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The City of Eunice will have recouped over \$400,000 in losses due to billing errors by its natural gas provider over a three-year period, Glenn Breaux told the Eunice City Council during its regular meeting Tuesday.

Breaux, representing consultant C.J. Arnold of Keller Energy, said that the city has received a third credit from Florida Gas of approximately \$83,000.

In 2011, it was discovered that discrepancies between the amount of gas the city was receiving and the amount it was being billed was not due to a leak on the city's side, but due to

billing errors on the part of Florida Gas.

Florida Gas credited the city of Eunice approximately \$198,000 for the six-month billing cycle from Jan. through June 2011, when the error was discovered.

Due to tariff laws, that figure was calculated based on the price of natural gas at the time the error discovery was made.

Records recovered by City Clerk Earlene LeJeune and analyzed by Arnold indicated that the errors went back to at least Feb. 2008, and Florida Gas agreed to pay an additional \$120,000 for errors over the prior three years.

That price, however, was based on the price of gas when the credit was issued, which had dropped since the time of the first error's discovery.

Breaux said that Arnold went to Miami and met with representatives from Florida Gas, convincing them that the second credit should have reflected gas prices at the time the error was first discovered.

As a result, Florida Gas issued a third credit for the difference, approximately \$83,000.

Breaux said that Keller Energy will install its own equipment to monitor Florida Gas' works, and ensure further billing errors do not occur.

Breaux said that additional savings could be found by changing out the city's pressure corrections, checking readings for large deliveries, and other improvements.

"Over time, we think there is at least as much savings as has been found in these errors," Breaux said.

The council also voted unanimously to ask voters for a renewal of a 5-mil tax dedicated to street maintenance, which was first passed 20 years ago.

In other business, the council:

- voted to issue seven Notices to Show Cause, one Condemnation and one 30-day extension.
- approved the 2011-12 amended budget and approved the 2012-13 proposed budget.