

UTILITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Digital Meeting via ZOOM
October 14, 2020

Present: Jan Kahler, Aaron Eltrich, Megan Andresen, Andrea Jones (via Phone), and Abby Gehl

Chairperson Kahler called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

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

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

Chairperson Kahler asked a question about the AMI project and the impact to the City and their water meters as with the current Mueller system, the water meters need the electric meters to communicate readings. Manager Krogman explained how Mueller system currently works, and if the City stays with Mueller, they will have to purchase and install more equipment (collectors) so the current water meters continue to work properly. Manager Krogman first thought the City was planning on staying with Mueller, but has heard they are looking at other systems also. Mr. Kahler wonder if the information that MMEU is planning to move from the Mueller system has been communicated to the City, and Manager Krogman stated that the City is aware of MMEU's timeline of moving off the Mueller system. Mr. Krogman stated he doesn't know for sure the City's exact plans, if they are planning to stay with Mueller or also looking to move to a different system.

Review of the proposed 2021 Budget was held. Manager Krogman went over the proposed 2021 budget, breaking down areas of revenue, administration, power plant, distribution expenditures, and other funds expenditures.

In the proposed budget, operating revenues is showing a decrease of about \$227,000. The major line items changes are interest, due to lower CD rates, and projected lower LGS sales due to the loss of the Hospital and Pacific Coast. Mr. Krogman also noted the proposed loan from WPPI for the new AMI system is reflected in revenues as cash in. Operating Expenditures for the 2021 budget shows an increase of about \$291,000; major changes are the Platt Street Project and salaries, as the retirement of the distribution superintendent is expected in 2021, and there will be a vacation/sick leave pay out, and also a replacement hire planned. Mr. Krogman gave a breakdown of certain budget changes within the different departments.

Motion by Eltrich and seconded by Andresen to approve the claims as presented.

All Ayes by Roll Call.

Mr. Krogman went over the current budget numbers for this year. Both revenues and expenditures are close to yearly expectations.

Manager Reports – Boyd Schoenthaler – stated the roof is completed, and awaiting inspection from architects. Also working with the engineer to review issues with engines that happen during the August storm.

Manager Chris Krogman stated that it looks like Jackson County will qualify for FEMA reimbursement related to the 8/10/20 Derecho storm expenses. Mr. Krogman also mentioned that currently City Hall is open to the public, with little issues – practicing social distancing and other precautions taken. Mr. Krogman stated MMEU is holding a prize raffle of an Electric Weber Grill, YMCA membership, iPad, and Bluetooth Speaker to help celebrate Public Power Week as an open house is not planned this year due to COVID. Bill credits will also be offered as a second chance prize.

Board Secretary Megan Andresen mentioned the Governor announced another program through the state offering assistance for utility accounts. Manager Krogman said MMEU only has received limited information on the program so far, but we understand residential customers can apply online if their income has been impacted due to COVID.

Motion by Andresen and seconded by Eltrich to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Chairperson, Jan Kahler

ATTEST:

Megan Andresen, Secretary