

MUB MEETING
May 24, 2016, 2016
7:30 AM

Meeting called to order by Ken Sabers, MUB President. Others present were Shawn Mechling, MUB member; Mark Carstensen, MUB member (at 7:45); Greg Barnier, City Attorney; Fay Bueno, Finance Officer; Daniel Ainslie, City Manager; Dale Olson, Water Superintendent and James Kramer, customer.

Shawn Mechling made a motion to approve today's agenda and the minutes from the last meeting, Ken Sabers seconded. Approved. Shawn Mechling made a motion to approve the claims, Ken Sabers seconded. Approved.

A customer concern from James Kramer was presented. Mr. Kramer who owns a property with three rental units of which he is responsible for the water is asking for reimbursement of a reconnect fee which he was charged after two months of non-payment. On the disconnect day the City made a choice to not disconnect the renters but to continue to try to contact Mr. Kramer. The City spent several days trying to reach Mr. Kramer. When Mr. Kramer was located, he came in to sign an extension that the bill would be paid within 7-10 days. It was the consensus of the board to not reimburse this amount since the ordinance was followed. The Board did not grant the reimbursement as this is against the MUB regulations.

Another concern was presented by the Water Superintendent regarding procedures for installation of a residential home sprinkler system. A customer is installing a fire sprinkler system in their home without plans, permits or a licensed contractor within the City limits. The contractor, who wants to connect to the service line *before* the meter, was notified to cease and desist due to these infractions. After discussion with the Building Inspector, the contractor gave the name of his attorney to the Building Inspector so the City attorney may contact him regarding the procedures since this has never been done in Sturgis before. The Sturgis City Attorney will check the City ordinances and contact the other attorney.

The Water Superintendent reported that the theft of service issue has had progress. City employees were allowed in to the house to replace the meter (the meter had been removed and bypass lines put in) and the back bill was paid as well as the damages to city property. Currently multiple charges are pending against Mr. Gross. There has been no progress made by the owner or the Murrys on the Hog Heaven service line. The City Attorney spoke to the Hog Heaven Campground owner offering to send another letter to the involved parties in hopes of moving this matter along. It was mentioned that the Murrys are now seeking to renegotiate the purchase agreement from 2004 which the Board is not willing to do. The North Tank was drained and inspected. They found some issues and will submit a full report next month to the board. This is a new company who offers a multiple year contract for maintenance on water tanks. The references that were checked seem very happy with their work. The Water Superintendent and the City Manager will be doing further research into this option.

In Old Business, the Fleet Street Agreements were sent out. Brian Eddington is requesting additional time to build the home. The Board is willing to extend the time to match the minutes for the due date to be December 31, 2017 that a residence must be built by. No reply has been received from Robert Hansen. The Water Superintendent will follow up with both parties. If the agreements are not signed within 30-60 days the MUB's offer will be revoked.

In New Business the Finance Officer asked that a policy concerning NSF on ACH accounts be created. The general policy which will be presented in final form at the next meeting will include a three tier process to include the first NSF on the account no checks/ACH will be accepted until all fees including the penalty are paid. The second offense will include that no checks/ACH payment will be accepted for six months. The third offense in a 12 month period would be that no checks/ACH would be accepted for a two year period.

The Water Superintendent requested that a fire hydrant be abandoned in the Industrial Park. It is currently located in the proposed driveway for a new business. The Fire Chief and Water Superintendent have no problems with the abandonment since two other fire hydrants are in close proximity. Mark Carstensen made a motion to abandon the fire hydrant, Shawn Mechling seconded. Approved.

The Common Cents gas station purchased the lot where Caddy's restaurant is located. They are asking the City to abandon a water main which goes through their property. They would like to re-route their current service lines to be at the edge of their property instead of going across the middle where they currently are located. The consensus of the Board was that the service lines can be moved with no fees from the City if they do all the work. If any City employee is asked to work on the project, a reconnect fee will be assessed. Shawn Mechling made a motion to not allow abandonment of the water main until the company presents building plans at a later date, Mark Carstensen seconded. Approved.

In other business, the hammering issue at Well 7 will be addressed when the City Engineer is hired. This will hopefully be done within the next month. A "dip" in the road on Paha Sapa was discussed. This will be looked into to see if this is due to a water problem or a street issue.

Shawn Mechling made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mark Carstensen seconded. Ken Sabers adjourned the meeting.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the next meeting will be Wednesday, June 29 at 7:30 am in the front conference room.

Ken Sabers, President

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