended in the March 11, 2019 letter, voice vote:
Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion carried.

10. Discuss and consider sewer department maintenance.
Jari reported there are 4 manholes that need to be rehabbed and sewer lining installed on the stub streets before the 2020 LaSalle project. Jari also reported a lift station pump needs to be replaced. Motion by Petersen, seconded by Redlich, to accept the Utility Managers recommendation for the above purchases, voice vote:
Ayes-5 Nays-0 Motion carried.

11. Presentation of 2019 Utility Budgets by Rick Jari.
Jari presented the 2019 utility budget. He stated the department budgets may not be accurate with the new water tower, aerator rental, sludge removal and other projects.

12. Projects update.
Jari reported that 2 rental aerators broke down last month and have been repaired. Two manholes have been replaced, one by BACC and the other at 5th St & LaSalle Ave. The AEPEP annual meeting will be June 13 in Eau Claire.

13. Plant Performance Graph.
Jari reported the flows from Cameron are down. The BOD's are scaling up.

The Mayor stated he will set up a Special Joint Meeting with the Commission and City Council to discuss ad valorem taxation vs. gross receipts tax in August or September.

14. Adjournment
Duly moved to adjourn by unanimous consent at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sande Hause, Office Coordinator – Barron Light & Water