

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MEETING JUNE 24, 2024

Date and time: 06/24/2024 02:00 pm

Present: Jacque Cowherd, Richard Vaughn, Charles Williams, Mayor Steve Myers, Director of Administration Courtney Doyle, Utilities Superintendent Darrell Dunlap, and City Clerk Kathie Ratliff. Also, in attendance: Deputy Clerk Marissa Peneston, Anna Zerr, Mike West, and Bill Hinchie

Absent: Council Liaison Lauren Nelson and Chief Financial Officer Dustin Dougherty

Location: Fulton City Hall

DISCUSSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Utility Board was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

There were three members present, no members absent. Quorum met.

3. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

There were no comments.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Decision Motion was made by Jacque Cowherd and Seconded by Richard Vaughn to approve the May 20, 2024 minutes. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trash Cans:

Trash cans left on the streets after pick-up continues to be a problem, particularly on narrow streets or streets with duplexes. After much discussion, the Public Utility Board has recommended issuing a warning to residents the first time a trash can is not returned to the residential premises. If it happens a second time, a \$25.00 service charge will be applied for a city employee to move the trash can.

Decision Motion was made by Richard Vaughn and Seconded by Charles Williams to update the city trash ordinance to state all trash cans must be removed from the public streets, easements, sidewalks, or other public property and returned to the residential premises not more than 24 hours after the regularly scheduled collection day, or a warning will be issued, after the first warning a service charge of \$25.00 will be assessed on the customer's utility bill for each time the city has to move the trash can.

Motion carried with all members voting in favor. This change will not affect the current ordinance directive: "Containers shall not be placed for collection more than 24 hours before the regularly-scheduled collection day."

Rate Increase to Build Reserves:

The Consumer Price Index is set by the Missouri Auditor's Office. Implementing an Annual Consumer Price Index Adjustment every year on January 1st would ensure that the cities' utility rates stay current and help fight inflation. Having a 5% rate increase applied to all utility

services will improve the city's control over utilities. Adding this incremental increase will help prevent major rate jumps in cold snaps when power becomes more expensive to supply. Looking toward the future it is important to have reserve funds as transformers and other hardware get older they will need to be replaced.

Decision Motion was made by Jacque Cowherd and Seconded by Richard Vaughn to move forward with the incremental increase plan and present it to the city council members to implement the plan. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

SWPA:

Utilities Superintendent Darrell Dunlap, Mayor Steve Myers, and Council Liaison Lauren Nelson attended a Utility conference in Tulsa where they were able to thank the individuals who helped Sikeston become operational.

Earlier today we hosted a meeting with MPUA, Columbia, and Hannibal to discuss collaboration opportunities.

7. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

8. ADJOURN

With no other business to come before the board, Motion was made by Jacque Cowherd and Seconded by Richard Vaughn to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 p.m. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Marissa Peneston
Deputy Clerk