

Bryant Water and Wastewater Committee Meeting

- Date:** Tuesday, April 1, 2014
- Time:** 6:00 P.M.
- Location:** Boswell Municipal Complex Conference Room
- Members Present:** Robert Griffin, Alan Kays Linda Levart, Jason Patterson, Kathy Barber, Wade Boone, Jack Moseley,
- Members Absent:** Mike Chandler
- Staff Present:** Howard Hoover, Russell Kitchens, Scott Chandler, Mindy Cox
- Others Present:** Tim Friesen, Brenda Miller, Erma Simms, Rosetta Cleghorn, Susan Miller, Martha West
- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Robert Griffin
- February Minutes:** Motion to Approve Minutes as Presented Jason Patterson
Motion Seconded Kathy Barber
Motion carried with all aye votes
- Financials:** No Financial Report was available
- Citizen's Concerns:** Tim Friesen – 305 Fair Oaks – Mr Friesen explained that he had a leak in January that he was unaware of until he received his bill in February. The bill was \$344.33. He repaired the leak immediately. Unfortunately the leak had overlapped the following billing period and he received a bill for \$650.63 for the February cycle. He was given adjustments to his sewer bill. He was asking for some relief on the cost of the water he had to pay for. The Committee explained that they are unable to give adjustments on water bills because the City buys the water from CAW and because of ordinance.
- Erma Simms – 1218 Katrina Drive – Ms. Simms has been on levelized billing. In February her bill went from a typical \$60+/- charge to \$137.75. The explanation she received from Billing had to do with the transition to the Springbrook software and a “catch up” on usage that had not been previously charged. The Committee had no information from Billing to refer to. Russell Kitchens said that he would follow up with Ms. Simms to see if there was any evidence of leaks. The Committee was unable to take any action until information was available.
- Rosetta Cleghorn – 800 Prickett Road – Ms. Cleghorn complained that she received a bill that said it was due on March 10. However Billing drafted her account on February 25 causing her account to overdraw. No one from Billing was present to address the issue. The Committee was unable to take any action.
- Susan Miller – 2018 Cherry Creek – Ms. Miller has previously called in a leak that is causing damage at her home. She stated that Water staff has said they found no chlorine in the standing water. Her neighbor, Martha West, who works for the Health Department, tested the water for chlorine and found evidence. Russell Kitchens explained that the area has a history of ground water, that he had previously checked and found no chlorine residual. The last time Ms. West had called he went back and retested and did find chlorine, but the source of the leak is unknown at this time. Russell indicated that crews will be checking throughout the neighborhood to find the source.
- Derek Phillips – Parks Department – Derek appeared on behalf of the Bryant Athletic Association asking for relief on penalties related to unpaid water bills for Ashley Park and Alcoa Park and related to a leak that happened in the winter of 2013. Upon questioning, the bills had not been paid. The bill was brought to the Billing Office in September, but still not paid. Derek indicated that Parks will be taking over the facility meter accounts in the future and recouping the cost from the Association. Discussion was not favorable to

forgiving penalties because of the delay in bringing the matter to the Billing Office as soon as the leak was repaired and delay in paying any bills.

Motion to Adjust Sewer Bills Only
Motion Seconded
Motion carried with all aye votes

Linda Levart
Kathy Barber

New Business:

Publication of Annual Financial Statement. An email from Chris Madison was provided indicating that State Law requires that annual financial statements be published by April 1 of the following year. General and Streets are subject to penalties for not complying. Water and Sewer department are also required to publish the financial statement by April 1, but the law provides no penalty for non-compliance.

Old Business:

Collegeville Mobil Home Park Sewer – Collegeville is in the design phase. There are not actions for Bryant to take at this time.

2008 Series A&B Bonds – Refunding Proposal – The City Council approved the refunding proposal, Schedule 3 as recommended by the Committee. Audits have been provided and Esther is working on getting the 2013 Financial Statement to Stephens, Inc. and the Friday Firm

SCADA System – The City Council approved the ordinance to waive competitive bidding and accept the proposal. There is a 30 day waiting period before contracts can be signed.

Reports:

Budget Status Report - The monthly budget report will be presented as a report rather than a financial statement because it will reflect only that status of revenues and expenses on the date it was printed. It cannot be considered a reconciliation. A budget status report was included in the packets.

Alcoa Road Extension – The Alcoa Utilities Extension for the new Hotel have been approved by the Arkansas Department of Health and the project should move forward soon.

Hydrant Raising Project- Russell Kitchens reported that the contractor is complete.

ANRC Projects –

- The Manhole Rehab project is complete; they have been paid except for retianage.
- The 12" Sewer Force Main has been submitted to the Arkansas Department of Health and ADEQ
- The 16" Water Main to CAW has been submitted to the Arkansas Department of Health

Comments:

The Committee requested that we start providing monthly DMR reports again
The Committee requested that Buddy develop a proposal for improving customer service in the Billing Office related to being more responsive to customer phone calls and follow up on calls.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Mr. Griffin entertained a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Kathy Barber to adjourn, seconded by Wade Boone. The motion carried with all aye votes. The next regular meeting of the Bryant Water and Sewer Advisory Committee will be May 6, 2014 at 6:00 P.M in the Court Room.

Robert Griffin
Chairperson

Howard Hoover
Administrative Operations Coordinator