

CEDARBURG LIGHT & WATER COMMISSION

January 21, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Light & Water Commission was held on Monday, January 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cedarburg Light & Water Utility Building, N30W5926 Lincoln Blvd, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

Call to order by President Blaine Hilgendorf

Roll Call: Present – Jim Coutts, Joseph Dorr, Blaine Hilgendorf, Tim Larson, Andy Moss, David Pagel, and City Council Member Patricia Thome
Also Present – General Manager Dale Lythjohan, Financial Manager Lynda Lalley, Administrative Manager Mari Lauer, Water Superintendent Tim Martin and Mayor Michael O’Keefe

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The Statement of Public Notice was read, and it was acknowledged that the agenda for this meeting was posted and distributed in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 17, 2018 were read and approved on a motion by Pat Thome, seconded by Tim Larson. Motion carried.

VOUCHER SUMMARY FOR DEC

Accounts Payable	\$ 481,210.72
ACH & Wire Transfers	631,521.08
Payroll	<u>84,567.76</u>
Total Vouchers	\$1,197,299.56

BANK BALANCE FOR DEC

12/1/18 Balance Available	\$ 34,186.64
+ Deposits	1,196,414.11
- Checks and Other Debits	<u>906,312.94</u>
12/31/18 Available Balance	\$ 324,287.81

REVENUE ITEMS FOR DEC

Light & Power Sold – 8,434,618 kWh	\$ 847,138.18
Street Lighting Revenue 75,941 kWh	22,511.31
Water Sold – 26,412,661 Gallons	119,613.88
Water Pumped 33,814,200 Gallons; Power Used 90,681 kWh	<u>8,200.56</u>
	\$ 997,463.93

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ON FLUORIDATION OF MUNICIPAL WATER; AND ACTION THEREON

Cedarburg Light & Water has added fluoride to the municipal drinking water system since the early 1960's because of a City Ordinance requiring the addition of fluoride. Across the country, many municipal water systems have fluoridated water to improve the dental health of users, which has been recommended by the CDC, AMA, ADA and other organizations.

Staff was recently contacted (late 2018) by a resident (Amber Psket) that expressed serious concerns about the current fluoridation program in Cedarburg. After meeting with the resident on a couple of occasions, and seeking additional information from several sources including area dentists, the General Manager arranged for resident Amber Psket, and an area dentist Dr. Jennifer Stevens to come before the commission and make presentations of their views on the issue.

Dr. Steven's presentation outlined her position as well as the organizations supporting fluoride addition that it is a safe, effective method to deliver fluoride and improve dental health to a large cross-section of the community.

Amber Psket's presentation outlined her position that fluoride is not safe or effective in improving dental health. She cited sources of information and studies that demonstrated her position regarding fluoride.

The commissioners asked a series of questions of both presenters and after additional conversation felt that they were not in a position to make a recommendation at this time. Commissioners asked staff to obtain additional information from other utilities, the DNR, and other regulatory agencies and bring the information back at a future meeting. The commission thanked each presenter for their time, and interest in this topic.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE, GENERAL MANAGER, AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The following are highlights of the Manager & Department Reports that were provided in writing to the commissioners in advance of the meeting. Any specific discussions are noted.

Phil & Barb Bail, N47W8050 Parkland Rd, were in attendance. Mr. Bail expressed concern over a strong sewer odor from the drains at their residence. He also commented that approximately 35 other homes in his neighborhood are experiencing the same issue. Water Superintendent Tim Martin discussed possible causes and will assist the customer with trying to find a cause for their situation.

The Management team and GIS staff have agreed to migrate to the "Open Point" GIS/Accounting software sometime in 2019, pending final details, contract acceptance etc. The utility intends to continue to pay for and use the current Plantworx system until the conversion is complete.

Peak Demand Reduction Study: With the help of Jake Oelke at WPPI, two Wisconsin based companies have been identified as being capable to assist with our Peak Demand Reduction study. Staff intends to meet with each of them in the next 2-4 weeks, develop a scope of work, and decide on who we want to work with, and get started as soon as practical.

Staff and ESR Mike Gentry are in the early stages of developing a short-term program that would “piggy-back” on the Smart Thermostat rebate program from Focus on Energy by offering to install and program the thermostat at “no cost” to the customer. Funding for this would come from the annual WCTC conservation funds from WPPI (approx. \$18,000). This came about after discussions of how many are interested in the thermostats, but how challenging they can be to install due to the lack of a 5-wire circuit wiring from the furnace to the thermostat (most only have 4-wires). The early goal is to install/program up to 200 thermostats by June 30th.

The administrative manager and the general manager are reviewing 457 plan providers (both current and possible alternatives) to identify if there are plan providers with lower costs, better service, and/or more options.

Staff was informed in December that the construction debris dumpsite on Sheboygan Rd. near the Glen at Cedar Creek Subdivision was shut down by the County for an undisclosed reason. This site was estimated to be open for several more years. This will have an effect on the water and electric operations as it relates to disposal of spoils and drilling muds for many of the projects. The utility has been very fortunate for many years to have dumpsites close to the city. Management staff proposes utilizing the former Layton Substation site as a temporary holding location. This site makes sense based on location and being fenced off. Staff is investigating the costs to make the site ready and move materials. The costs will also include labor to move a pole bunker at the shop to make room for sand and gravel bins. Currently sand and gravel are being stored at Layton.

Electric service outages totals:

- 2018 Year end total: 11
- 2017 Year end total: 21
- 2016 Year end total: 18
- 2015 Year end total: 13

The utility has been designated as a platinum level RP3(reliable public power provider) Municipal Utility by the American Public Power Association. This is the highest RP3 designation and certifies that Cedarburg Light & Water has demonstrated leading practices in reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. This is a 3-year certification. In 2015 the utility received a gold designation.

Total water pumpage for the month of December:

- 2018 = 33,814,200
- 2017 = 34,001,080
- 2016 = 34,005,080

Annual water pumpage:

- 2018 = 439,440,548
- 2017 = 433,144,270
- 2016 = 428,401,700

The water crew continues to work on annual system maintenance tasks as well as large customer water meter AMI upgrades. First quarter compliance sampling and EPA mandated UCMR4 (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) sampling has been completed. AMI upgrades for residential meters will continue, with approximately 700 customers to be upgraded in 2019.

Office staff is working on end of year work – closing work orders, counting and processing end of year inventory, updating spreadsheets, and going through the audit checklist. January is typically the month for processing the work, and February is the month for balancing, compiling statistical information, and filling in the PSC Report. The audit is scheduled for March 4 & 5.

Staff continues to work with Krueger Communications (KCI) to prepare for the server and network equipment replacements that will happen in February and March. KCI can do much of the setup and configuration work offsite, so the ‘downtime’ for the switchover should be minimal. Network switches at our main location will be replaced first, then the server, and finally individual workstations.

As we reported late last year, Cedarburg was selected by the PSC for an electric utility billing audit. Office staff has been working through the billing audit questionnaire, which focuses on billing policy/procedures, how we ensure customers are billed at the correct rates, whether we are complying with all the different PSC rules/regulations, etc. Responses are due February 1st, and we plan to submit our responses by the end of the week.

The utility’s new online account management tools – Paymentus and MyMeter, went live on January 2. The office staff has been assisting customers with the transition.

Cedarburg Light & Water’s customers contributed over \$49,700 into the statewide energy efficiency program – Focus on Energy in 2018 through the monthly public benefits fee. During this same time period, CL&W residential and business customers received over \$134,000 in cash and product incentives from this program.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The bills, as listed on the attached Check Register, were audited and a motion was made by Pat Thome, seconded by David Pagel, to approve the bills for payment. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Pat Thome, seconded by Tim Larson, to adjourn at 7:48. Motion carried.