

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF WATER, ELECTRIC,
AND COMMUNICATIONS TRUSTEES
OF THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees met in regular session at Muscatine Power and Water's Administration/Operations Building, 3205 Cedar Street, Muscatine, Iowa, on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Chairperson Tracy McGinnis called the meeting to order. Other members of the Board were present as follows: Trustees Kevin Fields, Susan Eversmeyer, and Keith Porter. Trustee Steven Bradford was absent due to previously scheduled travel plans.

Also present were Gage Huston, General Manager of Muscatine Power and Water; Brenda Christensen, Board Secretary; Charles Potter, Muscatine Journal; Jerry Gowey, Brandy Olson, Ryan Streck, and Doug White of Muscatine Power and Water (MP&W). Darcy Driscoll and Eric Donald were also present as representatives of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 55.10.

Chairperson McGinnis asked if there was anyone in attendance who wished to make any public comments.

Mr. Donald stated that he was present as a representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 55.10. He stated he had comments to share from the IBEW Local 55.10 members before upcoming negotiations between IBEW Local 55.10 and MP&W were started. Mr. Donald continued that the changes to Chapter 20 concerning public sector bargaining were many and members of IBEW Local 55.10 feel that just because the changes to Chapter 20 say certain things do not need to be negotiated as in the past, it does not mean that MP&W should not be willing to continue to negotiate them anyway. Mr. Donald shared his perspective on the history on the signing of the current Chapter 20 changes. He stated it seems that the Utility already struggles to hire good employees and that changes to the current contract would make it even harder for the Utility to hire qualified employees. He continued the IBEW Local 55.10 members would like to maintain a good relationship and mutual respect with MP&W Management and the Senior Leadership Team, which will require give and take on both sides during these negotiations. Mr. Donald thanked the Board for their time.

The August 27, 2019 public hearing and regular meeting minutes were presented as previously submitted to all Board members. Trustee Fields moved, seconded by Trustee Porter, that the minutes from the August 27, 2019 public hearing and regular meeting minutes be approved as submitted. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

The list of expenditures and transactions for August 2019 were presented as previously submitted to all Board members. After discussion on several items, Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields to ratify payment of \$9,623,302.34 for the Electric Utility,

\$445,918.72 for the Water Utility, and \$1,165,340.02 for the Communications Utility, for a cumulative total of \$11,234,561.08. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was to award the contract for the 69kV Duct Bank and Conduit Installation on HNI Property. Mr. Huston stated this work is a subset of the Mississippi Drive Corridor Underground - Phase 1 Project. This portion will cover the labor, materials, tools, equipment, and supervision necessary for the construction of a 69kV Duct Bank through HNI property near the intersection of 2nd St. and Oak St. to near the intersection of 4th St. and Poplar St. Conduit for electric and communications services will be installed in coordination with this project. The entire project was approved with the 2017 Operating Budget for a total expenditure of \$5,920,100, with this portion of the project estimated at \$336,000. A total of three bids were received, opened publicly, and read aloud on Thursday, August 29, 2019 at 3:30 P.M. Management reviewed and evaluated bids and recommend the award of contract be made to the lowest bidder, Triple B Construction, of Wilton, IA, for a total price of \$220,042. Due to some changes in the project construction schedule, this portion of the project will not take place until Spring of 2020, but Management would like to continue with the contract award to be prepared to start as early as possible in 2020. After some discussion about the Project Summary Form, the following resolution was submitted:

RESOLUTION 19-24

WHEREAS it appears in a written report from Muscatine Power and Water Management that the bid for the 69kV Duct Bank and Conduit Installation on HNI Property as part of the Mississippi Drive Corridor Project, as submitted by Triple B Construction, of Wilton, IA, for a total price of \$220,042 was the best and lowest bid received; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Water, Electric, and Communications Trustees of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, that the proposal submitted by Triple B Construction, of Wilton, IA for a total of \$220,042 for the 69kV Duct Bank and Conduit Installation on HNI Property as part of the Mississippi Drive Corridor Project was hereby accepted as submitted; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager and Secretary of the Board were hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute a contract in the sum approved by the Board of Water, Electric, and Communications Trustees.

Trustee Fields moved, seconded by Trustee Eversmeyer, that said resolution be passed, approved, and adopted this 24th day of September 2019. On roll call, Trustees Fields, Eversmeyer, Porter, and McGinnis voted aye. Trustee Bradford was absent. Voting nay, none. Resolution carried.

In the General Manager's Report, Mr. Huston reminded the Board that MP&W would be hosting the 3rd Annual MP&W Power Breakfast on Tuesday, October 9, 2019 and this year's event would include a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the opening of the new MP&W customer lobby. Mr. Huston also showed the Board a pink hardhat the outside crews and line workers would be wearing on the job in October in support of breast cancer awareness month

and expressed how proud he was to be a part of an organization that participated in this awareness campaign.

The August 2019 Financial Operating Statements and Balance Sheets were presented as previously submitted to all Board members. After review and discussion, Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to receive and place on file the August 2019 Financial Operating Statements and Balance Sheets for the Water, Electric, and Communications Utilities. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

The August Competitive Quotes for Public Improvements Report was presented as previously submitted to all Board members in written form. There were no items for approval.

The August 2019 Departmental Reports were presented as previously submitted to all Board members. Mr. Huston explained that updates to numbers provided on the Fiber to the Home Project were being reported differently and explained the change, along with updates on the project and staffing levels. Trustee Porter moved, seconded by Trustee Fields to receive and place on file the August 2019 Departmental Reports. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairperson McGinnis recommended that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(i) to for the purpose of reviewing the General Manager's performance. The meeting was closed to prevent any needless and irreparable injury to any individual's reputation as requested in the documentation signed by the General Manager, Gage Huston. On roll call, Trustees Eversmeyer, Porter, Fields and McGinnis voted aye. Trustee Bradford was absent. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed to the public at 5:55 p.m. All attendees left the meeting except for the Trustees.

Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Porter, to reconvene the meeting to open session. At 6:15 p.m. the meeting was reconvened to open session.

Trustee Eversmeyer moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to adjust the General Manager's salary effective October 1, 2019 in accordance with his performance and the Salary Administration Program. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

BOARD OF WATER, ELECTRIC, AND
COMMUNICATIONS TRUSTEES OF
THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA



Brenda Christensen
Board Secretary