

BLACK RIVER FALLS UTILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 29, 2021

Utility Commission President John Lund called a meeting of the Black River Falls Municipal Utility Commission to order on March 29, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Room at 101 South Second Street. Commissioners in attendance were Jay Eddy, Jeff Amo, Pete Olson, and Don Mathews. Also present were General Manager Casey Engebretson, Office Manager Julie Babcock, and Garrett Aleckson (Banner Journal).

A motion was made by Commissioner Mathews and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2021 regular meeting.

Aye: Lund, Eddy, Amo, Olson, and Mathews  
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eddy and seconded by Commissioner Olson to approve the accounts payable vouchers; CK #37164 - #37231; HC #100486 - #100493) – Totaling \$592,680.97.

Aye: Lund, Eddy, Amo, Olson, and Mathews  
Motion Carried.

Julie Babcock reviewed the February 2021 financials.

Julie Babcock reviewed the February 2021 arrears.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that AMI water meter installations will begin in April. The AMI water meter conversion is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Olson to advertise for bids for the replacement of three (3) diaphragm sludge pumps at the WWTP.

Aye: Lund, Eddy, Amo, Olson, and Mathews  
Motion Carried.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission that the Utility received a first place safety award for 2020 from the American Public Power Association.

The Commission discussed an economic development grant request from the Black River Downtown Association for a project consisting of naming downtown parking lots. Commissioner Eddy stated that this project is on the Common Council's agenda in April and suggested that this request be tabled until the Common Council has a chance to review the project. There was a consensus among the Commission that this request should be tabled and placed on the agenda for the April Commission meeting.

Casey Engebretson presented a resolution to the Commission which would amend sanitary sewer charges for BRFMU customers and the Town of Brockway Sanitary No. 1. Casey stated that these increases would be effective on July 1, 2021 and spread out over six (6) years to limit the rate impact to customers. Casey informed the Commission that he met with the Town of Brockway Board to present this proposed rate amendment and answer questions.

A motion was made by Commissioner Amo and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to approve Resolution 2021-1; Amendment of Sanitary Sewer Customer and Volume charges.

Aye: Lund, Eddy, Amo, Olson, and Mathews  
Motion Carried.

Casey Engebretson provided the Commission with a construction update for the operations center. All site utilities have been installed, along with rough gravel throughout the site except for the building footprint. Crews will begin pouring footings this week.

Casey Engebretson informed the Commission of a request from Miron for contingency funds regarding price increases due to a volatile steel market. Subsequent to discussion, the Commission felt the best course of action was to not take action at this time and revisit the request later in the project.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021 at 4:30 pm. The Commission agreed to resume meetings at the utility office conference room moving forward.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson and seconded by Commissioner Eddy to adjourn at 5:15 p.m.

Aye: Lund, Eddy, Amo, Olson, and Mathews  
Motion carried.

Casey Engebretson, General Manager  
comm.mtg.minutes.3.29.2021