

**MINUTES  
UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Bernstein, DeLoach, Groschen, McCune, Pehrson; Clerk: Short; Public Works Director: Reed.

Absent: Hesse with notice.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Additions/Deletions):** Groschen moved approval of the agenda as submitted. McCune seconded. Ayes all.

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 11, 2016 MEETING MINUTES:** McCune moved approval of the February 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes. DeLoach seconded. Ayes all.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** McCune moved approval of the Consent Agenda as follows: 4A) Receive Monthly Sewer & Water Reports; 4B) Receive EDAB Minutes; 4C) Receive Missed Pick-Ups Refuse & Recycling Report. Pehrson seconded. Ayes all.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** **Well #5 Seepage Pond:** The seepage pond constructed in 1989 is not infiltrating properly and the overflow structure is being investigated regarding its use and impact on the surrounding wetland. The overflow pipe also has a leak located in the middle of the pipe. The Town Board has authorized TKDA to prepare plans and specifications and advertise for bids for the seepage pond improvements in an amount not to exceed \$2,350.00 with funding from the Water Fund. **Columbia Park Water Project:** VLAWMO has put together some grant funding to clean water in Lambert Creek. VLAWMO is proposing to place a wetland treatment system in Columbia Park at the far south end, west of Whitaker Pond on the upland portion of the park where a picnic shelter was once located. The Park Board received a presentation on the proposal and supported the project and recommended that the Town Board move forward with the project. **North Oaks Company/Hable Property Subdivision:** The property located south of County Road H-2, east of Centerville Road and west of I-35E is proposed for development. The developers have submitted a petition to authorize a feasibility report. The Board adopted a resolution ordering preparation of a report on street and utility Improvement pursuant to a petition of 100% of affected property owners. **Southeast Area Sewer Relining Project:** Neighborhood

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meetings are scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup> to review the project with the 457 affected property owners. **Water Efficiency Grant:** Funding from the Metropolitan Council through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment has resulted in Township residents participating in water efficiency by using approved appliances. Funding for 110 toilets, 4 washing machines, and 20 irrigation system controllers have been approved. The program runs to July 2017, or until funding is depleted.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT:** The Public Works Director reviewed Public Works Department activity for the months of February and March, 2016. **I & I Work on West Bald Eagle Easement:** The lining project began on February 24, 2016 and was completed on February 25, 2016. This work is being done to address inflow and infiltration. The cost of the corrective measures is subtracted from the \$70,000 fine per year for four years from the Met Council. **Well #5 Treatment Plant:** The well and treatment plant are almost ready to put in service. It is planned that they will be used for 6 hours per day during the summer months. **Lift Station #3:** The Town Attorney and Town Engineer are working on obtaining documentation regarding ownership of the land. Lift Station #9 will be done this year and Lift Station #3 will be done when the legal work is done. **Barry Lane:** A 50% matching grant from the Rice Creek Watershed District has been received for the work on the Barry Lane pond. The grant will reimburse up to 50% of the cost, with a maximum of \$31,000.00. Once the grant agreement is received from RCWD the Town Engineer will provide a proposal to prepare plans and specifications. **Radio Reads:** Approximately 600 radio readers have been approved for purchase for installation in the northeast area.

**REPUBLIC SERVICES – TOM CHOVAN; 1) YARD WASTE CART; 2) RECYCLEBANK DISCONTINUATION:** Tom Chovan, General Manager and Randy Johnson, Division Manager, Blaine, attended the meeting to discuss services offered by Republic. **Yard Waste Carts:** Tom Chovan reported that Republic will offer carts at no charge and as an incentive for the Town to extend their contract which expires at the end of this year. When this offer was presented to the Utility Commission at the February 11, 2016 Utility Commission there was no opposition to the proposal. Tom Chovan reported that many communities offer yard waste containers since non-standard containers require manual lifting into the truck. They will continue to offer the same service. Tom Chovan stated that there is no charge and is all inclusive during the term of the contract. It was noted that with a yard waste container it means that there is one more container to store and take out. Tom Chovan stated that they will not enforce the yard waste container. He reported that the yard waste containers are in three sizes: 35 gallons; 64 gallons, and 96 gallons. He stated that there are only 3 weeks in the spring of the year and 3 weeks in the fall where there is a lot of yard waste. Groschen stated that he would rather pay for carts outright rather than being billed each month. **Organic Waste:** Tom Chovan reported that at the State level pressure is being put to add special organic waste containers. Organic waste is not to be put in with the trash. The Clerk presented a table top organic waste container. Tom Chovan stated that Republic does not provide these containers. Kermes asked how Township Ordinance would state how to store containers. The Clerk stated that he will find out. Source

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Separated Organics would be handled through a contract with Republic. Deloach asked about customers using their own containers for regular refuse. Tom Chovan stated that their trucks can handle customer owned containers. **Spring Clean Up:** There is no charge for the spring cleanup. Republic will provide collection equipment and labor to load and transport mixed municipal solid waste collected to the disposal site. The disposal or tipping charge will be paid by the Township based on confirmed load tickets.

**Rates:** Rates will be addressed at a future Utility Commission Meeting. The Clerk will get specific information from other communities before considering a rate adjustment.

**Recyclebank:** The Recyclebank program has been discontinued. Residents who have been using the program will continue to be able to access and redeem points.

**NEXT MEETING DATE / AGENDA ITEMS:** The next meeting date is Thursday, May 12, 2016. Items for discussion will include:

- Municipal solid waste, recycling, and yard waste contract
- Sewer and water rates
- Treatment plant tour

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan J. Clemens  
Recording Secretary