

**UTILITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
January 8, 2020**

Present: Jan Kahler, Aaron Eltrich, Megan Andresen, and Abby Gehl
Absent: Andrea Jones

Chairperson Kahler called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Motion by Eltrich and seconded by Andersen to approve the agenda. All Ayes

Motion by Eltrich and seconded by Andresen to approve the minutes. All Ayes

The first item of business was Election of Officers.

Moved by Eltrich and seconded by Gehl to elect Jan Kahler as Chairperson.
All ayes by roll call vote

Moved by Andresen and seconded by Kahler to elect Aaron Eltrich as Vice-Chairperson.
All ayes by roll call vote

Moved by Eltrich and seconded by Gehl to elect Megan Andresen as Secretary.
All ayes by roll call vote

A Platt Street Project update was given by Manager Chris Krogman. Mr. Krogman met with MMEU engineer last Friday to discuss further details of the plan, and it is looking more like all lines will have to go underground. With the scope of the project, and the abilities of MMEU's crew and equipment, the current plan is to have a contractor install the conduit.

Resolution No. 2020-1 approving payment of \$154,539.90 in franchise fees to the City of Maquoketa was considered. Moved by Eltrich seconded by Andresen to approve Resolution No. 2020-1 titled "Resolution Approving Payment of Franchise Fee to the City of Maquoketa".
All ayes by roll call vote

Discussion on a public electric vehicle charger was held. Manager Chris Krogman told the board that there is a grant available through the State of Iowa for the installation of a public electric vehicle charging station. The funds became available from the proceeds from the Volkswagen omission lawsuit. If applied and received, Maquoketa could get a grant for a level 2 charger. The grant covers up to 90% of installation cost, and MMEU could also apply for a grant from WPPI, that reimburses a utility 50% of the installation of a charger, up to \$5,000. Manager Krogman approached the City council to see if the city would be willing to free up 1 or 2 public parking spaces to be dedicated to electric vehicle charging. The council was open to it. The grant application is due by 2-17-2020. Manager Krogman is contacting different EV charger vendors to get details and prices. Current plans are to have the spaces in the parking lots behind the Main St. Plaza building or Chamber office, and there would be some type of cost to charge at the stations.

Motion by Eltrich and seconded by Andresen to approve the claims as presented
All Ayes by Roll Call

Budget discussions were held and review of the year end numbers was discussed. About \$500,000 from operating funds from the year will be going into reserves.

Manager's Reports – Manager Chris Krogman said he is working on changing MMEU’s drug and alcohol policy as there were changes in the federal guidelines of who can be in a pool for random tests. He is working with the company that MMEU uses to administrator drug test to design a policy that will include two different pools; one for CDL licensed employees and one for non-CDL licensed employees.

Manager Chris Krogman also discussed with the board how IAMU is looking to change their current safety group. MMEU is part of the EICASSO safety group that offers monthly training with other area members. IAMU is seeing that this training is not always as beneficial to individual members as some areas do not apply to them, and is organizing 28E agreements between members, where members can shared 1 centralized safety person that provide more individualize safety programs and training to each member. The cost is about \$10,000 more than the current EICASSO program. The board agreed that safety is an important aspect in MMEU’s goals, agreed with such a move if Manager Krogman decides to go that route.

Motion by Gehl and seconded by Eltrich to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Chairperson, Jan Kahler

ATTEST:

Megan Andresen, Secretary