

Minutes

NEW BERLIN UTILITY COMMITTEE

January 15, 2001

Members Present: Alderman Bullermann (Chairman), Alderman Wysocki, Alderman Patzer, Mike Holzinger (Director of Finance & Utilities), and Robert Dude

Others Present: Jeff Chase (City Engineer), Larry Wilms (Division Engineer), Steven Schultz (Ruekert & Mielke), John Jansen (Ruekert & Mielke), Tom Krumpitsch (Utility Operations Manager), Mayor Gatzke, Janet Toter (Voice Stream).

Alderman Bullermann called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

ITEM 1A-00 Approval of Minutes, November 3, 2000

Motion by Mike Holzinger to approve the minutes for the November 3, 2000 meeting. Second by Mr. Dude. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 49-00 Water Study Update

- Mr. Schultz stated that significant progress has been made on this project.
- The study included bringing Lake Michigan water to the city. The demands are increasing at such a rate that there will be a shortfall of water by the time that Lake Michigan water would get to us. They also looked at groundwater sources.
- For groundwater sources, they do geophysical (phase one), geophysical (phase two) where they actually go in the field doing test borings, and finally the actual well construction.
- Since the update project was begun, the Midwest Power Plant has come into the picture.
- Mr. Chase stated that the power plant is related to the water study, but it is not part of the actual study.
- In the Lake Michigan water study, there are several components.
 - Lake water service area complete
 - Supply & storage needs complete
 - Inventory of existing facilities complete
 - Perform field investigation nearly complete
 - Review service alternatives ongoing
- Mr. Schultz discussed that the subcontinental divide runs through New Berlin. It is not realistic to expect Lake Michigan water to be used beyond the subcontinental divide. The area on the other side of the subcontinental divide will need to be served by groundwater.
- Ruekert & Mielke used land use projections and land use mapping in their water projections.
- Study included getting Lake Michigan water from Milwaukee, West Allis, Oak Creek, and Franklin.
- The field investigations include fire flow testing along 124th Street.
- Mr. Schultz stated that an initial screening of the four potential suppliers was done.
- Mr. Chase stated that it was recommended that the City look at the possibility of using Lake Michigan water.

- If we were to get service from Milwaukee, we would go through either Greenfield or Hales Corners. If we had a connection point north of Morgan Ave., we would have to buy the water from West Allis, which is actually Lake Michigan water.
- Two other possibilities for purchasing Lake Michigan water are from Oak Creek or Franklin. If we were to get the water from Oak Creek, we would need to construct water main from their nearest location into New Berlin, the distance being about 1 1/3 miles.
- If we were to get Lake Michigan water from Oak Creek, just the cost of getting the water would be an increase of about 50% in the water bill.
- If we were to purchase Lake Michigan water through Franklin (water from Oak Creek), there would be a cost increase of over 100% in the water bill.
- If we were to purchase Lake Michigan water through Milwaukee there would be little or no increase in the cost of water.
- If we were to purchase Lake Michigan water through West Allis (water from Milwaukee) there would be about a 2% increase in the cost of water. The water mains in West Allis would need reinforcement and this cost would be New Berlin's responsibility.
- The most prudent method of getting Lake Michigan water would be from Milwaukee.
- New Berlin is looking into the current water rates and it is possible that we will be going to the PSC asking for a step increase over the next few years.
- Mr. Chase stated that even though water from Milwaukee might be cheapest, there is a lot of political engineering baggage that comes with it.
- The Johnson Gravel Pit area has had testing done and it appears to be a good source for water. There is dewatering being done at this site. There is a fairly large stream of water coming from the pit which is acting like a large well.
- Mr. Jansen stated that he would like to see the discharge gauged and would like to find out what Valley Sand & Gravel is doing.
- Mr. Schultz stated that we need to proceed with test borings at Johnson Gravel Pit. He further stated that he wants to get the water study done in a timely manner.
- Alderman Wysocki asked for something in writing on what is done on the two studies that we have Ruekert & Mielke working on.

ITEM 47-00 Change Meeting Date

- Mike Holzinger asked that the Utility Committee choose a new meeting date because of a conflict with the first Monday of the month. He suggested the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00am. The committee members agreed to meet the first Tuesday of the month.

ITEM 01-01 Tower 3-Voice Stream Antenna Request

- Tom Krumplitsch stated that the contract is in the final review.
- Janet Totero stated that our city attorney is making some changes in the wording on a few items, but it would be done by the time of the Council Meeting.
- Alderman Wysocki asked if we were aware of problems with the welding process that could create rust problems in the tower.
- Tom Krumplitsch stated that the Utility was aware of this problem. He said that there would be a float with water in place. There will also be follow up inspections done.

Motion by Mike Holzinger to recommend to the Common Council approval of the contract with Voice Stream subject to final review by the City Attorney. Second by Alderman Patzer. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Alderman Bullermann to adjourn the meeting at 9:52am. Second by Alderman Patzer. Motion carried unanimously.