

**MARSHALL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**

**75 East Morgan  
Marshall, MO 65340**

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October 28, 2021

The Board of Public Works convened in regular session in the MMU Service Center Conference Room at 8:30 a.m. Board members present were Wick Jacobi, President; Ken Bryant, Vice President; Steve Mills, Secretary and Spencer Fricke, Member. Also in attendance were City Administrator JD Kehrman and City Council Member Dewey Hendrix.

The agenda was approved on a motion made by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Bryant, with a vote of 3-0. The minutes of the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as printed on a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Mills, with a vote of 3-0.

Human Resource Manager Megan Baldridge presented the employee health benefits renewal. Currently, all health benefits are on a December 1 contract year, but will be returning to a January 1 contract year, aligning with the benefit year of all health plans. Due to the 39% increase of the medical renewal with United Healthcare, proposals were requested from additional medical carriers. However, two of those carriers declined to quote and another's proposal was a 57% increase. Ancillary benefit proposals were also requested from several other sources; three declined to quote, one has not yet responded. Of the three that did provide quotes they were not competitive to what is currently being used. Due to the increase in premiums, management recommended temporarily providing additional assistance with dependent premium contributions. Rather than the traditional 50% of dependent medical premiums funded by MMU, management recommended a 62% contribution, to be phased out over time and returned to the 50% contribution level. Mr. Mills made a motion to renew medical coverage with United Healthcare and ancillary coverage with Standard, as presented effective December 1, 2021 with the additional memo to phase out the 12% premium assistance for dependent medical coverage within the next three years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and passed with a vote of 3-0.

Electric Production Director Carl Crawford requested approval to accept a change order in the amount of \$1,085 from C-R Fence for the additional material cost incurred from the installation of fence around the area where the Power Plant previously stood. Due to several events by both MMU and the contractor, the project was short by 50 feet of fencing. Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the change order from C-R Fence in the amount of \$1,085. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills, and passed with a vote of 3-0.

Director Crawford reported on the inspection of Unit #6 by Ethos Energy. The preliminary results show the turbine end looked good but had some slight pitting on the blades, which is normal. The generator end failed the Polarization Index (PI) and the Step DC Leakage test, which caused them to do a further inspection of the unit. It is suspected that during March when it was running, dust and moisture got in from the Power Plant demolition. It has been cleaned and the stator end retested fine. The rotor end seems to have shifted, so Ethos Energy is doing a bore scope on it today with results pending.

Underground Facilities Director Grant Piper presented the quote from Proceanic to remove approximately 343 cubic yards of silt in reservoir #3. Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the quote for silt removal in Reservoir #3 for a lump sum of \$58,995.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills, and passed with a vote of 3-0.

Director Piper then stated South Jefferson Street sewer main replacement was completed and backfilled on October 28<sup>th</sup>, and added that MMU will provide Municipal Services with the funds to repair it at their discretion.

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Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Travis Boss requested approval to replace the filter media in 2 most problematic of the 5 filters. The other filters will be rotated through the next few years. Mr. Mills made a motion to request proposals to replace the media in 2 filters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and approved by a vote of 3-0.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Lab Technician Eric Perkins reported a bearing and a belt have been replaced on press #2. Two of four VFD's in the headworks pumps have been installed. Superintendent Townsend has scheduled the annual industry inspections for November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Electric Distribution Director Doug Root reported Poor Boy Tree continues to trim and remove trees, and was able to add another member to their crew. The SE Substation foundation is complete, the transformer should arrive November 8<sup>th</sup>, and he is working with the engineering firm on the general installation material list.

IT & Broadband Director Jim Widel reported the fiber crew has pulled fiber on Landmark Avenue and Lime Avenue. The broadband grant contractor is almost finished on Lime Avenue.

Controller Tony Bersano presented the financial comparisons by department for September and went over the year-end reports. He also presented the Board with a summary of donated utilities for the year-end and a copy of the year-end cash and investment summary report provided to the City. Controller Bersano also stated they are working on the financial side of the new software and he is getting pricing to add a module to the software to assist in payroll timekeeping. The 2021 audit is scheduled to begin November 1<sup>st</sup>. He is working on summarizing water adjustments for the Board's review.

General Manager Jeff Bergstrom updated the Board on several projects. Burns & McDonnell provided a progress update for North Street Pump Station, it has been reviewed and he and Director Piper plan on meeting next week to go over the generator size, VFD's and HVAC and hope to have a class 4 estimate in late November. He continues to work on ARPA funding by completing surveys from MPUA and DNR and also participated in a call with Burns & McDonnell on it. He and Controller Bersano met with MPUA to review financing options for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project. He is scheduled to attend a virtual ownership committee meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>; they would like to get as much Pool owned generation for winter events as they can. He is assisting the new staff at MSDC going over the property catalog MMU assisted with creating and their budget; also, MSDC is having an open house on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 p.m. Provided information for the Solar Farm environmental study. He and Superintendent Townsend attended the weekly progress meeting with Burns & McDonnell to discuss the WWTP project. He attended the weekly FEMA meeting; Superintendent Townsend is working on completing the bids for replacement items.

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Mr. Bryant made a motion to approve and issue warrants from the following funds for cash disbursements to accounts payable.

WATER OPERATING FUND	\$ 97,564.70
ELECTRIC OPERATING FUND	\$ 192,926.33
SEWER REVENUE FUND	\$ 65,839.05
INTERNET OPERATING FUND	\$ 33,208.32
NATURAL GAS OPERATING FUND	\$ 196.49
ELECTRIC CONSUMER DEPOSIT FUND	\$ 2,400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 392,134.89</b>

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mills and passed with a vote of 3-0.

The next Regular Board meeting will be Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Following a motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Mills, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:45 a.m. to go into an Executive Session to discuss matters under Mo Rev. Stat. 610.021 (Supp. 2009) concerning: legal, confidential or privileged information [1]. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Roll call: Steve Mills yes  
Ken Bryant yes  
Spencer Fricke yes  
Wick Jacobi yes

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
/s/ Steve Mills \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary