

MUB MEETING
January 28, 2016
8:00 AM

Meeting called to order by Ken Sabers, MUB Member. Others present were Shawn Mechling, MUB member; Mark Carstensen, MUB Member; Greg Barnier, City Attorney; Fay Bueno, Finance Officer; Daniel Ainslie, City Manager at 7:40); Rick Bush, Public Works; and Dale Olson, Water Superintendent.

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

The Customer Concern was put further down the agenda since he was not present.

The Water Superintendent gave a report that two employees are testing this afternoon for certification. If they pass they will not legally be certified until June. The next level certification will be available a year after that. There have been several large leaks since January 1 of this year that have been repaired. The leaks have been estimated at 50-70,000 gallons a day loss. The Superintendent completed some research since the last meeting regarding water pressure and there is no codified law stating what pressure must be. There are recommendations from the DENR that the minimum pressure of 20 and maximum of 80 with 60 being normal.

The meeting of the now retired Murray Water Company, Hog Heaven owner R.T. Shaw and city officials went well. The Murray's are willing to sign an easement to Hog Heaven so the owner R.T. Shaw can fix the water line. The City will draft the easement based on GPS coordinates provided by Neil Murray.

Mark Carstensen made a motion that Ken Sabers become the President of the MUB Board, Shawn Mechling seconded. Approved.

The End of Year report was presented by the Water Superintendent. Over all the year looks very good with water loss being average over the last ten years.

Customer Rich Blair joined the meeting to request that the Board forgive some of the cost of water due to a recent leak. Mr. Blair has tried to be proactive in repairing his waterline but due to plumbers being busy the leak got worse resulting in a large bill. The board stated that they would work with him on the bill but could not forgive it. Mr. Blair left the meeting.

Mark Carstensen led discussion on the water leak on the service line on 4th Street from Main to the alleyway near Rockingtree Floral. The length of service line was discussed along with the fact that it runs under the street. This will be tabled until the next meeting when more information can be gathered regarding the offer made to the property owner during the Lazelle Street project to tap into the water main on Lazelle.

In other business, Mark Carstensen asked the board to reopen the idea of giving money from the water reserves to the development of the Watershed Property which would enhance the total package which will be proposed for sale to the SD Game, Fish & Parks. There are other groups raising money toward this effort and Mr. Carstensen feels that the City should donate some as well. He also stated that he feels there is public support for this development. Mr. Ken Sabers stated he felt that this is more a Parks Department or Rally funds use and that the Water Departments money should be used for water projects. He also requested that the City Attorney look at the regulations and see if this would be legal to use money in this manner. The City Attorney will research and have an answer by the next meeting. Mark Carstensen asked the Water Superintendent to get an accurate accounting of the money reserves and future projects.

The Public Works Director let the Board know that the bid letting for Main Street is now pushed back by the State to March 2nd. If there is another delay, the construction window will be too small so the State would postpone the project for another year. Also, the development of the land heading up Avalanche Road is being actively pursued. The developers have contacted him about the possibilities concerning city utilities. Any development using city utilities would be required to be voluntarily annexed. The PW Director will be tapping into the high school 4" water line to get water to the sewer lagoons. With the new rake system, water must be used and that is the easiest way to obtain a water line.

In further other business, the Finance Officer let everyone know that the Caselle software representative will be in Sturgis for training February 8-10. Any questions concerning the Caselle system can be addressed to them at this time.

At the City Attorney's request for contract matters, Mark Carstensen made a motion to go into executive session at 8:50 am, Shawn Mechling seconded. At 9:05 am, Mark Carstensen made a motion to come out of executive session, Shawn Mechling seconded. No action taken. Mark Carstensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Shawn Mechling seconded. Ken Sabers adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 23 at 7:30 am in the front conference room.

Ken Sabers, President

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