



## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF A WATER AND SEWER BOARD MEETING:

Regular: Water and Sewer Board

Date and Time: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 7:00pm

Location: City Hall, 2000 N. Calhoun Road, Council Chambers

Members Present: Alderman Chris Blackburn-Chairman, Alderman Mike Jurken, Alderwoman Jenna Meza, Alderman Brad Blumer and Alderman Bill Carnell

Others Present: Director of Public Works Tom Grisa, City Engineer Jeffrey Chase, Alderman Mike Hallquist, Alderman Scott Berg, Alderman Rick Owen, Finance Director Robert Scott

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Chris Blackburn noted a quorum present and called the Water and Sewer Board to order at 7:00pm.

### 2. Announcements

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7:00pm.

### 3. Minutes

#### a) Minutes of the April 12, 2022 meeting

***Motion by Alderman Bill Carnell, second by Alderwoman Jenna Meza to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022 Water and Sewer Board meeting. Motion carried 5-0.***

### 4. Unfinished Business

None

### 5. New Business

#### a) Water utility simplified rate case application to the Public Service Commission

Mr. Scott commented that the water utility is regulated by the Public Service Commission. As such the Council applies to the commission in order to change rates. The last rate change was in 2019. In 2020 the City did not qualify for applying for an increase.

Alderman Blackburn asked about the 4.9% rate of return and if the money goes into the reserve fund. Mr. Scott responded the money does go into the reserve fund but is also used for rehabilitating well houses, replacing meters and hydrants.

***Motion by Alderman Kris Seals, second by Alderman Chuck Bloom III to approve the water utility simplified rate case application to the Public Service Commission. Motion carried 5-0.***

**b) Wastewater utility rate adjustment**

Alderman Blackburn asked where the City is at regarding phosphorus reduction and MMSD capital charges. Mr. Grisa responded the phosphorus removal is already constructed. MMSD capital charges can fluctuate year by year depending on what projects are completed by MMSD. There is an inflation concern for future projects, which could drive up costs over and above current projections.

Alderman Seals asked if a 4.41% rate of return is marginal and should it be higher since all costs are going up. Mr. Scott replied it is fine. It will be revisited in the fall during budget time.

Alderman Blackburn surmised that the reason for a wastewater utility rate increase can be tied to the reduction in taxes paid by the City to the utility as a result of Covid and the need to pay for bonds financing the Brookfield Conference Center. Alderman Bloom commented the Brookfield Conference Center is now doing well and the City will gain revenue from the facilities around the Center.

***Motion by Alderman Kris Seals, second by Alderman Chuck Bloom III to approve the wastewater utility rate adjustment. Motion carried 5-0.***

**c) Award of an agreement for engineering design of a replacement iron filter at the Arrowhead well station**

Alderman Seals asked how many iron filters are in the City. Mr. Grisa replied there are 2 pressure facilities and there used to be one gravity filter but the iron concentrations in the well dropped enough that it no longer needs to be run.

Alderman Seals questioned the condition of the current remaining iron filters in use. Mr. Grisa responded the Brookfield Academy iron filter is not that old, regularly maintained and is in fine condition.

***Motion by Alderman Seals, second by Alderman Chuck Bloom III to approve the award of an agreement for engineering design of a replacement iron filter at the Arrowhead well station. Motion carried 5-0.***

**d) Agreement with United Liquid Waste for hauling of biosolids**

Alderman Blackburn questioned if they have the capacity to take the biosolids. Mr. Grisa answered they have limited capacity but they do have tanks to store the biosolids until they can be distributed on the fields.

***Motion by Alderman Bill Carnell, second by Alderwoman Jenna Meza to approve the agreement with United Liquid Waste for hauling of biosolids. Motion carried 5-0.***

**6. Adjournment**

***Motion by Alderwoman Jenna Meza, second by Alderman Chuck Bloom III to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm. Motion carried 5-0.***

Respectfully Submitted:  
Thomas M. Grisa, P.E.  
Director of Public Works