

**UTILITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
December 11, 2019**

Present: Jan Kahler, Aaron Eltrich, Todd Seifert, Megan Andresen, and Andrea Jones

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

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

Motion by Seifert and seconded by Jones to approve the minutes. All Ayes

Manager Krogman gave an update on the Platt Street Reconstruction Project. Aaron Eltrich and Manager Krogman attended a recent City Council meeting to speak with the council about the costs and impact to MMEU of going all underground, and to see if overhead lines could be kept in place in certain areas of the projects. Manager Krogman said the council's response was they are ok with keeping overhead lines in certain areas as long as it doesn't add to the cost of the project for the City. Krogman said the way the project is designed; the east end will have to be most likely underground. The west side with the way the project is designed, there is a possibility the power lines could remain overhead, when the project is completed. The overhead lines will need to be moved for the construction of the new water line. Moving and replacing of the lines could be costly or not possible. It is looking like the West end of the project might have to be underground also. They also stated that the city will not be able to aid MMEU in their cost of the project.

Discussion on Non Union Wage Increase was held. 5 employees are not included in the union contract for annual wage increases. In years past, most times the non-union employees have received the same percentage wage increases as union employees. Motion by Seifert and seconded by Eltrich to match the non-union wage increases to the union employees (percentage) for 2020 and to have it reviewed annually.

All Ayes by Roll Call

Discussion held on the hiring of a part-time Meter Tech. Manager Krogman says MMEU has a need for a part time Meter Tech and there is someone available that is retiring from their current position as a meter tech with another utility and has 30 years experienced. Proposed position would be hired in March and work part-time with no benefits 2-3 days a week. After discussed motion by Seifert and seconded by Andresen to approve the hiring of a part-time meter tech.

All Ayes by Roll Call

Motion by Seifert and seconded by Jones to approve the claims as presented

All Ayes by Roll Call

Budget discussions were held.

Manager's Reports –Danny Clark said the upcoming Platt Street project will be good experience for young linemen. Chris Krogman gave an update on the Mueller Meter situation. MMEU, the City and Mueller recently had a meeting to discuss the issues and possible solutions moving forward. Since Mueller knows they are not good at electric metering systems, they are partnering with Landis + Gyr to produce better electric metering. While a lot details still need to be worked out, one factor that is known is the at MMEU's current Mueller meters will not work with the new Landis + Gyr system.

Manager Krogman also stated the Power Plant roof replacement is moving forward, and announced this meeting was Todd Seifert's last meeting as his board member term was coming to end. Abby Gehl will be replacing him next month.

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

Chairperson, Jan Kahler

ATTEST:

Aaron Eltrich, Vice Chairperson