

MINUTES
UTILITIES BOARD MEETING
EPHRAIM CITY HALL
5 SOUTH MAIN, EPHRAIM, UTAH
OCTOBER 25, 2018
7:00 PM

Board Members Present: Chair Ted Olson, Leonard McCosh, Dale Nicholls, Don Thompson, Council Liaison Richard Wheeler

Board Members Excused:

Staff Present: Public Works Director Chad Parry, Power Superintendent Cory Daniels, Secretary Candice Maudsley

Others Appearing:

CALL TO ORDER

The Ephraim Utilities Board convened on Thursday, October 25, 2018, in the Ephraim City Hall Board Room. Utilities Board Chair Ted Olson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. MOTION AGENDA

A. POSSIBLE FEE FOR RESIDENTS WHO REFUSE RF METER AND GO TO HAND READ METER DISCUSSION.

There have been a few residents requesting that they do not receive an RF meter. Recently one resident has requested that her RF meter be replaced with a mechanical meter that must be hand read. The resident believes the RF meter is causing seizures and is killing her. The meter change has not changed her health condition and she is still requesting the Power Department do something about it. She believes the smart meter is the cause of all her health issues. The City is beginning to face more of these situations. It has been suggested that those requesting no RF meter, or the replacement of an existing meter have a \$25 monthly fee added to their bill. This fee would cover the cost of manually reading the meter. Which includes Power Department time, equipment cost, and office time to manually record and bill readings. Going forward, there could be an RF meter opt out form so every resident requesting this understands they will be billed a fee. There are currently three residents that have requested this. Two are concerned that they are spied on through this meter and one health concern.

Board Member moved Leonard McCosh made a motion to recommend to City Council a \$25 fee be charged to resident's utility bills that opt out of the use of RF meters which results in the meter being manually read. The motion was seconded by Board Member Dale Nicholls. The motion carried.

II. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

TED OLSON

UAMPS – Volkswagen had a settlement because of environmental standards that were not met. Utah will be receiving some of the settlement money. The Department of Air Quality will be dispersing the funds. The first option to be granted a portion of this money is building an electronic vehicle charging station. The grant will pay for equipment and labor. It would have to be on the City's property. The cities of Blanding and Beaver have charging stations that can be looked at. The forms will need to be turned in by the 30th of November. The second option is making a vehicle conversion from gasoline to electric.

Caterpillar – Ted visited their research and development facility. They have a microgrid which allows them to be self-sufficient with two solar farms, diesel generators, and battery storage. They can supply 50 MW around the clock with the three sources combined. Caterpillar is willing to sell the microgrid to a small city.

Millard County and Taxes- A flat rate tax has been discussed as a temporary arrangement concerning the municipal tax exemption.

Leonard McCosh

Well and Tunnel Status – Leonard would like to have a report concerning the two wells and the tunnel status.

IV. STAFF MEMBER REPORTS

Cory Daniels, Power Director

Substation – The ground grid has been installed. Randy Nielson is building the fence and the gravel will soon be down allowing the structure to go in. The goal for completion is February 2019. This substation gives better options for Snow College and redundancy for the system.

Pole maintenance and repair – The Power Department has tested over 400 poles and eight have failed and will be replaced. There are over 2,000 poles in the city.

Chad Parry, Public Works Director

Existing Well - There has been a known problem with the motor and it was hoped that it would last one more month before it would be shut off for the season and be repaired. The bearings went out which caused the shaft to break in three places. This was a 30-year-old pump in the well. Ralph Brotherson helped order the new shaft and pump. The motor was

rewound with a new shaft, casing, and pump. The water samples came back with a lower arsenic level. It was pumping at 900 GPM (Gallons Per Minute) and dropped to 700 GPM before it went down. It is now pumping 800 – 900 GPM after repair.

Tunnel – The pipe has been run all the way through the tunnel and they are currently working on cementing it in. Chad does not think they will be able to get the culinary line in before the end of this season.

New Well – The test well is complete, and the water samples came back with great results. There are more studies to do to continue. It is hoped to be finished Spring 2019.

Old Water Lines – There is an issue with wear on the main line going down to the HYDRO. It is hoped to get money to do repairs and possibly break up pressure with a new HYDRO above the Ropes Course.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Utilities Board for consideration, Board Member Leonard McCosh moved the Regular Utility Board Meeting adjourn at 8:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Board Member Don Thompson. The motion carried.

The next regular Utilities Board meeting is scheduled to be held on December 13, 2018, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Ephraim City board room.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Ted Olson, Chair

Date

ATTEST:

Candice Maudsley, Secretary

Date