

May 9, 2022

The McGregor Municipal Utility Board of Trustees held their regular meeting on Monday, May 9th, 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. Also present was Kris Eulberg.

Chairman Zahn opened the public hearing at 5:04 p.m. for any oral or written comments on a proposed electric rate increase to keep up with ongoing operational, maintenance, and capital improvement projects. No oral or written comments were presented. Chairman Zahn closed the public hearing at 5:06 p.m.

No other public addresses were received.

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

The personnel committee interviewed a student for a part-time seasonal position prior to the Main Street project being delayed. Eulberg felt there are enough jobs to still hire a person for this position. A motion was made by Kinley/Strutt to offer applicant #1 up to 20 hours per week at \$13.00/hour pending pre-employment drug testing. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

Meghan Lang with the Iowa STEM (science, technology, engineering, & math) Externships program contacted Eulberg regarding an opportunity to utilize a local teacher for a summer program as there is a local teacher interested. Eulberg indicated to Meghan Lang at first that she didn't know if we'd have enough jobs within the criteria to meet the needs of a 5-6 week program. Eulberg attended a Zoom meeting last Friday to discuss further with Meghan and Jason Lang and the potential teacher. During the meeting, a thought was to partner with Allamakee-Clayton REC as they also felt they would not have enough assignments/projects for the full 5-6 period. Eulberg provided ideas to the Board for the teacher to work on such as re-vamping our solar policy, looking into a backup generator for Well #7, and/or public awareness ideas. Chairman Zahn inquired about how much of Eulberg's time would need to be allocated to assist with the teacher's projects. Eulberg stated the teacher is able to work independently and therefore shouldn't be much of an issue after getting her started. A motion was made by Strutt/Kinley to commit to 3 weeks of the program. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

Eulberg provided the Board with a copy of the letter that went out to Main Street customers regarding the delay of the Main Street project, a copy of our current water rates, and an updated cost summary with the break-outs from the project bid obtained from Heidi Kuhl with Northland Securities. With the larger project the water portion went from the \$422,000 estimate to \$1,844,237.17. Eulberg and Kuhl discussed the payback options of a 20-year and 30-year payback to the City for the water portion after allocating the \$500,000 grant funds and \$260,000 of water service line fees, the amount to finance will be around \$1,084,237.17. A payment arrangement with the City will need to be agreed upon. We currently pay the City \$4211.67 for the Ash Street project which those payments will terminate before the end of the fiscal year. Eulberg asked the Board their payback preference and discussed some water rate increase options – whether to gradually increase the rates or to do one rate increase for what is known at this time. The Board inquired as to whether the current funds paid to the City have been taken into consideration on the rates. Eulberg stated Kuhl adjusted for inflation during the time period based on our fiscal year water expenses and kept a capital reserve funds allocated in those rates for other future projects. Eulberg will re-contact Kuhl to ask further questions about the rates she provided.

The Board reviewed the electric rates resolution proposing a \$1.25 fixed charge increase and a 0.002859/kWh increase effective July 1, 2022. A motion was made by Strutt/Regal to approve Resolution #01-05-22 Amending electric rate fees. Roll call vote: all ayes; motion carried.

Chairman Zahn inquired about changing the June meeting date to Tuesday, June 14th. All members agreed to the changed date for June.

Two previous customers were tagged through offset collections and no new write-off or offset collections were presented this month.

A motion was made by Zahn/Regal to approve this month's bills in the amount of \$69,289.16. All Trustees present voted aye, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.
