

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JEFFERSON UTILITIES COMMISSION, HELD MARCH 12, 2018

Commissioners present were: Brandel, Beyer, Oppermann and Michaelis. Also present: Interim Utility Manager Adler and Office Manager Statz. Absent was: Tinberg, Ristow and Adams. The meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Utility Manager Adler shared some positive comments from customers regarding Water Operator Curt Hebbe's performance. During recent cross connection inspections and water meter change-outs, the customers shared that Mr. Hebbe was pleasant, professional and helpful.

MINUTES

It was moved by Comm. Oppermann and seconded by Comm. Michaelis to approve the regular session minutes from the February 12, 2018 meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote.

EXPENDITURES

It was moved by Comm. Michaelis and seconded by Comm. Beyer to approve the payment of February's bills totaling \$1,023,580.53. Motion carried on a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF 2018 WATER MAIN RELAY TO FOREST LANDSCAPING

Utility Manager Adler recommended the approval of a bid from Forest Landscaping in the amount of \$463,100, including the alternate bid, for the 2018 water main relay project.

It was moved by Comm. Oppermann and seconded by Comm. Michaelis to approve the bid, including the alternate, from Forest Landscaping for the 2018 water main relay project. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously. (Beyer – Aye, Brandel – Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

It was moved by Comm. Beyer and seconded by Comm. Oppermann to approve a budget adjustment of \$3,000 to fund a down payment on a 2018 Nissan Leaf. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously. (Beyer – Aye, Brandel – Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF LEASE OF 2018 NISSAN LEAF

It was moved by Comm. Oppermann and seconded by Comm. Michaelis to approve the lease of a 2018 Nissan Leaf. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously. (Beyer – Aye, Brandel – Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO CHANGE JOB TITLE OF UTILITY MANAGER

Comm. Brandel stated that Mr. Adler has done a fine job as the Interim Utility Manager and he sees him continuing in his current capacity. He stated that any changes made in the future regarding the efficiency study would not affect Mr. Adler's current role.

Comm. Oppermann stated that he felt with the potential for changes in the future, Mr. Adler may only be an electric utility manager. He felt that the decision should be tabled until after the upcoming referendum and possible council action regarding the operations of the utility.

Comm. Brandel stated that it was his intention to just remove the word "Interim" from Mr. Adler's job title. He felt that if changes were made, they would be made either way.

Comm. Michaelis stated that she was in favor of eliminating "Interim" from Mr. Adler's job title. She stated that if changes were to be made in the future that his title could be changed again.

It was moved by Comm. Michaelis and seconded by Comm. Beyer to change Scott Adler's title to Utility Manager. Motion carried on a voice vote.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO DIRECT CITY ATTORNEY AND UTILITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE LEASE WITH CHARTER CABLE AT WELL #4

Utility Manager Adler stated that he reached out to City Attorney Chris Rogers to renegotiate the current lease agreement with Charter for their equipment at Well #4. City Attorney Rogers advised that we get commission approval to renegotiate the contract before moving forward.

It was moved by Comm. Oppermann and seconded by Comm. Beyer to authorize the City Attorney and Utility Manager to negotiate a lease with Charter Cable at Well #4. Motion carried on a voice vote.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS – ARTS ALLIANCE OF GREATER JEFFERSON

It was moved by Comm. Oppermann and seconded by Comm. Michaelis to approve a \$500.00 donation to Arts Alliance of Greater Jefferson. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Beyer – Aye, Brandel - Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS – COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Comm. Oppermann clarified that Comm. Beyer was the Chairman of the Council for the Performing Arts (CPA). She stated that she was the President.

Comm. Oppermann asked how many people are being reached by the organization.

Comm. Beyer explained that organization reaches individuals all over the county, not just in the City of Jefferson. She went on to explain that in 2018 they are making changes to try to get more participation from patrons of all ages. In addition, they are making changes to the productions offered, making sure that they have things for kids, parents and grandparents.

Comm. Michaelis stated that the CPA also hangs up sponsors’ banners at each event, and lists them in the programs of each performance.

Comm. Oppermann stated that it would be nice if the CPA would get donations from other utilities throughout the county if it is benefiting all county residents.

Comm. Beyer stated that they are hoping to partner with Fort Atkinson Community Theatre (FACT). She went on to say that the CPA cannot operate without sponsors and any amount that the Utilities Commission would be willing to donate would be greatly appreciated.

It was moved by Comm. Michaelis, seconded by Comm. Brandel to approve a \$1,500.00 donation to Council for the Performing Arts. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Beyer – Abstained, Brandel - Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS – GEMUETLICHKEIT DAYS PARADE

It was moved by Comm. Oppermann, seconded by Comm. Michaelis to approve a \$1,000.00 donation to Gemuetlichkeit Days for the parade. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously. (Beyer – Aye, Brandel - Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS – JEFFERSON PARKS DEPARTMENT

Comm. Oppermann stated that this event was the official launch of the City’s new branding initiative, “We’re Going Outside.” There will be music and paddling events. The city will have canoes and kayaks for rent.

Comm. Oppermann stated that currently the city has one corporate sponsor of \$1,000.00 and the budget for the event is \$5,000.00.

Comm. Oppermann stated that Jefferson Utilities should have a presence at the event, as well. In addition, he would like to see solar panels installed at City Hall or Jefferson Utilities to promote green initiatives throughout the city.

It was moved by Comm. Michaelis, seconded by Comm. Beyer to approve a \$1,000.00 donation to the Jefferson Parks Department for the “We’re Going Outside” event. On call of the roll, motion carried unanimously. (Beyer – Aye, Brandel - Aye, Oppermann – Aye, Michaelis - Aye)

It was moved by Comm. Beyer, seconded by Comm. Oppermann to adjourn. Motion carried on a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY