

BRYAN BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MAY 5, 2020

Board of Public Affairs Chairman Richard Long opened the meeting of the Bryan Board of Public Affairs with the following members participating via teleconference: Karen Ford, Annette Schreiner, Jim Salsbury, and Tom Sprow. Also participating via teleconference: City Attorney Rhonda Fisher, Operations Manager Dawn Fitzcharles, Human Resource Director Jacqueline Perry, Engineering Supervisor Nathan Gardner, Local Programming and Production Lead Eric Herman, and Clerk-Treasurer Laura Rode.

Ms. Ford moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 7, 2020, as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Long seconded, to approve the Clerk-Treasurer's report as of March 31, 2020, as submitted by Clerk-Treasurer Rode. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 20, 2020, titled,

REVISING THE TEMPORARY COVID-19 UTILITY POLCY TO EXTEND THE SUSPENSION OF DISCONNECTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

was presented and read by title only. Operations Manager Fitzcharles requested the Board approve revising the temporary COVID-19 policy to suspend disconnects through June 20, 2020, to allow those with financial hardship extra time to pay. She added that customers needing assistance should seek various organizations offering financial assistance.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Sprow seconded, to pass Resolution No. 20, 2020. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mayor Schlade entered the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Resolution No. 21, 2020, titled,

ALLOWING FOR A 15 DAY SICK LEAVE DONATION DURING THE CITY STATE OF EMERGENCY, OR OTHERWISE DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WHICH WILL NOT AFFECT FURTHER SICK LEAVE DONATION UNDER SECTION 312 OF THE CITY OF BRYAN EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK, EFFECTIVE MARCH 10, 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

was presented and read by title only. Operations Manager Fitzcharles requested the Board approve a measure allowing 15 days of sick leave donation due the COVID-19

pandemic and the pronouncement of a State of Emergency which would not affect further sick leave donation under section 312 of the City of Bryan Employee Handbook for the period March 10, 2020, through September 10, 2020. She noted that recently hired employees may not have accrued much sick time, and this would assist them. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to pass Resolution No. 21, 2020. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Human Resource Director Perry requested the Lineworker IV Whit Longcore be moved from probationary status to regular employment status effective May 17, 2020, noting that he is an asset to the team.

Mr. Long moved, Ms. Ford seconded, to move Lineworker IV Whit Longcore from probationary status to regular employment status effective May 17, 2020, with no change in pay. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Ms. Ford moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to pay the bills. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

The Board encouraged citizens to do their part with social distancing to aid in the effort to return to normal. Appreciation was expressed again to the video crew for coordinating the meeting as well as to those who participated and prepared for it.

Operations Manager Fitzcharles shared that Bryan Municipal Utilities recently was recognized for the Certificate of Excellence in Reliability from the American Public Power Association.

Engineering Supervisor Gardener gave a brief update on the South Williams Street Water Main project.

A brief recess was taken.

Ms. Ford moved, Mr. Long seconded, to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment and compensation of public employees, acquisition of property, and discipline and termination of public employees at 5:28 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Asked to attend the Executive Session were: Mayor Schlade, City Attorney Fisher, Operations Manager Fitzcharles, Human Resource Director Perry, and City Clerk-Treasurer Rode.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Long seconded, to adjourn the Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Operations Manager Fitzcharles discussed the possibility of entering the Shared Work Ohio program with the Board during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is a voluntary layoff aversion program offered through Ohio Job and Family Services which may be utilized to reduce hours worked by employees while allowing them to maintain full benefits during an economic downturn providing for savings while promoting job retainage for up to 52 weeks.

Resolution No. 22, 2020, titled,

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SHARED WORKS PROGRAM WITH OHIO JOBS AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR BRYAN MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

was presented and read by title only. Further discussion was held regarding the economic factors impacting Bryan Municipal Utilities during the COVID-19 crisis as well as the parameters of the program.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Sprow seconded, to pass Resolution No. 22, 2020. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Long seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Chairman of the Board

Clerk-Treasurer