

**City of Decorah Utility Committee meeting minutes
Monday, March 6, 2017 – 6:30pm**

The City of Decorah Utility Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:30pm. Chair Andy Carlson called the meeting to order and Bellrichard and Rustad were in attendance.

Others in attendance included Mayor Don Arendt, Kirk Johnson and Steve Luse. City Manager Chad Bird was also in attendance.

Agenda

1. Discussion and update from Decorah Power regarding municipal electric utility

Carlson opened the meeting and introduced Larry Grimstad, Andy Nelson and Andy Johnson from the Decorah Power organization.

Grimstad opened with a statement about the formation of the organization and they purpose of the group. He provided an overview of the work they hope to accomplish in the next twelve months including initiation of a feasibility study. Nelson noted that authority is given to Iowa cities in chapter 504 of the Iowa code. This authority would be to consider creation of a municipal electric utility.

Nelson asked the council to consider suspending discussions with Alliant regarding renewal of a franchise agreement for at least one year and to consider appointing a council member to the Decorah Power board. Luse asked if this could be considered at the next council meeting.

Grimstad noted that it would be challenging to start up and manage a municipal electric utility but he had faith the council could do it.

Tim Wagner discussed renewable and sustainable energy options and implications for a new municipal electric utility.

There was additional general discussion and conversation.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.
Respectfully submitted,

