

CITY OF HERMANTOWN

UTILITY COMMISSION

Thursday, May 15, 2025

5:30 PM Central

MEETING CONDUCTED IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM

CITY STAFF: Paul Senst, Public Works Director; John Mulder, City Administrator;
Trish Crego, Utility & Infrastructure Director; David Bolf, City Engineer

VISITORS:

1. **ROLL CALL**

Bill Berg:	Present
Councilor Andy Hjelle:	Present
Doug Kerfeld:	Present
Robert McLachlan:	Present
Jim Samberg:	Present
James Sweeney	Present

2. **MINUTES**

A. March 20th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve March 20th, 2025 meeting minutes. This motion, made by Robert McLachlan and seconded by Doug Kerfeld, Carried.

Bill Berg:	Yea
Councilor Andy Hjelle:	Yea
Doug Kerfeld:	Yea
Robert McLachlan:	Yea
Jim Samberg:	Yea
James Sweeney	Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

3. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION** - *None*

4. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. WLSSD Discharge Monitoring Report – *Placed on file*

B. Utility Billing Update – *Placed on file*

C. 2024 Consumer Confidence Report - Drinking Water Report – *As of May 6, 2025 the City will be doing our own testing.*

D. Water Infrastructure Surcharge - Duluth Communication - *Placed on file*

E. Hermantown Bill Insert - Duluth Water Infrastructure Fee Notification – *Placed on file*

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

A. Adolph Expansion Presentation - David Bolf, City Engineer – *David shared a map of proposed utilities to urban service area. Doug asked about funding for this project. It was said that sales tax and private funding would be the source. Timeline would be 2 to 3 years. There will not be assessments for connecting but there will be availability charges. The Rose Rd water tower would be enough to service about 20 – 30 homes per year for 20 years. Possible issues with Rocky Run Creek and boring under with utilities. The overall cost is about 100 million, hopefully mostly private funding. There will be a development agreement.*

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Sewer Credit Request - 3750 Johnson Rd.

Motion to approve sewer credit in the amount of \$77.24. This motion, made by Bill Berg and seconded by Robert McLachlan, Carried.

Bill Berg: Yea

Councilor Andy Hjelle: Yea

Doug Kerfeld: Yea

Robert McLachlan: Yea

Jim Samberg: Yea

James Sweeney Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

8. **REPORTS**

A. Budget to Actual Expenditure Report – *Doug questioned what “Dues & Subscriptions are for. Trish to follow up.*

B. Public Works Director Report – *Jim asked the name of the survey company for water sampling Pace was chosen because it was \$12,000 less because of chlorine testing that the city will perform with new equipment that will be purchased. One backup in March at Roosevelt and Ugstad Rd. Sand was found in the line, there might be a sag in the line but they were unable to find it. Doug asked about E-1*

overall performance and Paul said good. There is a repair shop in Proctor if needed. They usually keep 1 – 2 on hand.

C. Utility & Infrastructure Director Report – *Report placed on file*

D. Water Loss Report – *Report placed on file*

E. WLSSD Monthly Flow - Rain Fall & Flow Report – *Report placed on file*

F. Comfort Systems Invoice – *Report placed on file*

G. New Connections Report – *Report placed on file*

9. **COMMISSION MEMBERS REPORT**

A. Jim Samberg – *Welcome to new commission member James Sweeney*

B. William Berg - *None*

C. Robert McLachlan – *We will have a zoom link available as needed – Yes*

D. Doug Kerfeld - *None*

E. James Sweeney - *None*

F. Councilor Andy Hjelle - *None*

10. **RECESS**

(motion, roll call)

Motion to adjourn at 6:41pm. This motion, made by Bill Berg and seconded by Robert McLachlan, Carried.

Bill Berg: Yea

Councilor Andy Hjelle: Yea

Doug Kerfeld: Yea

Robert McLachlan: Yea

Jim Samberg: Yea

James Sweeney: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Minutes Prepared By:

Utility Billing Clerk

