

UTILITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Digital Meeting via ZOOM

December 9, 2020

Present: Jan Kahler, , Megan Andresen, Abby Gehl and Aaron Eltrich (joined mid-meeting)

Absent: Andrea Jones

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

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

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

Manager Chris Krogman gave an update on the new billing system & AMI system. For the most part, WPPI and North Star people have been working behind the scenes getting MMEU's data ready to move over the new billing system called North Star. The main reason for changing the billing system is the system is strongly integrated with WPPI systems and the new AMI system also. Training for the new system will begin next week with the office staff. Once the new billing system is in place, the actual sending of bills will be outsourced; the main reason behind this is because the online customer portal works best if bills are sent through the outsource site to have the information uploaded. The bills will still be computed in MMEU office, but the printing and mailing of the bills will be outsourced. New meters and related equipment from Honeywell/Elster have started to be ordered for the new AMI system.

Board Member Andresen asked if it was known if the City has made a decision of what they are planning to do; Manager Krogman stated he did not know – the last time it was discussed, the City has not made a decision.

Discussion on nonunion wage increase was held. Manager Krogman explained non union employees are not automatically included for that stated pay rate increase stated in the union contract. Manager stated this item can be looked at on an annual basis, or action taken to match the union contract, on the same time line. Discussion was held the percentage amount was agreed upon, but would like to keep it on annual review basis.

*Aaron Eltrich joined the meeting*

Motion by Andresen and seconded by Gehl to increase non union employees 3% (same as union) for the calendar year 2021.

Motion by Andresen and seconded by Eltrich to approve the claims as presented. All Ayes by roll call.

Mr. Krogman went over the current budget numbers for this year. Revenues are lower than expected but are in line the lower expenditures.

Manager Reports – Boyd Schoenthaler, Power Plant Sup., stated engineers have been on site to trouble shoot the engines with the recent issues discovered with outages and engines not coming online like planned. The engineers have been making good head way to get the issues resolved.

Manager Krogman mention they have meant the engineers that will oversee the Platt Street Project recently

Motion by Gehl and seconded by Andresen to adjourn the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

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Chairperson, Jan Kahler

ATTEST:

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Megan Andresen, Secretary