

1305150

**City of Merrill
Water & Sewage Disposal Committee
Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 5:00 P.M.
Basement Conference Room, City Hall, 1004 East First Street**

Members Present (3 of 3): Alderman John Burgener (Chairperson), Alderwoman Kandy Peterson and Alderman Rob Norton.

Others Present: Mayor Bill Bialecki (arr. 5:14), City Administrator Dave Johnson, Utility Superintendent Kim Kriewald, Alderman Dave Sukow and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A student was in attendance to videotape the meeting for the Cable Access Channel.

Call to order

Alderman Burgener called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Norton/Peterson) to approve the vouchers as presented.
Carried.

Consider membership in mutual aid group (WisWARN)

Utility Superintendent Kriewald explained that the City of Merrill is not currently a member of any organization that, in disaster situations, could potentially provide mutual aid related to water and wastewater. Information related to WisWARN, a statewide mutual aid response network, was in the meeting packet.

Utility Superintendent Kriewald stated that there is no cost for membership in this organization. If other members of the organization are victims of a disaster, the City of Merrill would determine the level of mutual aid that the City of Merrill could provide. If a disaster affecting the City of Merrill occurred, the City of Merrill would receive the mutual aid of other members, as determined by the other members.

Since membership is free and there is no direct obligation, Utility Superintendent Kriewald is recommending that the City of Merrill become a member of WisWARN.

Motion (Peterson/Norton) to recommend that the City of Merrill become a member of WisWARN. Carried.

City Attorney Hayden will be directed to draft a resolution, which will be on the May 14th, 2013 Common Council meeting agenda.

2012 Public Service Commission annual report

The report was in the meeting packet.

Utility Superintendent Kriewald stated that, at the Committee of the Whole and Common Council meetings on May 14th, the City's auditor would be providing information on the financial aspects of the report.

Utility Superintendent Kriewald noted that the report stated that the level of water loss was 10%. This is well within the acceptable threshold of 15%.

No action on the report was necessary, requested or taken.

Consider amending ordinance Chapter 38 re: PSC guidelines for laterals & meters

The proposed ordinance was in the meeting packet.

Utility Superintendent Kriewald explained that the proposed ordinance is being proposed to incorporate the Public Service Commission guidelines for maintenance of laterals and meters into the City of Merrill Code of Ordinances.

Alderman Norton suggested that the wording "...the work shall be done by qualified plumbers" be changed to state "...the work shall be done by State of Wisconsin licensed plumbers".

Alderman Peterson suggested that, rather than limiting it to State of Wisconsin licensed plumbers, the language be changed to "the work shall be done by state-licensed plumbers", to allow for licensed plumbers from other states as well.

Motion (Norton/Peterson) to amend by changing the language to state "the work shall be done by state-licensed plumbers". Carried.

Motion (Peterson/Norton) to recommend adopting the ordinance, as amended at this meeting. Carried.

The ordinance, as amended, will be on the May 14th, 2013 Common Council meeting agenda.

Operations Report

The report was in the meeting packet. Utility Superintendent Kriewald reported that the two summer employees hired for 2013 are the same two employees that worked during the summer of 2012.

Utility Superintendent Kriewald stated that he has received two quotes for work to be done on the East Street Water Tower. He anticipates that additional quotes will be received. Review and consideration of quotes will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Public Comment

Alderman Sukow questioned why the reference to copper water laterals was removed in the ordinance amending Chapter 38, relating to laterals and meters.

Utility Superintendent Kriewald responded that the Public Service Commission guidelines do not specify any certain type of material, so the reference to copper was removed.

Next meeting

Wednesday, May 29th, 2013 at 5:00 P.M.

Adjournment

Motion (Peterson/Norton) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 5:18 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

William N. Heideman, WCMC
City Clerk