



**MINUTES
COHASSET PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
305 NW FIRST AVENUE
COHASSET, MN 55721
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2015 - 12:00 NOON**

- 1) **Call to Order:** Chair Jeff Sheldon called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon
- 2) **Roll Call**
Voting Members Present: Jeff Sheldon, Dan Toewe, Bill Mager, Tracy Huben, & Tom Newman
Absent with Notice: Mike Biscardi
Non-Officio Members Present: City Council Liaison Denny Blankensop, Bernie Hillman, Senior Public Works Employee, & Finance Director Max Peters
- 3) **Review and Approve Agenda**
Additions: None
Deletions: None
A motion was made by Toewe/Huben to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) **Approve the June 1, 2015 PUC Minutes:** *A motion was made by Sheldon/Toewe to approve the June 1, 2015 PUC minutes with an amendment to roll call. Motion carried unanimously.*
- 5) **Interview with Rachel Graf** – Chair Jeff Sheldon explained the role of the Public Utility Commission, as well as the meeting schedule. Rachel summarized her background and answered questions. *A motion was made by Sheldon/Newman to approve Rachel Graf as a member of the Public Utility Commission. Motion carried unanimously.* This item will go to City Council for approval.
- 6) **Review Application for PUC** – An application was reviewed, however, the applicant is an employee of Northwest Gas and the PUC felt this was a conflict of interest but appreciates his interest in serving. A letter will be sent.
- 7) **Sewer/Water Potential Projects** – **Please note that the Cohasset City Council requested input from the PUC regarding sewer/water projects.** Chair Jeff Sheldon reported that he and Bernie Hillman took a tour of the City on 6/16/15 to view potential areas for sewer/water extensions. The PUC recommendations are as follows:

- A. **Lake Street/Donavan Estates/Lakeview Area**
 - Extend water & sewer near Portage Park to this area
 - Install a possible water loop feed also
 - Many high end homes in this area & density

- B. **Indian Point**
 - Install sewer only except for:
 - Jeffers Road (3 homes – sewer & water)
 - Tinquist Road – extend both sewer & water

- C. **Burr Oak**
 - Extend water & sewer (12 homes)

- D. **Johnson Lane**
 - Extend water & sewer

- E. **County Road 63** – across bridge

Sheldon explained that the recommendations are not listed according to priority & recommended looking at the cost as well as talking to homeowners.

- 8) **Placement of Six New Street Lights** – Sheldon & Hillman also toured the city for street light placement. Discussion ensued concerning additional/upgraded lighting at the Community Center/Fire Hall as well. The PUC recommendations for street light placement are as follows:
- Between Ron’s Auto & Dollar General
 - TK Automotive
 - Replace/Upgrade pole on Third Street & Hwy 2
 - By Thousand Lakes (north side)
 - Old Mill Road (by Cohasset Mill and Lumber)
 - West side of County Road 62 (by Bob’s Bar site)

Sheldon recommended contacting Minnesota Power for possible rebates for LED bulbs once the lights are in place.

- 9) **Updated on Completion of Updates on Lift Stations 1 & 3** – Hillman announced that both upgrades are complete and have been online for two weeks. The City has accomplished their goal in the upgrade. Hillman reported that the pumps are no longer running at the same time so there is a definite improvement since the update.

Chair Jeff Sheldon adjourned the meeting at 12:42.

Submitted by Deputy Clerk Karen Mester
Approved: 9/14/2015