

UTILITY COMMITTEE
Monday, June 5, 2023
6:00pm

PRESENT: Members Turchi, Carroll, Webb

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Utilities Brian Rhodes, Wastewater Director Dan Dentice

Call to Order – Alderperson Turchi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street.

Public Comment Period – None.

Update on Electric Service Interruptions and Water Main Breaks – Director of Utilities Brian Rhodes provided an update on the following:

1. On May 1, in the Village of Slinger, in the 200 block of Weil Dr, an outage was caused by a raccoon making contact with an energized wire. The line crew removed the raccoon, replaced the failed fuse and restored power. This outage affected about 200 customers.

Presentation of the 2022 PSC Annual Report – Director Rhodes explained that the Public Service Commission requires all Public Utilities to submit an annual report that shows the financial health of both the electric and water utility. The majority of this report is compiled by the city’s financial advisor, Baker Tilly, but it also includes sections dedicated to electric and water separately. The electric utility is on track to be debt free by the end of 2024, but the water utility still owes the electric utility about \$1.7 million. That payback schedule could be increased because the electric utility will be debt free at the end of next year. The cash on hand is about \$6.3 million, which is the money that would be used in case of emergency, natural disaster, etc. The rate of return is also in a good place. The rest of the report is comprised of the operational side of the water and electric utility. Director Rhodes pointed out one page regarding water loss. The PSC requirement is under 15%. Last year, the water utility was about 6% and has been under 10% for the last 5-6 years. Director Rhodes said there is no need to consider a rate adjustment at this time.

Discussion and consideration of approving the 2022 Wastewater Treatment Plant Compliance Maintenance Annual Report – Director Dentice explained that this is an annual requirement from the DNR. The city was graded a 4.0 which indicates that everything is operating smoothly. Alderperson Carroll asked if there were any items that were trending toward needing action. Director Dentice indicated that since this is an annual report, things are maintained on a continual basis. This prevents things from deteriorating to the point of the DNR requiring action.

MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, seconded by Alderperson Webb approving the 2022 Wastewater Treatment Plant Compliance Maintenance Annual Report.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adjournment – MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, seconded by Alderperson Webb for adjournment. Alderperson Turchi adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Shanna Kreilkamp, City Clerk

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