

## Utilities Committee Minutes for March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Call to Order at 6:02 p.m.

Attendance: Gerald, Maggie, Evie, Fred

Staff: Jake, Jason, Richard, Josh Little

Guests: Sharon Wright, George Debenedictis

Motion to accept the minutes from February by Maggie and seconded by Fred.

Update on Capital Projects: Updates presented by Jake, the Lake Como Dam repair is starting as soon as the replacement valve comes in, the north water tower site prep is complete and construction is starting shortly, the East Commerce Street sewer lining will be done as soon as Deldot approves the shutdown of the water line, Lake Como Woods is working fast on finishing the curbs, Bergmont Woods is looking to finish by the end of March, Ashland has no change, and the North Main Street project has been put on hold and a meeting with the residents on the impacts has been pushed back to a later date which will be determined at a more appropriate time.

Electric Circuit Upgrades: The electric circuit upgrade was approved in the last funding meeting with council and everything for the project is being purchased and ordered and will be moving into the construction phase in the next couple of months.

Customer Trash Billing: Trash is clarified as its own line item on bills, amount owed on trash collection can be leaned if the renter does not clear their balance, items that can be leaned on properties are water, sewer, electric and trash, needs for landlords are being clarified on the town website and Richard is working with IT on delinquent tenant notices for landlords.

Rate Increase for Water Sewer and Electric: The new water sewer and electric rate increase will come in to effect in April and the residents have been notified on their bills and on the town website.

Sharon Wright Joining the Utilities Committee: Sharon Wright would like to join the Utilities Committee under the condition that the committee be committed to accomplishing top priority goals for water sewer and electric and layout extended plan for addressing and funding capital projects.

Other Committee Business: The town needs to be transparent on about the use of deposits to pay on accounts, the town must also give proper notice about increases to utility rates, landlords must always be notified of delinquent tenants, and future projects include extending utility lines north of Duck Creek and getting utility lines to new construction sites for developments, and removing heavy metals from junctions in the drinking water for the town using money from the state.

Next Meeting: April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 6:47 by Maggie and seconded by Fred.