

Harpers Ferry Water Commission

Town Hall

January 15, 2020

7:01 PM

Participants

Christy Huddle, Chair; Marie Uehling; Barbara Humes, Council Liaison; Bill Robinson (recording)

Also Present

Angela Cummings, Water Clerk, Brandon Chuvalas, Water Superintendent, and Robert Nelson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Christy Huddle at 7:01 PM.

Approval of Prior Minutes

The minutes from the special meeting of October 29, 2019 were reviewed; motion to approve as modified made by Marie Uehling, seconded by Bill Robinson; unanimously approved.

The minutes from the November 13, 2019 meeting were reviewed, motion to approve as amended made by Marie Uehling, seconded by Bill Robinson; unanimously approved.

Next Meeting Date

February 19, 2020

Officer Elections

Current officers re-elected by acclamation.

Water Clerk Report

Two (2) cutoffs, two (2) restored same day.

GovCard will be used for new customer deposits only, as CUSI has a relationship with BlueFin for monthly billing. The possibility of recurring credit card billing through Bluefin was discussed.

Water Superintendent's Report

Our Superintendent, Brandon Chuvalas, reported that water loss for 12/2019 occurred in an odd pattern, with large amounts disappearing suddenly overnight, as if someone is coming into town and filling from a hydrant.

Brandon also informed the commission that the state has raised the limit for our fluoride content in wastewater, so as to avoid triggering a violation; new threshold is still within overall regulatory tolerances, but gives us flexibility in light of how our wastewater is stored.

Lastly, Brandon reminded the commission that the annual Xylem fee is due, which will require a vote.

Financial

Discussion of proposed 2021 budget

Executive Session

At 8:10 PM a motion to enter executive session was made by Marie Uehling, seconded by Bill Robinson; unanimously approved. Executive session was exited at 8:26 PM.

Following executive session, the commission resolved to make the following recommendation, motion made by Bill Robinson, seconded by Marie Uehling, unanimously approved:

The Water Commission strongly recommends the Water Clerk Angela Cummings receive a pay raise in an amount determined through a review of comparable municipality pay scales and as budgetary considerations permit.

**Water System
Improvement Project
Update**

Barbara Humes provided a worksheet detailing the status of each of the properties for which an easement is needed, and discussion was had as to who should contact the property owners that have not yet agreed to an easement.

**Water Source
Protection Update**

Barbara announced that the Safe Water Harpers Ferry meeting would be held at 10:00 AM, January 16, 2020.

Discussion was had regarding Tanner Haid's proposal and the glaring concern of a lack of notification of affected municipalities regarding the train derailment (a three-state notification program needs to be in place, given the shared resource that the rivers represent).

Public Comment

[None]

Adjournment

Bill Robinson moved for adjournment, seconded by Marie Uehling, motion unanimously approved and meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.