

Bryant Water and Wastewater Committee Meeting

- Date:** Tuesday January 27, 2015
- Time:** 6:00 P.M.
- Location:** Boswell Municipal Complex Conference Room
- Members Present:** Wade Boone, Alan Kays, Jack Moseley, Kathy Barber, Mike Chandler
- Members Absent:** Madison McEntire, Robert Griffin, Linda Levart, Jason Patterson
- Staff Present:** Monty Ledbetter, Howard Hoover, Buddy Fowler, Scott Chandler, Joy Black
- Others Present:** Jesse Forrester, Sarah Perry, Mayor Jill Dabbs, Butch Higginbotham, Carlton Billingsley, Wade Permenter
- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wade Boone
- December Minutes:** Motion to Approve Minutes as Presented: Kathy Barber
Motion Seconded: Alan Kays
Motion carried with all aye votes
- Financials:** The December Financial Report was delivered to the Committee. The report is the end of year budget status report but not the final reconciliation since some bills are still coming in from 2014.

Motion to Approve December Report as presented: Kathy Baber
Motion Seconded: Alan Kays
Motion carried with all aye votes
- Citizen's Concerns:** **Jesse Forrester- 8007 North Haven** - Mr. Forrester is on Salem Water and Bryant Sewer. He had an unexplained high water bill from the Salem system. The bill went up and then dropped back down the following month. He asked if there was any relief available on his sewer bill. Kathy Barber moved to adjust the sewer portion of the leak to the average usage. The motion was seconded by Alan Kays. Motion carried.

By motion of Kathy Barber and second by Alan Kays, the Committee approved the following billing adjustments:

Fast Enterprises - 105 SW Forth Street - a water hose was left running causing a high bill. Though not over \$100 Buddy Fowler brought the adjustment to the Committee for approval.

Jack McInturff - 2101 Mills Park - Receipt for repair work provided.

Tim McRae - 1315 Pleasant Point - Receipt for repair work provided.

Stephan Menasco - 600 SW Forth Street - Receipt for repair work provided.

Teresa Atkinson - 3611 Robinwood - Receipt for repair work provided.

Steve Mrrlin - 3310 N. Crescent - Receipt for repair work provided.

By motion of Jack Moseley and second by Kathy Barber, the Committee approved the following billing adjustments for October, the first month after the Water Department notified customer of a leak.

Adria Tacker- 2306 Amber - Customer was notified in September that the AMI system had detected a leak. Customer did not contact Customer Service until December and did not repair leak until January.

The Committee took no action on the following requests for billing adjustments because not receipts for repair were provided by the customers:

James Windom - 3313 Lacross
Michael Billingsley - 6 Parkview
- New Business:** **Credit Card Fees** - Joy Black introduced discussion of whether the City should impose a surcharge for use of credit cards to pay bills. It is a complicated issue. The city uses a company that is a preferred provider by our financial software. That company charges a fee for online payments

through the City's website. The billing office does not charge a fee when paid in person. There is a \$5 fee charged when customers pay over the phone. In 2014 the Water and Wastewater Department paid approximately \$47,000 to credit card providers. Credit card companies typically charge about 3% to the merchant. Debit cards charge about 1%. The cost of those fee comes out of revenues, so it costs us to allow use of credit cards. The complication is that different credit card companies have different service agreements that are in conflict regarding imposition of surcharges. Mike Chandler suggest accepting only one credit card rather than multiple cards. Joy did not ask the Committee to make any decisions, but rather wanted to introduce the subject for future discussion and possible recommendations.

Hunters Crossing Subdivision - Monty told the Committee that the new subdivision is located on Highway 5 near the new water tank. The Health Department has approved the plans for water and sewer utilities. Monty recommended that the Committee vote to accept ownership of the water and sewer mains pending confirmation of approval by the Health Department and compliance with Bryant Minimum Standards for construction.

Motion to accept the Hunter Crossing water and sewer lines pending approval by the Health Department and compliance with Bryant construction standardsd: Kathy Baber
Motion Seconded: Alan Kays

Motion carried with all aye votes

Old Business: **Water and Sewer Rate Ordinances** - Monty informed the Committee that the rate ordinances for water and sewer rates for the next three years are on the City Council Agenda for January 27, 2015.

Leak Adjustment Policy Resolution - Monty informed the Committee that the resolution to adopt the Leak Adjustment Policy is on the City Council Agenda for January 27, 2015.

Reports: **ANRC Projects**

- The 16" Water Main project is complete except for repair of a leak on the Central Arkansas Water side of the project.
- The Snooks Lane Water Main Extension will hopefully start construction in early February. One of the properties belonged to someone who passed away. The heirs have been contacted. The sister of the gentleman will be appointed Power of Attorney in the next couple of weeks. She has agreed to sign the easements at that time.
- The 12" Sewer Force Main project is waiting for acquisition of the remaining easements before construction can begin.

Budget Status Report No Discussion

SSES Quarterly Report Scott Chandler provided the year end Quarterly Report for sanitary sewer overflows. Monty and Scott also told the Committee about a diagnostic system being investigated for use in identifying sewer lines that need maintenance. The system uses sound to identify blockages. A transmitter is placed in one manhole and a receiver is set up in a sequential manhole. The system measures the quality of the sound received and can indicate whether obstructions exist and rate the severity of the obstruction. The tool will save unnecessary cleaning of lines that do not need attention.

Comments: Kathy Barber noted that she had signed up for the email alerts from the AMI system but had not received any alerts. Monty noted that he had a similar problem because he did not "save" his sigh up information. He suggested that might be the reason she was not receiving alerts.

Adjournment: With no further business, Mr. Boone entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Alan Kays to adjourn, seconded by Jack Moseley. The motion carried with all aye votes. The next regular meeting of the Bryant Water and Sewer Advisory Committee will be February 24, 2015 at 6 PM.

Wade Boone
Chairperson

Howard Hoover
Administrative Operations Coordinator