

February 21, 2022

The McGregor Municipal Utility Board of Trustees held their regular meeting on Monday, February 21st, 2022 in the utility meeting room. Chairman Zahn called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with Trustees Boeke, Kinley, Regal, and Strutt answering roll call. Also present was Eulberg.

Trustee Strutt was given his oath of office by Chairman Zahn on January 20, 2022 in the utility office renewing his term through December 31, 2027.

No public addresses were received.

Chairman Zahn discussed with the Board the committee appointments. All agreed to keep committees as follows: Apprenticeship: Kinley and Strutt; Joint Garage: Regal; Personnel: Kinley and Zahn; UMMEG: Zahn; Water Asset Management: Boeke and Regal; Water Source Protection: Boeke and Strutt; and Water Main Street Project: Boeke and Strutt.

A motion was made by Strutt/Regal to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

Correspondences from Rod Benesh regarding the easement for the underground service were relayed and a copy of the marked up signed easement was presented. Mr. Benesh would like the temporary construction easement language removed and also from the map. He also would like a more precise map. If a more precise map is needed a survey company will need to be hired. Attorney Schiller will send a letter to Mr. Benesh to see how we will proceed. If a surveyor is needed those cost will come out of the funds available from the original project cost estimate. Eulberg informed the Board she knows they would like this project completed by March 31st and she has been trying to make that happen, however if a surveyor is needed it may take longer.

The 2022-2023 fiscal year electric and water budgets were discussed. A motion was made by Strutt/Boeke to approve the 2022-2023 fiscal year budgets as presented. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

The personnel committee informed the Board they felt a wage adjustment for the current employees should be considered and it was presented to the full board. Eulberg was asked to prepare a wage adjustment resolution. The Board was provided a copy of that resolution. Upon discussions a motion was made by Kinley/Boeke to adopt Resolution #01-02-22 Adjusting Hourly Rates for McGregor Municipal Utilities Employees. Roll call vote; all ayes, motion carried.

A resolution pertaining to creating a shop rate for work orders and separating the truck rates from the employee rates was reviewed. A motion was made by Zahn/Strutt to adopt Resolution #02-02-22 Adopting Shop Rates for Work Orders. Roll call vote; all ayes, motion carried.

A Reliability Plan was presented to the Board as suggested to adopt the plan provided by Iowa Assoc. of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) as the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) is now requiring utilities to provide a plan annually. A motion was made by Strutt/Regal to adopt Resolution #03-02-22 Adopting Electric Reliability Plan. Roll call vote; all ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Zahn provided updates to the Board from the February 9th UMMEG meeting. He informed the Board about selling and buying RECs, possibilities of using REC funds for other options, gave rate mitigation and reserve fund balances for the group as a whole and our portion. The rate stabilization rate was raised to \$0.007/kilowatt hour through June to make up for this year's shortfall. This amount is being passed through to our customers through the energy cost adjustment.

The Board reviewed the current McGregor incentives offered on the purchase of city owned lots in the Ohmer Ridge and RWW II subdivisions. Changes were discussed on the items and value offered along with adjustments needed on the rebate program. Eulberg presented the new rebate format associated with the new program and applied the applicable rebates for a new home. A motion was made by Zahn/Regal to keep the same incentives package with adjusting the values and the rebate structure coinciding with the new Munibucks rebates. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

A copier contract was presented. Eulberg informed the Board the contract includes all cartridges, parts, and labor in the \$39.00/month rate based on a set amount of black and color copies. Trustee Strutt was leery of a contract and wondered if one is needed. A motion was made by Kinley/Boeke to execute the agreement with Copy Systems for a one year trial basis. Boeke, Kinley, Regal and Zahn voted aye, Strutt abstained, motion carried. Trustee Strutt will research the copier in the meantime.

The personnel committee informed the Board they met on February 5th to discuss employee statuses. Other items discussed besides the wage adjustments were possible part-time employee additional benefits, and expanding the mile-radius. The Board discussed and asked Eulberg to discuss with our insurance broker options on providing group health, life, dental, and vision insurance at either the premiums being paid by the employer or employee. Eulberg informed the Board some of our documents would need to change if we decide to offer additional benefits. Eulberg informed the Board she will get more information. Chairman Zahn felt employees need to be able to respond to emergencies, especially electrical outages, and felt if they are part of our community they are more vested. Trustee Kinley felt the area is too small and our pool to choose employees from is too small. There is also not a lot of rental or housing available within the 15-mile radius either. Eulberg gave examples of some local city/utilities with current and previous employees of their radiuses, one community expanding their radius, and stated if we need to call upon Allamakee-Clayton REC to assist their response time is probably at minimum 45 minutes.

Eulberg informed the Board one former customer was tagged through offset collections.

A motion was made by Regal/Zahn to approve this month's bills in the amount of \$81,846.40. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.
