

UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING

11/23/2020

Utilities Service Board meetings are recorded and are available during regular business hours in the office of the Director of Utilities.

Board Vice President Capler called the regular meeting of the Utilities Service Board to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom and Facebook Live.

Board members present: Jim Sherman, Jason Banach, Jean Capler, Megan Parmenter, Amanda Burnham, Jeff Ehman, and Julie Roberts. One board member was absent, ex-officio Jim Sims. The second ex-officio position is currently vacant.

Staff present: Vic Kelson, Laura Pettit, Holly McLauchlin, LaTreana Harrington, Chris Wheeler, Jane Fleig, Brandon Prince, James Hall, Tom Axsom, Mike Carter, and Missy Waldon,

MINUTES

Board President Roberts moved and Board member Burnham seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 9 meeting. Motion carried, 7 ayes.

CLAIMS

Roberts moved and Burnham seconded the motion to approve the standard claims as follows: Vendor invoices submitted included \$112,129.53 from the Water Utility, \$554,913.74 from the Wastewater Utility, and \$10,696.00 from the Stormwater Utility. ***Total Claims approved: \$677,739.27. Motion carried, 7 ayes.***

Roberts moved and Burnham seconded the motion to approve the utility claims as follows: Utility invoices submitted included \$53,198.82 from the Water Utility, and \$14,123.54 from the Wastewater Utility. ***Total Claims approved: \$67,322.36 Motion carried, 7 ayes.***

Roberts moved and Burnham seconded the motion to approve the wire transfers, fees, and payroll in the amount of \$374,300.53 Motion carried, 7 ayes.

CONSENT AGENDA

CBU Director Kelson presented the following items recommended by staff for approval:

- Electric Plus, \$4,630.00, Replace 5 non-working pole light heads with LED lights at Monroe WTP
- South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP), \$5,000.00/year, Consulting services for CBU W/WW Assistance program

As no items were removed from the Consent Agenda by the Board, agreements approved. Total contracts approved: \$9,630.00.

BID OPENING FOR THE JORDAN RIVER CULVERT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

CBU Engineer Fleig opened three bids for the Jordan River Culvert Reconstruction Project. The first bid was from Milestone Contractors, with a lump sum bid of \$13,184,000.00. The second bid from Ragle, Inc. had a lump sum bid of \$14,619,000.00. The final bid from Crider and Crider, Inc. had a lump sum bid of \$17,772,000.00. The engineer's estimate was \$11,367,425.00.

Burnham asked where each of the contractors are located. Crider and Crider, Inc, and Milestone are located in Bloomington. Ragle, Inc. is located in Newburgh, IN.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: None

STAFF REPORTS:

Kelson reported, about the Jordan River project, that CBU had bond reading with Standard and Poors, and is still at an A+ rating for sewer works.

With COVID on the rise, CBU has taken steps to reduce the number of employees in the Service Center to the minimum necessary.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Josh McConnell spoke to the board about a large bill he received upon moving into his home. The large bill was due to leaking toilets. Before moving in, he had the home inspected and was not made aware of any issues with the toilets. Upon the recommendation of CBU staff, he hired a plumber to make the necessary repairs and submitted an Adjustment Request to CBU for his bill. The adjustment request was denied as it was determined that, although the toilets were leaking, the water was properly metered.

Kelson commented that no adjustment was made because, per the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, if water goes through the meter and the meter is working properly, we cannot waive any water service charges. Waivers can be given for sewer fees as long as the water does not go into the sewer.

City Attorney Wheeler said the IURC code states that water leaks that can be detected in the service line coming into the house will still be metered. If the water does not go into the sewer, then we can work with the customer to relieve some of the water bill.

Roberts asked the board and staff if McConnell could find out if the previous owner should be responsible for the bill.

Wheeler asked McConnell to provide his real estate agreement for review.

Board member Sherman mentioned the upcoming customer portal where people will be able to monitor their water usage. Using the portal could diminish the likelihood of the same issue happening to other users.

Kelson also commented that customers can customize the portal to alert them when they go over a set limit of water.

ADJOURNMENT: Roberts moved to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Julie Roberts, President

DATE