

AUSTIN UTILITIES

MINUTES OF MEETING

4:00 pm, November 16th, 2021

Regular Meeting

Steve Greenman

Date

President

Members Present:

Steve Greenman, President
Jay Lutz, Commissioner
Kristin Johnson, Commissioner (via video call)
Jeanne Sheehan, Commissioner
Tom Baudler, Commissioner

Others Present:

Mark Nibaur, General Manager
Alex Bumgardner, Utility Operations Director
Ann Christianson, Finance Manager
Dan Ulland, Employee Relations Director
Melissa Swenson, Customer Service Supervisor
Kelly Lady, Marketing & Energy Services Manager

Members Absent:

President Steve Greenman called the meeting to order. Due to COVID-19 limitations, Commissioner Kristin Johnson participated through video call.

Moved by Kristin Johnson, seconded by Tom Baudler, to approve the meeting agenda. Roll call vote taken and approved unanimously.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Jay Lutz, to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 19th, 2021. Roll call vote taken and approved unanimously.

Moved by Jay Lutz, seconded by Tom Baudler, to approve the disbursements summary, accounts payable list, additional bills and expenses, and authorize warrants to be drawn for their payment. Roll call vote taken and approved unanimously.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, and Ann Christianson, Finance Manager, presented the proposed 2022 AU Budget and budget scenarios. The operating budgets were prepared with no rate increase in the electric department, a 4% rate increase to residential, 8% to commercial and 9% increase to Hormel in the water department and no rate change in gas department. Other notable items: The 2022 renewal rates for the employees' health insurance increased 9%. A nearly 1.5 million distribution from SMMPA will be received in 2022 reducing purchased power costs by 5.68%. The proposed capital budget amounts to \$5,037,250 and staff is proposing to use \$1,050,000 of cash reserves to fund a portion of the AMI meters in the electric, water & gas departments. Commissioner Sheehan asked about costs incurred due to the City's right of way ordinance. Staff will collect more information and provide it to Commissioners. Discussion was held on lowering the impact of water rate increases for residential and commercial to 2%. Staff will adjust the budget and scenarios accordingly along with the water tariffs and present them for approval at the December meeting.

Mark Nibaur, General Manager, also updated the Board on the following:

- SMMPA minutes
- Safety Committee minutes
- COVID-19 update
- AFSCME upcoming contract

The next regular Board meeting was scheduled for 4:00 pm, Tuesday, December 21st, 2021.

Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to move to a Closed Meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. §13D.05 Subd. 3(a) for a performance evaluation of the General Manager. Roll call vote taken and approved unanimously. 5:45 pm.

Return to open meeting at 6:07 pm. Moved by Jeanne Sheehan, seconded by Kristin Johnson, to adjourn. Roll call vote taken and approved unanimously. Adjourned 6:07 pm.

President

Secretary