

Burns Utility Board

January 11, 2016

The Burns Utility Board met in regular session on January 11, 2016. Members present were Board President Matt Fields, Board Members Judy Johnstone and Ralph Bartels. Board Members Steve Newton and Harvey Humphrey were absent from this meeting. Also present was Town Clerk Toni McNamar, and Town Maintenance Ted Kellner and Darius Mandel.

At 6pm Board President Fields called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was preformed.

Approval of Minutes:

Board Member Bartels moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2015 meeting. Board Member Johnstone seconded this motion. Board President Fields voted – aye. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Board Member Johnstone moved to approve the Treasurers Report as presented. Board Member Bartels seconded this motion. Board President Fields voted – aye. Motion carried.

Maintenance Report:

The Maintenance report was reviewed. Ted reported that all is going well. Due to the high volume of water we are storing we are having a more difficult time maintaining chlorine residual in our water. Ted reported that we have received notice from the EPA letting us know that wells A-2, A-5, and A-6 have tested higher in nitrate levels, due to this we will need to test for nitrates on quarterly bases through 2016. These levels are not high enough to be an issue.

Ted reported that we had a sewer back up which Darius caught before it caused any issues, the sewer line was jetted and a mop head was removed. Please do not flush items that are not met to be flushed.

Darius requested permission to get the garbage truck serviced. Board Member Johnstone moved to allow Darius to get the garbage truck serviced. Board Member Bartels seconded this motion. Board President Fields voted – aye Motion carried.

Ted Kellner inquired about purchasing some winter boots for himself, in the past the utility board has always purchased a piece of winter clothing for the maintenance guys. Board Member Bartels moved to allow Ted to purchase work boots. Board Member Johnstone seconded this motion. Board President Fields voted – aye. Motion carried.

Clerks Report:

Town Clerk Toni McNamar had nothing to report.

Board President Report:

Board President Matt Fields reported that the board had asked him to check into some software backup for the SCADA System. Matt reported that he has found software for \$149 per year plus we need to purchase a hard drive for \$129. Matt reported that he would install and set up the back up for the SCADA System. It will consist of an additional hard drive with offsite back up which we will be able to get sent to us overnight in the event that our hard drives are destroyed. Matt reported that he has spoke with Timberline and they agree that this is a back up that will work well and that they will still be able to use when helping us troubleshoot issues. Board Member Johnstone moved to have Matt Fields proceed with this. Board Member Bartels seconded this motion. Board President Fields voted – aye. Motion carried.

Board Member Reports:

Board member Humphrey was absent from this meeting.

Board Member Bartels had nothing to report.

Board Member Newton was absent from this meeting.

Board Member Johnstone reported that she has been attending the water committee meetings. Board Member Johnstone reported that if we have a well that is not in use for 5 years that the State Engineers Office will take it out of service.

Board Member Bartels suggested that we apply for Sixth Penny Money to redrill the A-3 well and get it on line.

Board Member Johnstone requested that Board Member Bartels contact WWDC and speak with Bill Brewer about additional funding for our A-7 well and transmission lines as it was due to the State Engineers Office that we are so far behind on this project. Board Member Johnstone is concerned about us not getting a treatment facility due to lack of funding.

Ted Kellner requested that the board not consider using gas chlorine to treat our water as it is much more dangerous than liquid chlorine.

Old Business:

Utility rates were discussed. Board Member Johnstone reported that we did not do any rate increases last year and believes that we need to do a rate increase. Board Member Johnstone moved to increase utility rates by a total of \$5 this year: \$2 for water, \$1 for sewer, and \$2 for garbage. And in the future increase by \$3 a year: \$1 for water, \$1 for sewer, and \$1 for garbage. Board Member Bartels seconded this motion.

Ted Kellner inquired as to if this is not something that we can visit each year rather than doing this five year plan. Ted is very concerned about people on fixed income.

New utility rates will go in effect on the February billing and each year in January rates will be revisited. Board President Fields vote – aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Vouchers:

Board Member Johnstone moved to approve the vouchers. Board Member Bartels seconded this motion. Board President Fields voted – aye. Motion carried.

At 6:40 pm Board Member Bartels moved to adjourn. The next meeting of the Burns Utility Board is scheduled for February 8th at 6 pm.

Utility Board President Matt Fields

Attest:

Utility Board Secretary