



CITY OF MERRILL

WATER & SEWAGE DISPOSAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES • WEDNESDAY APRIL 24, 2019

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

5:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Norton called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Steve Osness	Aldersperson - Fourth District	Present	
Steve Hass	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	

Also in attendance: Utility Operations Manager Gabe Steinagel, Public Works Director/City Engineer Rod Akey and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from Merrill Productions was present to videotape the meeting.

II. Preliminary Items

1. March Vouchers

The vouchers were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Hass/Osness) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

III. Agenda Items for Consideration

1. Review of 2018 PSC Annual Report

The Public Service Commission (PSC) report was in the meeting packet.

Utility Operations Manager Steinagel mentioned page W-13, which provides details on the age of water mains. He stressed the importance of adhering to the schedule for replacing mains. He also noted a 5% decrease in water loss from the previous year. Water audits are conducted annually to help monitor water loss.

No action on the report was necessary, requested or taken.

2. Review of Water Utility Return on Rate Base Historical Information

Information was in the meeting packet.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey stated that the current Return on Rate Base for the City is 1.26%. The Public Service Commission is of the opinion that a water utility should be considered similar to a business, and they recommend a Return on Rate Base of between 5% and 6%. Based on these facts, Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey will be recommending a 3% water rate increase, to be considered at the next meeting. If the increase is approved, it would then be submitted to the PSC for their approval/disapproval.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey was instructed to submit his request and all related information to the next meeting for consideration. No action was taken at this time.

IV. Monthly Report

1. Operations Report

The report was in the meeting packet.

Utility Operations Manager Steinagel reviewed the report. All residents that were running water have been notified to stop running. Routine meter changes continue. Spring hydrant flushing will take place the end of May. Implementation of the sand and grease trap ordinance has begun.

V. Public Comment Period

None.

VI. Establish date, time & location of next meeting

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019 at 5:00 P.M. in the City Hall Common Council Chambers.

VII. Adjournment

Motion (Hass/Osness) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 5:08 P.M.