

WATER & SEWER COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, January 11th, 2023
4:00 PM

Water and Sewer Commission President Martens called the Regular Meeting of the City of Platteville Water and Sewer Commission to order on Wednesday, January 11th at 4:00 pm.

W/S Commission members present: Cindy Martens, Ken Kilian, Brian Laufenberg, Eileen Nickels, Barb Daus, Chris Wilson (4:05)

W/S Commission members excused/absent: Jim Schneller

City Staff present: Public Works Director - Howard Crofoot, City Manager-Adam Ruechel, Administration Director – Nicola Maurer

City Staff excused: Comptroller – Sheila Horner, Utility Superintendent- Irv Lupee

Public present:

Citizens' Comments – The Commission noted that this was City Manager Adam Ruechel's last Commission meeting as he is leaving the City, and thanked Adam for his services to the City.

The Consent Agenda was presented for consideration. **Motion by Daus, second by Laufenberg to approve the Consent Agenda:** December 14, 2022 Regular Minutes, December 2022 Financial Reports, December Bank Reconciliation & Investments Reports, Payment of Bills (12/8/2022 – 1/4/2023), December Water Quality Report. **Motion carried.**

ACTION ITEMS: None

ITEMS OF DISCUSSION:

Utility Superintendent Retirement/Recruitment Process – Director Crofoot reported that Utility Superintendent Lupee has indicated he will be retiring as of March 15th. HR Manager Wilson has initiated the recruitment process, with the vacancy posting anticipated by the end of the week. The job description will be provided to the Commission members. The application window will be four weeks, after which panel interviews will be conducted involving Utility leadership and employees. Given the current challenging climate for attracting applicants, the Utility may need to work with a recruiting firm if qualified applications are not received. Interim City Manager Maurer and Director Crofoot will be exploring options with consulting firms to provide operational coverage during any gap between Utility Superintendents.

Update on 275 Lily St/750 Valley Road – Ruechel reported that the City Attorney reached out to Lawingers' attorney again in December but has not heard back as of yet. If no response is received, the Lawingers will be given a deadline for completion of the transfer, after which the agreement will be withdrawn.

Emmi Roth Development Agreement Update – Emmi has rejected the agreement and has declined to purchase the property outright. Emmi has indicated their willingness for the City to reclaim the property but would like a right-of-first-refusal option. At Council direction, staff will work with the attorney to draft a right-of-first-refusal agreement, with a price equal to the cost of legal fees expended by the City on this matter to date.

MoundView Dairy pH Levels – pH violations continue to occur. Staff are working with the attorney to file a complaint regarding the daily violations.

Motion made by Daus second by Wilson to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicola Maurer
Administration Director