

Emergency Meeting  
February 18, 2014  
6:30 p.m.

With due call and notice thereof, the February 18, 2014 emergency meeting of the Eden Valley City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Eden Valley Civic Center. Present were Mayor Korman, Councilors Gabrelcik, Bradshaw, Thielen and Kern, and Clerk Haag. Also present Public Works Director Rademacher, Laurie Schultz and Bob Kohnen. Mayor Korman presided.

Mayor Korman reported the emergency meeting had been called to address the issue of water lines freezing within the city. Rademacher reported there have been nine water lines that have frozen, some were able to be re-opened using a welder, and some not. Currently there are several lines that were not able to be opened using a welder due to pvc lines instead of copper, and two of those properties are using their own wells, while a third is using a hose from a neighbors outside faucet. He is waiting for another contractor to come and try to open the lines with an alternate method, but most contractors are booked due to the large number of problems area cities are having. He feels most of the problems are occurring in the curb stand to main connection, but cannot easily verify that assumption. Some area cities have sent out notices asking people to monitor their water temperature and if it drops below 40 degrees to turn on a faucet at a pencil width stream and let it run continuously to prevent freeze-up. Rademacher recommended the Council consider doing the same and Clerk Haag provided copies of a notice sent out by the City of Cold Spring, as well as a sample notice MN Rural Water Association had drafted. The Council questioned if both the Water Treatment Plant and the Sewage Treatment Ponds could handle the excess water flow that would result from such action, and Rademacher reported he had run some calculations and believed they would be able to handle it. Discussion followed on how the billing would be handled for this type of recommendation, and it was reported some cities are allowing a credit, while others are charging customers for actual water usage. The need to have customers who are running their water notify city hall of that if any credit is to be given, as well as the importance to stress to customers the water needs to be left on until the city notifies them to turn it off was noted. After discussion, it was suggested to bill water and sewer usage for those customers who let their water run and notify city hall based on the previous year's same billing period, with those accounts that have not previous year billing period to be based on an average usage since they have been active. The Council reviewed the information provided by Haag and recommended wording to be included on notices to be distributed city-wide. Haag reported the *Tri-County News* had contacted her and said they would include the notice in their saturation issue which was to go out in two days as long as they received the information tonight. The information will be provided to *The Voice* as well, and will be posted on the city's website. After further review, a motion was made by Kern, seconded by Thielen, and carried unanimously to move forward with the recommendations as made to distribute notices city-wide requesting water be turned on to prevent line freeze-up and to adjust billing for usage for those who notify city hall of their water running.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Thielen, seconded by Kern.

Attest:

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Mona Haag, Clerk/Treasurer

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Peter Korman, Mayor