

## **MINUTES**

### **PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING**

**January 21, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Charles Rollins  
Dean Lay  
Marvin Brannan  
Bud Knott  
Lex Orr

**This meeting of the Monteagle Public Utility Board was called to order at 5:00 PM by Mayor Charles Rollins.**

**The following items were discussed:**

- 1. Jim Boynton gave an update on the current water situation. He said that Laurel Lake is at the top of the boards. We are currently at the maximum level. Ald. Knott said he was told by our plant operator that we are pumping from the bottom of the lake. This is what is causing some odor in the water. He said he was told the reason we are pumping off the bottom is that there is a valve that is stuck that would allow them to pump from higher in the lake. This needs to be fixed. Ald. Brannan asked if the settling basin has been cleaned and was informed that they will be working on this soon. There was a discussion on the letter that was sent out with the water billing. It was stated that any time a sample shows positive for bacteria the state now requires that this letter be sent out. During the time of this positive sample we were purchasing all of our water. Mr. Boynton explained that the problem is not in our water, but comes from the pipes of the sample location. There was also discussion on the amount of water contained in Laurel Lake. It has been stated that our lake has a capacity of 70,000,000 gallons . Ald. Lay asked Mr. Boynton if this is accurate. Mr. Boynton said that we will be checking on this figure to find out if it is accurate.**

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- 2. The water connection at South Pittsburg was discussed and Ald. Knott asked if any meetings have been set up to discuss this water line. Mr. Boynton said he will be meeting on this project. He has a meeting this week with Boo Bouldin, Beth Jones, Neil Westerman, and the mayor about the project. He reported that the NOAA (weather) predictions for 2008 do not look good. The drought is expected to continue.**
- 3. Mr. Boynton presented a draft of a Drought Management Plan to the board. There will be some changes needed to finalize it and he asked for input from the board members. He estimated that we currently have about a 120 day supply of water if there is no rain. It was reported that the certified plant operator was hired and he will report to work on February 4<sup>th</sup>.**
- 4. Arcadis will have an update to the sewer grinder pump system on Thursday.**
- 5. Mr. Boynton gave the board members a copy of the second press release he is sending out to the local papers.**
- 6. The council asked for figures on the change in the budget for a new water plant operator. It will cost about \$9,000.00 a year above the current amount budgeted for the plant. However, laying off an employee from another department would save about \$18,000.00 a year, which would result in a \$9000.00 savings. It was announced that there will be a workshop on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:30.**
- 7. There was a discussion on distribution of the water that was donated to the city by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Jim Boynton said he has talked to the pastors of the local churches about helping with this distribution. The mayor said he thinks we should**

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**have a workshop on this before we begin the program. Ald. Lay said he thinks we need to check the number of people we are going to assist against the amount of water we have.**

- 8. Mr. Boynton has two meetings set up this week with natural gas companies to discuss the purchase of our gas system.**
- 9. Mr. Boynton has had a discussion with Julian Price at the Monteagle Assembly about filling their pool this summer. He said he feels there should be no swimming pools in Monteagle that are filled from our public water supply this summer.**
- 10. Mr. Boynton discussed Ordinance No. 15 which regulates our public sewer system. It requires that where ever sewers are available the customer must connect to the system. The customer must pay a sewer bill even if they do not connect to the system. We will be checking on this to make sure everyone is in compliance. The mayor noted that we have to remember that we are under a moratorium right now and cannot hook additional customers on.**

**CITIZENS HEARING**

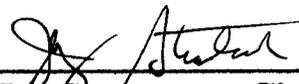
**Lynn Stubblefield said she had checked the NOAA website and it shows the drought easing up in the next three months. She also had a letter from the State to Tracy City stating that they will assist Tracy City in any way they can to raise the boards at their reservoir which will increase its capacity. There were questions from Dee Underhill, Pam Peck, and others about the water situation. The city's policy to add no new water taps at this time is affecting developers in going ahead with their projects. Pam Peck asked if she could temporarily hook onto Tracy City's water system. The board will talk to Tracy City about this possibility. Jim Masiella asked when we would be allowing the rest areas to re-open. There is no answer to that question at this time. Ald. Knott noted that Normandy**

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**Lake is in the same situation as Laurel Lake. J D Oliver asked if we could tie into the SUD lines when we do the project coming from South Pittsburg. It doesn't look like we will be able to do that because the size of the lines will not be the same and Sewanee will not allow a different size line to connect to theirs.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

  
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**Joy Sturtevant, City Recorder**