

**SPECIAL MEETING
RIVER FALLS UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD**

June 6, 2016 6:30 p.m.

Training Room, City Hall

The Special Meeting of the River Falls Utility Advisory Board was called to order by President Hanson at 6:30 p.m. Present: Kevin Swanson, Patrick Richter, Tim Thum, Grant Hanson, Duane Pederson, and Adam Myszewski. Absent: Diane Odeen. Staff present: Kevin Westhuis, Utility Director; Kristi Hartmon, Administrative Assistant; Wayne Siverling, Electric Superintendent. Other present: Mayor Dan Toland, Council Member Chris Gagne, and Council Member Scott Morrissette.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of Pioneer Metal River Falls Industrial Discharge Permit

Utility Director Westhuis stated that there is no action needed on this item, but wanted to inform the board about the steps that have been taken regarding a wastewater discharge permit with the proposed business, Pioneer Metal Finishing (a metal finishing company that puts coatings on metals for durability). Pioneer is looking at relocating from their Minneapolis facility to River Falls. Discussions were had on the metals in wastewater and how they are heavily regulated by federal standards and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The Wastewater Treatment Facility is granted a 5 year permit by the DNR that clearly defines metal limits in the water discharge into the Kinnickinnic River as well as the sludge end product. Staff has had several meetings with Pioneer. Samples provided by Pioneer were too high for RFMU to accept in order for them to stay within their permit and to protect the River. Pioneer would need to meet permit levels with investment in pre-treatment processes. RFMU would have 24 hour access to their facility for testing and fines for non-compliance, including shutting down operations. RFMU has invested many hours and consultant resources into studying and clarifying what will be acceptable effluent limits for the City. Pioneer has not committed to the proposed permit as of today. RFMU has made it very clear on the acceptable levels of discharge for Pioneer. Council Member Gagne referenced section 4.8 in the agreement regarding reporting any operation changes or practices which differ from those in the original permit application and stated that he would like to see it say before or prior to. UAB Member Pederson asked why Pioneer is so eager to move their facility to River Falls. Westhuis stated that River Falls can accommodate their flow. Pederson stated that what if in five years the DNR tightens their requirements. Westhuis stated that Pioneer would have a one year permit only. UAB Member Swanson asked who does the testing. The testing is done weekly by a contracted lab of their choice. City also has option to test 24 hours anytime at their expense. UAB Member Thum asked if this pre-treatment is standard technology or something they need to come up with. Westhuis stated there are systems to do this process, but they are expensive. It's like building a mini WWTP in their business. Great discussions were had and staff will wait for a decision from Pioneer and if they decide they want to come to River Falls, it would ultimately be the decision of City Council.

RESOLUTION:

2. Recommendation of Bid Award for Directional Boring – Radio Road

Staff is asking Utility Advisory Board to recommend resolution no. 2016-09 awarding the bid for Directional Boring Project to Universal Services, Inc. RFMU has done evaluations and has targeted areas of the City for installation of electrical and fiber optics using directional boring. The sections include 6,900 ft. along Radio Road and 1,100 ft. between Maple and Division Street for utility needs for future projects and gained efficiencies. Four bids were received (ranging from \$129,700 to \$174,600) and staff feels comfortable with the low bidder, Universal Services. They have been in operation since 1998 and are located in Hastings, Minnesota. Thum asked if this will give capability of extending fiber and is this for actual boring work only. Westhuis answered that it is just for the boring and the City will get better pricing on conduit themselves. Board Member Swanson had service territory boundary questions on Mann Valley. Westhuis stated that Mann Valley is not annexed to the city yet. M/S Pederson/Thum moved approval of resolution no. 2016-09.

ADJOURNMENT:

M/S Pederson/Myszewski moved to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Unanimous.

Reported by: Kristi Hartmon, Administrative Assistant