

BRYAN BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AUGUST 4, 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: Mayor Carrie Schlade, City Attorney Rhonda Fisher, Operations Manager Dawn Fitzcharles, Human Resource Director Jacqueline Schlachter, Electric Superintendent Al Sullivan, Power Production Superintendent Jim Coressel, Engineering Supervisor Nathan Gardner, Local Programming and Production Lead Eric Herman, and Clerk-Treasurer Laura Rode. Participating in person at the Board of Public Affairs board room was Communications Superintendent Joe Ferrell.

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

Mr. Salsbury moved, Mr. Sprow seconded, to approve the Clerk-Treasurer's report as of June 30, 2020, as submitted by Clerk-Treasurer Rode. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Communications Superintendent Ferrell led a discussion with the Board regarding the Help Desk as the contract with the Coldwater Board of Public Utilities will be expiring at the end of 2020. The Coldwater Board of Public Utilities is phasing out this service; however, they introduced the National Telecommunications Cooperative for such services. He assured that National Telecommunications Cooperative has a large staff of customer service personnel. Should this option be considered, the cost of the service annually would be approximately \$24,192 per year of a three (3) year contract. The transition, if approved, should take place over approximately eight (8) weeks. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Salsbury made a motion to approve entering into an agreement with National Telecommunications Cooperative; however, the motion was withdrawn as the plan is to present a resolution along with the agreement at a future Board meeting pending the review of the City Attorney.

Operations Manager Fitzcharles requested the Board consider terminating the American Municipal Power Contract No.: 10-2010-8099. Bryan Municipal Utilities had entered into a peaking power purchase contract in 2010 and ceased using it in 2014. As a matter of housekeeping, she requested the Board make a motion to terminate the contract. Further discussion was held.

Ms. Ford moved, Mr. Salsbury seconded, to terminate the American Municipal Power contract no. 10-2010-8099. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

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

Operations Manager Fitzcharles shared an update on the Good Neighbor Fund as well as the delinquent account balances as impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Power Production Superintendent Coressel gave a video presentation of the Industrial Substation project. Engineering Supervisor Gardner gave updates on the South Williams Street Water Main project as well as the Industrial Park North Road Expansion project. Also, Electric Superintendent Sullivan gave an update regarding the power outage last Saturday evening.

Board members, Mayor Schlade, and Operations Manager Fitzcharles thanked the various departments for handling ongoing projects as well as daily operations. In addition, they extended their gratitude to Andres, O'Neil and Lowe for their generous \$1,000 donation to the Good Neighbor Fund.

A brief recess was taken.

Mr. Salsbury moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment and compensation of public employees at 6:00 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 Schlachter, and City Clerk-Treasurer Rode.

Mr. Paul Beckhusen entered the Executive Session at 6:18 p.m. and exited the Executive Session at 7:12 p.m.

Engineering Supervisor Gardner entered the Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. and exited the Executive Session at 7:44 p.m.

Mr. Sprow moved, Mr. Salsbury seconded, to exit the Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

Human Resource Director Schlachter advised the Board that the advertisement for a Director of Utilities was placed in several venues and applications were due by July 20, 2020. Twelve (12) applications were received and reviewed with the intention of moving forward with interviews. The Board has interviewed the top candidates which they believe will meet the needs of Bryan Municipal Utilities. Further discussion was held.

Mr. Sprow moved, Mr. Long seconded, to authorize Human Resource Director Schlachter to make an offer of employment for the position of Director of Utilities to the primary candidate. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried.

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

Chairman of the Board

Clerk-Treasurer