

**UTILITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
November 16, 2022**

Present: Jan Kahler, Robert Herring, Abby Gehl, Aaron Eltrich and Megan Andresen

Absent: none

Chairperson Kahler called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Andresen to approve the agenda. All Ayes

Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Gehl to approve the minutes. All Ayes

Audience: None

Old Business: none

New Business:

A. Public Hearing Regarding the Amended Budget for Calendar Year 2022

Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Herring to open the public hearing. All ayes. No persons present to make public comments. No written/oral comments received per Chris Krogman, utility manager. Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Andresen to close the public hearing. All ayes.

B. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2022-3-A Resolution Amending the Budget for Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022

Krogman commented a change was made to the amended since discussion at October meeting. The purchase of the van took the place of the F550 truck; adding an additional \$78,000 should a truck be found before 2022-year end. Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Herring to approve amended 2022 budget. All ayes.

C. Public Hearing Regarding the Budget for Calendar Year 2023

Motion by Andresen; seconded by Gehl to open the public hearing. All ayes. No persons present to make public comments. No written/oral comments received per Krogman. Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Herring to close the public hearing. All ayes.

D. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2022-4-A Resolution Adopting the Budget for Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2023

Krogman stated nothing has changed since the last discussion of the 2023 proposed budget. Motion by Gehl; seconded by Eltrich to approve the 2023 budget. All ayes.

E. Discussion and Possible Motion Regarding Contribution in Aid of Construction Agreement with Jackson County for New Jail Project

The cost to build the service including the transformer was \$25,070; giving credit of \$18,000 based on estimated revenue; leaving the County with a contribution in aid payment of \$7,070.35. If the actual net revenue to MMEU is higher than the estimate over five years we will credit back any excess revenue. Once this is approved Krogman stated he will send to the County for signature and payment. Herring questioned if just one service was going in at the new jail. Krogman replied there is a transformer already there for temporary power. There are discussions regarding solar which factored into the estimate per Krogman. Andresen commented the discussed amount of load in solar is 30%; has not been approved yet in their budget. Motion by Herring; seconded by Gehl to approve the Contribution in Aid agreement. All ayes.

F. Discussion and Possible Motion to Approve the Purchase of a Replacement for the 2006 F550

In fall of 2021 a F550 was ordered which was to be delivered this year; received notice the order was cancelled. Matt Buck, distribution superintendent reached out to 20+ dealerships finding a couple that liked and were gone before available. Buck finding best option is to reorder and reached out to the same dealers as in 2021; price differences were similar. Issue is there is a limitation of orders so Krogman gave verbal agreement to Brad Deery Ford for truck with same specks; price went up approximately \$12,000 and government concessions are limited. We will continue to look for something else as there is no guarantee we will get this truck if we order it per Krogman. The dump box was to be built by Henderson in Manchester; Buck contacted them and sounds like they are willing to build it if we take delivery for the same price previously quoted; same situation with the plow that was ordered. If we wait and reorder the price will likely go up per Krogman. Official approval was requested by Krogman from the board to order a F550 for \$62,085 from Brad Deery Ford. Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Herring to authorize the ordering of a F550 from Brad Deery Ford. All ayes.

Approval of Claims:

Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Andresen to approve the claims as presented. All ayes.

Budget Discussions:

Per Krogman revenue is \$8.2 million- sales of residential LGS and SGS remain above budget and expenditures almost \$8.5 million- above what originally budgeted.

Manager's Reports:

AJ Bowman, power plant superintendent, reported are catching up on engine work.

Matt Buck, Distribution superintendent, reported still in the construction/ maintenance season and that have come up with a few plans to fix the underground cable which was bad from conversion that was bypassed south of town. Currently waiting on ITC and Shermco to come up with new relay settings so can energize and get loop back in town. Once this is complete will then bypass and eliminate underground on the north transformer at the power plant, leaving one set of cables versus three. This will be fairly inexpensive in comparison to replacing the underground cable. Lastly, Buck reported the standoff bushings have lead time of 55 weeks so reached out to a resource and have some coming.

Leesa Budde, accounting: nothing to report.

Chris Krogman, utility manager, had nothing additional to report; all covered elsewhere in meeting.

Board Member Reports:

Andresen reported she spoke with employee Curtis Roeder who likes the new E-Van. Krogman commented for Bowman not so much; still range issues to troubleshoot. Bowman commented on way to Dubuque must have been in a head wind since only had 47% battery life remaining, so unsure about return trip to Maquoketa so he went to McGrath to get a little quick charge to ensure would make it back to Maquoketa.

Exempt Session Per Code of Iowa, Chapter 20.17(3) & Chapter 21.9 to Discuss Negotiations & Employment Conditions of Employees Not Covered by Collective Bargaining Unit:

Entered into the exempt session at 4:54 p.m. Exited exempt session at 5:58 p.m.

Approval of Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement between MMEU and IBEW Local 145:

Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Herring to approve the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement between MMEU and IBEW Local 145. All ayes.

Approval of Employment Conditions for Employees Not Covered by Collective Bargaining Unit:

Motion by Eltrich; seconded by Andresen to approve the Employment Conditions for Employees Not Covered by Collective Bargaining Unit. All ayes.

Motion by Andresen; seconded by Eltrich to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.