

MUNICIPAL ENTERPRISES COMMITTEE REPORT – FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Members: Martin, Chairman; Richard, Vice Chairman; Zimmerman, Member; Musser, Alternate; Morrison, Staff

Attendees: Committee: Martin, Chairman; Richard, Vice Chairman; Musser, Alternate
Council: Reinhold, Council President; Ressler; Buohl; Barr; Mayor Mowen
Staff: Morrison; Harris, Interim Secretary
Guests: Val Messner, Caplin West

The Municipal Enterprises Committee met on January 16, 2023 at 5:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Morrison provided confirmation of the following:

1. The meeting agenda was posted on the Borough's website and at Borough Hall no later than 24 hours in advance of the time of the meeting.
2. The meeting agenda included a listing of each matter of Borough business that will be or may be the subject of deliberation or official action at the meeting.
3. There were no changes made to the meeting agenda after it was posted.
4. The meeting agenda was made available to individuals in attendance at the meeting.

Committee Chair Martin asked if there were any requests to add a matter of Borough business to the meeting agenda. Seeing none, Ms. Martin asked for a motion to accept the meeting agenda as posted. Mr. Richard moved and Mr. Musser seconded to approve the meeting agenda as posted. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a Staff recommendation regarding the Gross Run Streambank Restoration Project bid award. The Committee will recommend Council award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder, Flyway, at their February 13, 2023 meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed a request to authorize Staff/Council attendance at the 2023 APPA, AMP, and PMEA Conferences. The Committee will recommend Council authorize these expenditures at their February 13, 2023 meeting.

Discussion Items:

1. The Committee discussed the possibility of a change in electric rates. Mr. Morrison provided potential options, as well as comparisons. The Committee discussed the possibility of a new rate class, to be designed in 2023. The Staff will have a recommendation for electric rates at the February Committee meeting.
2. Staff provided an update on the Comcast issue. Ms. Harris and Mr. Morrison expressed that they feel a path forward has been obtained and a resolution may be coming in the next few months. Updates will continue to be provided as needed.
3. The Committee discussed the issue of free electric accounts. Staff explained that there does not seem to be a consensus among other municipalities, but feels there should be a standard. Staff will put together recommendations for the Committee's review.

Old Business Items:

1. The discussion around Electric Vehicle Chargers will continue as Staff works on potential solutions.