

COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
December 1, 2009

Mayor Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Members present: Mayor Sullivan and Aldermen Cochrane, Miller, Nold, Larsen, Schmitter, Morgan, Kohlenberg and Antonneau

Staff present: Gard, Beguhn, Gallo, Kitsembel, Duffy, Frye, Schmidt, Pfister, Bednarski, Steinbach, Roush, Molitor, Lamp and Coenen

Others present: Atty. Chapman

2. Aldermen E-mail Demonstration

Molitor stated that Council previously approved Municipal Mail as the City's email service provider in August 2009. We are now in the process of transitioning all department staff to this new service and the Aldermen addresses have been set up. Next Molitor gave a screen presentation on how to access and use the new City-wide email system, pointing out basic functions. Molitor also passed out individual user names and passwords to each Alderman and stated that their new email address will be added to the City website, under their picture.

3. Consider/recommend 2010 Utility Budget

Kitsembel reported that the Utility Committee has recommended unanimously the 2010 Utility Budget. Next Kitsembel gave a Power Point presentation outlining the Wastewater, Water and Electric Utilities and a Summary of the 2010 Budget.

Wastewater – In operating expenses one union position was eliminated for 2010 on a trial basis and there was an increase in supplies due to chemical costs. For operating revenues and rates we are proposing an average rate increase of 3.0% which will support the utility's operating cost increases. With this rate increase we expect operating income to be about \$220K and produce a rate of return of 1.7%. Capital items include the W. Wisconsin Ave. project, sewer rehab projects in conjunction with streets and biosolids conditioning.

Water – In operating expenses there were no significant changes from 2009. Of note, the DNR requires inspection and possible related repairs of the power house reservoir. A leak detection study will be conducted. For operating revenues and rates we anticipated a simplified rate increase for 2010 of 3%. With this rate increase we expect operating income to be about \$334K and produce a rate of return of 2.45%. Capital items include the W. Wisconsin Ave. project and the Armour Road watermain replacement.

Electric – operating expenses are mainly status quo. As a result of our projects and plant additions, depreciation and payment in lieu of property taxes is increasing. For operating revenues and rates no rate increases are proposed in 2010. We expect our operating income to be \$750K and produce a rate of return of 3.1%. Capital items include two projects replacing aged infrastructure, conversion of existing overhead/underground 4KV lines and dollars earmarked for future energy conservation projects in our effort to achieve the 25x25 Plan.

Summary – Each utility will continue to provide excellent services to our ratepayers. The rate increases proposed for the Wastewater and Water utilities are reasonable and necessary to support our functions, and with these increases, we will still maintain very favorable rates. In comparing the City to the surveys noted, City rates are lower, and based on those surveys; the total average annual savings for a City resident is about \$338.

Motion by Larsen to recommend the 2010 Utility budget as presented; second by Cochrane.
Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Cochrane to adjourn the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting; second by Antonneau.
Motion carried 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Diane Coenen, City Clerk