TOWN OF KIOWA

PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY MINUTES

 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

June 30, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.

AT KIOWA CITY HALL

813 S. HARRISON ST.

KIOWA, OKLAHOMA

All items on this agenda, including but not limited to any agenda item concerning the adoption of any ordinance, resolution, contract, agreement, or any other item of business, are subject to **amendment**, including additions and/or deletions. This rule will apply to every individual agenda item without exception, and without providing this same **amendment** language with respect to each individual agenda item. Such amendments should be rationally related to the topic of the agenda item, or the governing body will be advised to continue the item.

The governing body may adopt, approve, ratify, deny, defer, recommend, amend, strike, or continue any agenda item. When more information is needed to act on an item, the governing body may refer the matter to its City/Trust Manager, staff, Attorney or to the recommending board, commission or committee.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Mayor Peterson @6:31 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Completed.

**ROLL CALL:** Hall-present, Peterson-present, Vanblaricom-present, Nichols-present, Sexton-present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes pending for May. Tabled.

**APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT:** Financial Report presented by Tracy Reed. Council had no questions. Peterson made a motion to approve the financial report. Hall seconded the motion. Hall-yes, Peterson-yes, Vanblaricom-yes, Nichols-yes, Sexton-yes. Motion carries.

**APPROVAL OF PURCHASES:** Peterson made a motion to approve the purchases. Hall seconded. Hall-yes, Peterson-yes, Vanblaricom-yes, Nichols-yes, Sexton-yes. Motion carries.

**WATER PLANT REPORT:** Will Ellis presented the Water Plant Report.

1. **Discussion and possible approval to accept engagement letter for fiscal year 21.** Peterson, “Our auditor came by. We have everything we need for her. She should let us know in a couple of weeks. That was last Thursday when she came by. We may have another week and a half before we are all good. Tracy has been good about making sure we have all the papers we need to get that taken care of. Anyone have any questions?” No questions. Peterson made a motion to approve to accept engagement letter for fiscal year 2021. Hall seconded the motion. Hall-yes, Peterson-yes, Vanblaricom-yes, Nichols-yes, Sexton-yes. Motion carries.
2. **Discussion and possible approval to accept membership agreement and pay invoice with OMMS.** Vanblaricom**, “**Can you tell me what kind of benefits they are going to offer us?” Peterson, “Everything from grants to human resources.” Vanblaricom, “Are you talking about like writing grants?” Peterson, “No, I don’t think we need to pick these. We have people at OML that will help with grants.” Tabled.
3. **Discussion and presentation from Mark Wren about Twin Oxide for water plant.** Mark Wren, “I represent Twin Oxide Disinfectant for water treatment plants and sewer treatment plants. Thru a section of the State of Oklahoma web site DEQ I had reached out andfound out that you guys were having issues on your water plant with trihalomethanes and also sulfuric acids. What the issue is there is used surface water, lake water. There are certain organics in the water. And when chlorine is introduced to those organics they create trihalomethanes. It’s just basic chemistry. The EPA limits how much you can have in your water and not be in violation. If I am being redundant over what you guys know please bear with me. We’ve got the expert (Robert Mullins) down here as well. I reached out to him and we did get some of your water and tested it and it will work fine. It will help you get your water under the EPA limits in really pretty short order. We did this and are doing this in Southern Water Corporation which is the water district that surrounds the City of Ardmore. It took them thirty (30) days to get their plant in compliance and it has been ever since. Another place in Oklahoma same thing, thirty (30) days and they were in compliance. It’s not magic powder. It does work. It’s got a long history around the world. It is actually chlorine dioxide. It is a powdered version so you do not have to deal with the dangers associated with pressurized gases. The state requires that to be in a separate structure in a separate room before you can use it. With me tonight is an engineer. The state requires engineering documents be made and presented for the use of a change, particularly a chemical change. We brought Robert Mullins in from SRP. I would like to introduce him but first any question on Twin Oxide please?” Peterson, “What was the cost?” Wren, “That’s relative at this point in time for the singular reason we are just discussing where to apply it. Do we apply it prior to filtration or do we it at the finished water stage before it hits the distribution system? The first stage requires more. The second stage requires less. Or maybe a combination. The other thing is your chlorine usage will cut at least in half.” Peterson, “Will it add another test on us every month?” Wren, “Correct.” Hall,“At what cost?” Wren, “It’s a self-test I think. You don’t have to have someone do the test. I think you do the test. Is that correct?” Vanblaricom,“My understanding is we’ve been passing it. There is only one time that we have been out of compliance one year. So it is stuff that we have found out ways to, I mean there has to be other ways besides introducing new chemicals and stuff like that because other plants are doing it and they have the same issues.” Wren, “Within a hundred miles of here there are an extraordinary number of water plants that are not in compliance. It is just the surface water in this part of the country. That includes northern Oklahoma as well.” Mullins, “Has DEQ already put a fine upon you for this?” Vanblaricom,“No, they haven’t. And that’s another thing. I think we have to have their approval before we do any of it. I’ve met with your engineer when he came down and met with Will. I was there with him. I had some discussions and stuff with him. I know that we have to have approval anytime we make changes to our water plant. My deal is, adding more chemicals, can you guarantee us that this is going to correct our issues or not?” Wren, “THMs and HAA5s, is everybody listening? YES! Absolutely yes! It is a guarantee. It can be put in writing because it is doing it right now in Oklahoma as we speak. Vanblaricom, “How many water plants are utilizing it right now?” Wren, “In Oklahoma just two. A third one will be starting next week. A really, really large one.”Vanblaricom,“And am I correct that you are the only distributor of this chemical and stuff that will be utilized?” Wren, “Yes I am because I stepped out and was forward thinking.” Vanblaricom, “I understand that but I just wanted to make sure that’s clear. So because there is no competitive costs or any of that. I mean your company could up the cost of what it costs us to get this product anytime. Correct?” Wren, “That’s true with anything ma’am. There is also a thing, I don’t know in this state if there is a thing called, I will use my vernacular, piggyback purchase orders? In Missouri and in Texas and in Kansas I know that I can honor the cost of what I sell one water system for this instance to another if they are comparative. And in this case it would be comparative. So it is not in my best long term interest to take advantage of you because what’s the point in something that you have to use 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year? Obviously I am going to make some money off of it. Wouldn’t it be better and smarter to do it over the long term rather than try to take advantage of you? The other places that are using it now are happy and fair with the pricing that they’ve been presented.” Sexton, “But you don’t have the pricing?” Wren, “I have the pricing based upon your usage. It costs X but if we apply it at this stage at a heavier dose it won’t last as long so you need more.” Ellis, “Your saying if the council bought that you’re saying you could cut back on chlorine.” Wren, “Yes sir that is a fact.” Ellis, “So they could save money that way.” Wren, “I don’t know Will, how much has chlorine gone up in the last year or year and a half?” Ellis, “I would have to look at receipts.” Wren, “but it has gone up at least 200%.” Vanblaricom, “What’s the initial investment as I know that you have a pump that you have to utilize to pump this chemical into the system correct?” Wren, “I think he said you may have one and the tanks he may have those.” Mullins, “May I give a word about the chlorine dioxide? Before the THM regthey use to prechlorinate and that would take care of the taste and odors. If there was any iron manganese it would oxidize it so it would come out in the treatment. And then the THM reg came around and I worked for DQ at the time and we told you to turn off the pre chlorine. And so a lot of people were hit by that. But when you go thru the treatment plant, then you get to the clear well, then you add the chlorine, then you make the THMs. The idea is you use the chlorine oxide which is a very strong and very fast oxidant to lower the oxygen demand without making THMs. So then there is less stuff for the chlorine to react to.” Ellis, “So the water going to the tank is better?” Mullins, “I believe so because chlorine dioxide has always been good for water. It’s always been kind of dangerous so we shied away from it. Now we have this new way of making it. It’s safe. You don’t have to build another room. If you put it in up front then everything falls out into the clarifier. So what we are probably going to do, if we do it, is put it where they can spend some pre and some post just so we can put as much as we need to get the taste and odor where we want, and the rest after filtration. Then we put it in where there’s not so much dirt and everything.” Ellis, “I broke down not long ago and I looked at that lake. That lake is in bad shape so it takes a pretty good chemical to clean that up.” Wren, “It is. I went down there. This is something that is used all over the world.” Ellis, “We just had our first rate increase in the last two years. We have been paying $100 for 150 pounds. Now we are paying $138 for 150 pounds. It went up 32 cents a pound. We are paying 98 cents a pound.” Wren, “I had heard that in Arkansas a month ago they were paying 99 cents. Again on the post treat chlorine dioxide and chlorine work together so it’s actually going to enhance the chlorine so you have to cut back or you’ll have too much. You’ll have too high a residual which means you will save money there. And there’s always the chance that the THM levels will be reduced by the EPA.” Mullins, “And directly to your question I would be shocked if there were not any other companies doing this.” Vanblaricom, “I know when we talked before at the time you were the only ones that is doing this type of chemical and stuff. As far as I know there were no other companies out there doing it.” Wren, “You have the choice of using generated chlorine dioxide. It’s not like I’m the only game in town. Twin Oxide International are the people who actually invented this powdered version of chlorine oxide.” Vanblaricom, “When we talked my husband was present too. He’s a water plant operator also. I think you have met him already. He used to be a plant operator here and during that time he was here we were passing those tests. We were not under any kind of orders.” Wren, “Does anybody out here have any questions?” Mullins, “Just to clarify. Me and him (Wren) aren’t really together. He sells the chemical and I’m a consulting engineer that’s done work all over the state. We’ve been talking and I’ve agreed to come in and help him. The idea is that if we can do a couple of them then I can do them officially.” Vanblaricom, “I know when we talked before the initial startup was like $50,000 at the time to start this. Has that changed?” Wren, “Well based upon where I thought we were going to apply the chemical, no. It’s pretty much the same.” Vanblaricom, “And then my thing is too that we have redone our tower and we’ve added that recirculation deal to alleviate a lot of this stuff so are we basically saying that was just a waste of us fixing that and putting that into place? I mean I’m kind of curious.” Mullins, “That’s always a good idea to keep your tank recirculating. Because what happens is the water stratifies.” Ellis, “That’s good no matter what.” Vanblaricom, “Right, but I’m just kind of curious because I know whenever it does that it also gets rid of the chlorine and stuff that’s in the tank does it not?” Mullins, “I think yours is the one that has the shower head on top and that strips out the chlorine.” Ellis, “Like you said that was one month that I didn’t pass and that one month will be out of service for an entire year because they go four quarters. And they tie each quarter to the last so it takes a full year to come out of that. All it takes is just one bad hit, just one.” Vanblaricom, “So my concern is the cost of starting something new and then the association not just for the startup and getting it started but then the monthly cost of maintaining it and then the testing part of it. What kind of testing equipment do we have to have? Is there specialized testing or is it stuff we already have on hand?” Wren, “It is a chloride test, testing for chloride. The equipment for the chloride was included in that. The equipment for the testing of chloride was included in that price.” Vanblaricom, “And that’s part of the startup cost of $50,000?” Wren, “Yes.” Vanblaricom, “And after that?” Wren, “It depends on which way you go. The kit to make 264 gallons and I don’t know what shipping is, is $1,575 plus shipping. I think I based it on 100,000 a day. It’s going to be around $600 a month if you do post treatment.” Council had no questions. Wren, “Thank you for allowing us to speak.”
4. **Discussion and possible approval toremove Jerri Ellis from all PWA First Bank accounts.** Tabled.
5. **Discussion and possible approval to add Mike Sexton to all PWA First Bank accounts.** Peterson made a motion to add Mike Sexton to all PWA First Bank accounts. Hall seconded the motion. Hall-yes, Peterson-yes, Vanblaricom-yes, Nichols-yes, Sexton-yes. Motion carries.
6. **Discussion and possible approval to update drop off and pick up lists for bank deposit bags at First Bank, add Kasey Sawyer and remove Jerri Ellis.** Peterson made a motion to update drop off and pick up lists for bank deposit bags at First Bank and add Kasey Sawyer. Hall seconded the motion. Vanblaricom, “So we are just adding? We aren’t dropping anybody?” Peterson, “Correct.” Hall-yes, Peterson-yes, Vanblaricom-yes, Nichols-yes, Sexton-yes. Motion carries.
7. **Discussion and possible approval to hire a part time or full time office assistant.** No vote.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** Townsperson 1, “I’m sitting over here and I don’t know about anybody else, I may be hard of hearing, but I can’t hardly hear nothing. Back in the day we used to have a microphone set up. Do you all still have that or not?” Peterson, “Do we have a microphone system? We did at one time. I don’t know since I’ve been here if we have used it. But we could do that.” Townsperson 1, “It would be better if you had it. We had microphones for everybody. I don’t know if you still do. We had all that rigged up. Everybody could hear and there isn’t any guessing about nothing. Everybody was right on point.”

**ADJOURN:** Peterson made a motion to adjourn at 7:03 for ten minutes. Hall seconded. Hall-yes, Peterson-yes, Vanblaricom-yes, Nichols-yes, Sexton-yes. Motion carries.

**TIME ADJOURNED:** 7:03 PM

**IF ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED PLEASE NOTIFY THE CITY HALL AT 918-432-5621, 23 HOURS IN ADVANCE.**