

Lanesboro Public Utilities
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 19, 2021 10:00 a.m.
Zoom with video and audio connections

Present: Jon Pieper, Elliot Riggott, and Don Bell
Absent: None
Staff Present: Jerod Wagner and Darla Taylor
Visitors: Council Member Mindy Albrecht-Benson

Regular Meeting:

Commissioner Pieper called the regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- A. **Agenda:** Member Riggott motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Member Bell seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll call with all in favor. Motion carried.
- B. **Consent Agenda:** Member Riggott motioned to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Member Bell seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll call with all in favor. Motion carried.
 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting, December 15, 2020
 - Accounts Payable
 - Smith Schafer 2020 Audit Agreement
- C. **Staff Update:** Utilities Supervisor Jerod Wagner noted the following:
 - The temporary electric service has been installed at the new Wastewater Treatment Facility and dewatering has been started.
 - The ability to meter on and off peak in local communities is not very common at this time.
 - The existing Wastewater facility has been experiencing some issues, minor repairs were made to continue service.
 - MiEnergy will be supplying a cost estimate for updating electric meters to AMI as well as installing an antennae.
 - The City of St Charles also purchases their electricity from MiEnergy, for this reason a cost share agreement for a new metering system will be looked into.
 - Member Pieper noted that a contractor may come and look at the back wall of the light plant. Wagner noted that two other contractors will also be looking at the building repairs.

Regular Business

- A. **Lanesboro Public School Interconnection Agreement:** It was noted that the agreement and the system have been reviewed by the electrical engineer as well as MiEnergy representatives, and no concerns have been brought forward. Member Bell motioned to approve the interconnection agreement. Member Riggott seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
- B. **2021 2022 Rebate Form:** Member Peiper will share some updated amounts for the form to be considered. Members also discussed the possibility of a rebate for energy audits. Member Riggott noted that the current rebate amounts offset the cost for recycling, however not the purchase price.

- C. Electric Rates:** Discussion continued regarding amending the current electric rate structure. The rate study is still in progress. Members would like to wait until that study is completed or the March meeting before considering amending the rate structure. Additional discussion was had on the small number of properties with two meters, property owners may want to consider combining the services.
- D. Automatic Generator Quote:** Supervisor Wagner shared the quote received of \$192,995 to complete the updates necessary. Discussion will be continued.
- E. Miscellaneous:**
 - a. City Council Discussions:** Member Pieper noted that improved communication is appreciated to know what the City Council is considering. Specifically due to budget considerations. Discussion on the 2022 budget will begin early summer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjourn Regular Meeting: Motion was made by Commissioner Riggott to adjourn the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission at 10:36 a.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bell. Motion carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk