

Ely City Council Public Hearing Minutes – January 15, 2013

The Ely City Council Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor Petersen at 5:00 p.m. on January 15, 2013 at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Council members Debeltz, Kess, Nikkola, Polyner and Mayor Petersen (5)

ABSENT: Council members Sheddy and Omerza (2)

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public input on the 2013 proposed utility rate increases on water and sewer.

Clerk Langowski stated that the water rate will increase from \$3.30/100CF to \$3.40/100CF which for a small home will result in a 0.66 cent or 0.67% increase, large home would be \$1.50 or 0.80% increase and commercial property would be an increase of 1.00% to 1.50%. The electric rate will be staying the same in 2013.

With an increase in operating and administrative costs along with the diminishing of funds through IRRRB and CDBG, we need to look to the customers and borrowing money in order to complete the capital improvement projects that are needed for our City. Also, \$260,000 of the Water and Sewer budget goes toward debt service. The City has put together a 5 year Capital Improvements Plan for each utility. These include the immediate needs of the utilities and not the large infrastructure projects.

The City is implementing, within the next two years, a new metering system called Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) since the old meters are becoming obsolete. This is a two way communication system which allows the meters to be read from one location.

No one from the public chose to speak regarding this matter.

Debeltz/Nikkola moved to adjourn the hearing at 5:15pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Claire Huisman
Deputy Clerk