

**BRYAN BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**July 16, 2024**

Board of Public Affairs Chairman Karen Ford opened the meeting of the Bryan Board of Public Affairs with the following members present: Annette Schreiner, Richard Long, and Robert Eyre. James Salisbury was absent. Also present were: Director of Utilities Derek Schultz, Mayor Carrie Schlade, Communications Superintendent Joe Ferrell, Bryan City Council Member F. John Betts, and Clerk-Treasurer John Lehner.

Mr. Eyre moved, Mr. Long seconded, to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2024 Joint Special Meeting and the July 2, 2024 Regular Meeting, as written. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried. Salisbury absent.

Ms. Schreiner moved, Mr. Eyre seconded, to accept the Clerk-Treasurer's Report for the month ending June 30, 2024 as submitted by Clerk-Treasurer Lehner. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried. Salisbury absent.

Resolution No. 15, 2024, titled,

**AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH ALL SERVICE CONTRACTING CORP. FOR FILTER REHABILITATION AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, WAIVING THE BIDDING PROCESS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

was presented and read by title only. Director of Utilities Schultz explained the need for an emergency repair to one of the sand filters at the Water Treatment Plant. He noted that the Byran City Council had approved similar language, including waiving the bidding process, in its previous meeting. Further discussion was held regarding the life of the filter tank and current preventative maintenance measures.

Mr. Eyre moved, Mr. Long seconded, to pass Resolution No. 15, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried. Salisbury absent.

Resolution No. 16, 2024, titled,

**AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO THE 525 WATER CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

was presented and read by title only. Director of Utilities Schultz explained the action is necessary to proceed with the filter tank repair addressed in the preceding resolution.

Mr. Long moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to pass Resolution No. 16, 2024. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried. Salisbury absent.

Director of Utilities Schultz provided a slide presentation highlighting the background and current status of the Bryan Municipal Utilities Internet service. The system's infrastructure is approximately 25 years old and beginning to show signs of failure that jeopardize the ability to provide reliable service. The system has been slowly losing customers since 2019. The cost of replacing major components of the system is several million dollars and would drive up the monthly cost to existing customers, at the same time as competitively priced alternative services are now readily available, which risks further eroding the remaining customer base. The ability to borrow funds for system upgrades and fulfill that debt obligation in the face of a shrinking revenue base makes little sense. After much discussion, Director of Utilities Schultz was directed to prepare an exit strategy that will provide ample notice to existing customers (90-120 days) and be completed by year-end.

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

Board Member Eyre remarked that the sugar storage expansion project at Spangler Candy Company was great news. Further discussion was held.

Director of Utilities Schultz, and others, thanked the electric utility workforce for its performance during recent periods of peak demand. He also notified the Board that a waterline replacement project on Blakeslee Avenue between W. High Street and Parkview Avenue will begin on July 29, 2024.

Mayor Schlade reminded all of the upcoming busy weekend of events in the City of Bryan.

A brief recess was taken.

Ms. Schreiner moved, Mr. Long seconded, to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment and compensation of a public employee at 5:44 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried. Salsbury absent.

Asked to attend: Mayor Schlade, Director of Utilities Schultz, Clerk-Treasurer Lehner

Mr. Long moved, Ms. Schreiner seconded, to adjourn the Executive Session at 6:06 p.m. Roll call vote: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried. Salsbury absent.

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

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Chairman of the Board

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Clerk-Treasurer