

CITY OF BARRON  
MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE BARRON UTILITY COMMISSION  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2019, 3:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL, 1456 E LASALLE AVE

1. Call to order.

President Amundson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Quorum was declared.  
Commissioners in Attendance: Marvin Amundson, Joe Johnston, Gene Redlich and Ken Petersen.

Absent: Bob Missling.

Others present: Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Hattie Widiker, Utility Manager Rick Jari, Mayor Ron Fladten, MSA City Engineer Teresa Anderson, City Administrator Elizabeth Jacobson, Office Coordinator Sande Hause, Don Peterson, Chuck Sandmann and Bob Lentz.

2. Approval of the minutes from August 12, 2019 Regular Commission Meeting.

Motion by Redlich, seconded by Petersen, to approve the minutes of August 12, 2019 Regular Commission Meeting, as printed, voice vote:

Ayes-4            Nays-0            Motion carried.

3. Approval of the bills.

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

Ayes-4            Nays-0            Motion carried.

4. Review Financial Reports.

Widiker presented the July 2019 Electric, Water and Sewer Utilities balance sheets/financial statements. Line maintenance expense is up due to the July 19 storm. The Sewer flushing & repair expense is up due to sewer line repair and manhole replacement.

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. He noted that purchases and sales were both up compared to last year. Jari stated one 6" water meter at Jennie-O was registering incorrectly and the sold gallons is not accurate. The meter has been repaired.

6. Discussion of outcomes of previous business.

Jari reported he looked into other water rates. He stated he called Chad Nisbit with Jennie-O Turkey Store and when we know the rates, we are to contact them.

7. Appearance by Don Peterson for update on Community Home Again project.

Peterson presented a brief overview of the senior living project. He requested assistance with the construction for utilities. There was discussion where the utilities would be connected. This is in the early stages and no decision was made.

8. Appearance by Teresa Anderson MSA:

a) Water Tower Project Update

Anderson shared a handout. The Commission was informed that the concrete was poured for the walls. Once the area is filled with dirt, the floor can be poured.

b) Application for Payment #3 from Maguire Iron (Commission to make payment recommendation to Council)

Motion by Johnston, seconded by Redlich, to recommend City Council approve payment 3 to Maguire Iron in the amount of \$464,573.75, voice vote:

Ayes-4          Nays-0          Motion carried.

Jari stated Dan Thole with CLA had some questions regarding the rate structure billing blocks. He needs answers before he can file with the PSC. The Commission, Jari and Dan Thole will meet for further discussion.

9. Discuss and consider an ordinance that no longer allows water meters to be installed under homes.

Jacobson reported she received a letter with this request. She is looking for guidance for the Ordinance Committee. Jacobson and Jari will meet and discuss this.

10. Report on transformer failure.

Jari reported a main substation transformer failed. This was inspected and repaired by Energis.

11. Projects update.

Jari reported the departments are still working on storm damage, putting in poles and line maintenance. We are waiting for the fiberglass poles for the street lights. The ponds are being pumped out so we can dig them up for better seepage.

12. Plant Performance Graph.

No graph available

13. Adjournment.

Duly moved to adjourn by unanimous consent at 5:05 p.m.

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