



CITY OF FREEPORT

125 Main Street E – PO Box 301 – Freeport, MN 56331 – 320-836-2112 – FAX 320-836-2116
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April 11, 2018 – Meeting Minutes

A special meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00pm by Mayor Rodney Atkinson with Councilmembers, Tim Hennen, Ben Ettel and Jake Renneker, present.

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Adrianna Hennen, Deputy Treasurer Doug Petersen, Public Works Director Loren Goebel, City Engineer Dave Blommel and City Attorney Scott Dymoke

Absent: Mike Eveslage

Others in attendance:

Andrea Remacher & Vern Fuchs (720 1st Ave N)

Water Rates and Water Fund

It was discussed that during the audit there was a discrepancy discovered between the City's fee schedule and what was being charged in utility billing. On the fee schedule there was a water tower maintenance fee of \$2.95 that was never added to the water bills. Why or how this happened is uncertain. After analyzing the situation it was discovered this fee was unnecessary. The City was already meeting USDA requirements by setting aside about \$13,000 into the water fund for future water infrastructure needs. The only item not being saved for was water tower recoating in 20-25 years. Council agreed they should start saving for that expense. Atkinson and A. Hennen figured it would cost about \$.64/1000 gallons of water to reach that goal in 20-25 years. Council decided to change the water usage charge (per 1,000 gallons) to \$2.00 from \$2.95. This will allow to show this is what we need to collect for yearly operating expenses. Then they agreed to change the water tower maintenance fee from \$2.95, which was never actually enacted, to \$1.59. This will allow the city to collect the required USDA \$13,000 and collect the amount needed to recoat the water tower in 20-25 years. T. Hennen moved to change the water usage charge (per 1,000 gallons) to \$2.00, and change the water tower maintenance fee (per 1,000 gallons) to \$1.59, seconded by Ettel. Atkinson-yes, Ettel-yes, T. Hennen-yes, Renneker-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn

T. Hennen moved to adjourn, seconded by Ettel. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

City Clerk-Treasurer, Adrianna Hennen