

**Lanesboro Public Utilities Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 15, 2024
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room & Zoom**

Present

Members: X Jon Pieper ___ Elliot Riggott X Brian Roelofs
Staff: X Mitchell Walbridge X Darla Taylor X Jerod Wagner
Visitors: Mindy Albrecht-Benson, Bonita Underbakke

Regular Meeting:

Member Pieper called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

- A. Agenda:** Member Pieper entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- B. Public Comments:** No comments were shared.
- C. Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 17, 2024
 - b. Financial Summary, June 2024
 - c. Accounts PayableMember Pieper entered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- D. Staff Update:** Public Utilities Supervisor Jerod Wagner shared the staff update.
 - Hydroelectric generation is currently running due to recent rainfall events.
 - A fire hydrant will be rebuilt on July 16, 2024.
 - Staff will be attending rural water and wastewater courses in Rushford for continuing education credits.
- E. City Council Update:** City Councilor Albrecht-Benson shared that city staff continue to work on the preliminary budget for 2025.

Continued Business

- A. Lead Service Line Inventory:** Administrator Walbridge stated the lead service line inventory process is underway. Citizens are self-reporting on a survey, and Bolton and Menk staff are completing door-to-door inspections on an as-needed basis. Drip lines in homes are also being inventoried.
- B. Wastewater Treatment Facility Industrial User Agreement:** Administrator Walbridge called for a motion to adopt the drafted agreement. Members received copies of the agreement last month for review. Utility Supervisor Wagner highlighted the potential for additional testing to identify issues with the plant's organisms and detect synthetic substances in the plant's influent flow. Member Pieper requested further details on the testing to be presented at the next meeting. Staff will also look into putting together a survey to collect safety data sheets from other industrial users who discharge into the city's wastewater system. Member Pieper entered a motion to approve the industrial user agreement; Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business

- A. Electric Grid Resilience and Reliability Grant:** Supervisor Wagner presented information on the 40101(d) Electric Grid Resilience Grant, which offers awards up to \$2 million with a one-third cost share required from Lanesboro. The project scope includes adding automated controls to the existing generator to enable automatic start during power outages, studying the impact of new solar power systems, enhancing remote monitoring for staff to assess the status of the generator, breakers, and incoming power during peak and emergency events, and installing a municipal-sized battery system to

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stabilize the system during outages. Frontier Energy requires a fee of \$20,000 to \$25,000 to complete a full grant application.

Member Pieper entered a motion to table the grant application discussion; Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Members inquired about the grant application deadline. Upon learning that the due date is August 26, Member Pieper rescinded his motion. Member Pieper entered a new motion to approve proceeding with the grant application and using up to \$25,000 of the commission's conservation improvement funds to cover the application fee; Member Roelofs seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Member Pieper adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Walbridge
City Administrator/Clerk