

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council Public Hearing
March 26 2012

Members present: Toby Egan, Adrian Welle, Stephanie Fyten, Mary Korf, Mike Menden and Maureen Watercott.

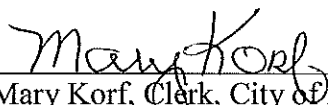
The public hearing was called to order at 6:00pm at Pierz City Hall by Mayor Toby Egan.

The public hearing was held to discuss presented electric rate increase for the Pierz Electric Utility. The Pierz City Council presented to the public that MN Power will be increasing their rates 6-8% effective June 1st of 2012. The Council felt that in order to meet cost expectations, that it would be necessary to match the increase at a minimum level of 6%. The Council shared that the City's electric is still considerably cheaper than residents having to purchase from MN Power themselves on the retail side and it is the City's intent and goal to remain lower than retail MN Power rates.

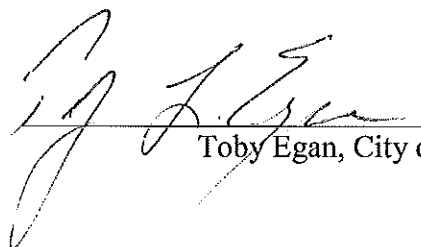
Residents and business owners were present to discuss their concern with the Council. The residents understood the increase, as it is a pass down from MN Power's increase. The business owners did express concern in the City's current rebate program through WECC. They felt the rebates were not high enough or incentivizing enough for business/commercial owners. The City agreed to look in to potential other options for a rebate program, but noted that any higher rebate programs will result in higher electric rate costs and the rebate programs do cost the City money. The commercial business owners present understood that and would appreciate the City looking in to other rebate programs.

The City Council closed discussion and an official motion would be made at the 7:00 pm regular Council meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.



Mary Korf, Clerk, City of Pierz



Toby Egan, City of Pierz Mayor