



UEB Meeting Minutes, March 3, 2021

Meeting Time and Location: Began at 4:30pm. Held remote via Zoom meeting.

Attendance: Jim Kerr, Lee Hall, Larry Quinn, Mike Jackson

Staff: Aaron Caplan BOT

Liaison: Mike Karavas

Guests: Jeff Christy

1. Amendments to Agenda

None

2. Approve Minutes from February 17, 2021

Approved Unanimously

3. Audience Business.

None

4. Upcoming Meetings

Colorado Association of Municipal Utilities (CAMU) legislative meeting Friday morning.

5. Updates

a) Board of Trustees – Mike Karavas

BOT meeting March 1. Ordinance 1097 on water dedication passed on second reading.

Ordinance 1098 on first reading passed on upgrading existing usage on water taps.

Amendment added to clarify what “substantial” meant to be 50% value of property. Town report is now available. Lawsuit filed against Honeywell on WWTP.

b) Staff, Engineering – Aaron Caplan

General permit is ready to be issued for WWTP. Found out that to convert permit, first the outfall needs to change to the new location. May move on re-rating after this permit is in place. Re-rating will allow additional incoming BOD. Will contact CDPHE about this when outfall change completed about mid-April. There is no copper limit on the new

permit since CDPHE says that copper is not a problem in the stream. WWTP requires upgrading regardless of the outcome of the Honeywell lawsuit. UEB will need to discuss potential sources of financing the lawsuit soon. Water and wastewater funds were combined prior to new WWTP construction. No information yet on proposed new bakery on water and wastewater issues. New brewery is aware of pretreatment issues and requirement for sampling port. A bakery being operated out of a home is also being addressed. The Lyons Dairy Bar has not expanded with bakery goods, and the shopping center it is located in, is already on BOD surcharge. The town has been monitoring grease traps and plans to request records again at the end of March (1st quarter). In order to renew business license which is happening now, a grease trap report is required. Reports that should contractor cleaned are viewed more reliable than businesses that clean their own grease traps. Probably less than 20 grease traps in town all together.

5th Ave PRV replacement to occur on the week of 15th. Electric portion at new 2nd Avenue bridge will be done soon. Evans east are using UG power so poles can be removed.

New Electric meter installation will begin and post cards being sent out. There are 1000 meters being installed. Plan is to be out week 22nd probably.

Six of the Municipal Energy Association of Nebraska (MEAN) grandfathered solar installations in town need to have a second production meter socket installed. The town will need to contract these installations out. Lee Hall noted that there seems to be some billing problems in looking at the past year on his electric bills likely associated with his solar installation. Aaron says that he has had to address many issues, correcting them and just trying to get correct meter readings and billings moving forward. New metering system eliminates manual entries.

c) UEB Chair – Jim Kerr

Water rates in Lyons are in the same ballpark as other nearby small towns, but higher than larger cities.

d) Other UEB Members

Lee Hall – Had a Sunday, February 21 walking tour with CU Denver of all potential Lyons Solar Farm sites identified by Lee. Main takeaway was improved understanding of site conditions in Lyons. On Friday, 2/26 the group, along with Ben Rodman, toured Jack's Solar Garden on the south side of Longmont. CSU, University of Arizona and NREL are doing research there. Single tracking system was impressive. Their rails are 6 feet and 8 feet off the ground. Need info on reliability and maintenance costs moving

forward. Could be combined in Lyons with a community garden. Fixed array can be used with solar garden.

There is deed restriction on open space land near Carroll property. Even if Carrolls do not object with the sight near property there is still the need for a Town vote. Anticipate trying to move forward with a vote to happen by late summer. Two groups in town are interested in community gardens. Possible water rights from Keith Bell from existing ditches. Also town potable water is at the bathrooms near there. A question was raised about shading of gardens from panels but this is emerging science and rows are spaced more widely to allow for this.

Huffington Post article on Agrivoltaics:

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/solar-panels-help-struggling-farms_n_5fff2427c5b691806c4e9fee

6. Net Metering Recommended Changes

Jim Kerr has been looking at example changes to code and City of Gunnison was good example. Based on examples, has suggested code changes on net metering. Gunnison charges a meter fee for the second meter and Jim has suggested \$2.50 per month. Jim has gone to SFC and BOT and got the green light to make changes. Consumption or generation proposed to be computed on one hour intervals. Proposing using Wind Rate initially instead of base rate. Proposing sunsetting at 20 years from earliest installation (2013). That date could be 1/1/2034. The new Sensus smart meter software the Town standing up only stores 60 days worth of data. The Town's Caselle accounting software is not set up to store lots of hourly data. Billing meter received and delivered data would have to be summed every hour and then used separately for the monthly billing calculation in Caselle. In the future, will need to further upgrade data requirements for time of use billing. Caselle is set up for monthly data only so would have to be internal if more than monthly. MEAN just requires production meter data by hour. Even with time of use, would likely not less than hourly data. Decided to not state a periodicity in the ordinance/Lyons Municipal Code (LMC) and instead will handle administratively. Jim will work with Brandon and revise text for the next meeting.

Meeting ended: 5:57 pm. Minutes Submitted by: Larry Quinn