

Utility Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, July 20, 2011 –10:00 A.M.  
Paul J Bertschinger Community Center  
7860 Hwy 42, Egg Harbor, WI 54209

*“Draft-Approval Pending*

Present: Paula Cashin-Chair, TC Johnson, Adolph Walser, Rocky Fairchild, Josh Van Lieshout, Paul Peterson

Absent: Steve Carlson-excused

Also Present: Tom Kispert-McMahon

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Chair, Cashin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approve June 15, 2011, Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

*Cashin moved to approve the June 15, 2011 Utility Committee meeting minutes, Walser seconded. Motion carried.*

3. Open Session (Limited to Ten Minutes)

Cashin mentioned that letters went out to customers regarding the discontinuation of village pump outs. It was noted that there have not been any calls regarding the discontinuation of pump outs. Rate increases were discussed at the Village Board meeting and Cashin stated she wanted to discuss it further with the Utility Committee.

4. Discussion regarding utility rates

Cashin opened the discussion regarding utility rates. Van Lieshout stated he reviewed where peers in the area were in relation to the Village of Egg Harbor utilities. At the Village Board meeting, the Village Board asked for more information. Van Lieshout stated he went back to Ordinance 51 and read it very thoroughly to find out how the rates were initially established. Basically it called for separating the treatment costs from the collection costs. Van Lieshout explained his method of calculations for fixed and variable costs, treatment costs and collection costs. The sewer rate review sheets provided by Van Lieshout was reviewed and discussed by the committee. Van Lieshout noted that about 45% of operating cost goes towards depreciation. Replacement and depreciation was discussed by the Committee. The specifics of the code and establishing rates were discussed. The code included 68% of the total collection costs as a fixed cost and 32% as a variable cost. Current charges, the difference and the percentage change were discussed for both seasonal and permanent customers. It was stated Haulers revenue should reduce the debt and percentage change when calculated into the numbers. The possibility of 4% beginning in January 2012 and 4% the following year was discussed as a possible increase to customers overall. It was noted that the State wants to see Utilities running self-sufficiently. With the foresight to set money aside, the impact on customers for future replacement will be minimal, if any, with calculating depreciation.

*Cashin moved to approve and recommend to the Village Board an increase rate of 4% this year as of January 2012 and a 4% increase the following year, seconded by Walser. Motion carried.*

5. Plant Manager's Report

Peterson gave the plant manager's report.

June total flow 4.677 mil, 2010 was 4.9446 mil, down 266,900.

June haulers 1.3 mil, last year 1.5 mil, down 214,000.

For the year flow 14.8 mil, last year 15 mil, only 200,000 behind

Hauler year totals 4.8 mil, last year 4.7, we are a little ahead of last year for haulers.

Peterson reported:

- There was a leak at White Cliff. Harbor construction dug it up and they found it was where a private house was hooked into the main. It was on the private owner's side and technically was the responsibility of the owner. Due to some of the water coming out of the village's force main, Peterson had to report it. Concerns regarding private owners pumping into the force main were noted. It was stated that the village could add a gravity sewer to the main. Kispert stated the village needs to maintain access to the main. He said it is not uncommon to have a grinder pump by the force main to fix this.
- Mariner lift station had issues which began two weeks ago. The pump was running and the check valve was open. They could not get the check valve to close. They switched to pumps for the week-end. On Monday, they pulled the check valve. It was packed with rags. The valve shut off leaked so bad that when they pulled it to replace it, there were several other problems. After all the repairs, it appears to be working.
- The main lift station had a high level there. The check valve on the #3 valve stuck open. The #2 pump ran for about 3-4 hours, pumping the water back into the station. The #2 pump was very hot from the constant running. Energenec was called and they assisted. The main station is running okay now.
- Today, July 20, 2011, the ferric chloride room had ferric all over the floor. This is the second time this has happened. They ran a tube through the line. The plastic line broke and there was ferric on the floor. Peterson mentioned the manhole is deteriorating. He asked if Kispert would come and take a look at it. Kispert agreed to look at the problem. Van Lieshout discussed the possibility of replacing the deteriorating manhole.

#### 6. Adjournment

Cashin moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m., Walser seconded. Motion carried.

Reported by,  
Kelly A Popp  
Deputy Clerk/Administrative Assistant