

08/10/2023

The regular meeting of the Stuart Municipal Utility Board was called to order on the above date at 5:30 pm by Board Chairman Gulbranson (over the phone.) Present were Board Members Belden, Jones and Avey. Also present were City Administrator Ashour, Deputy Clerk Stouffer, Utility Superintendent Pat Howey, Matt Funk, Trevor Nelson, Dustin Foster, Bruce Nuzum, and Steven Benne.

Moved by Jones, seconded by Belden to approve the Agenda.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved by Jones, seconded by Belden to approve the Consent Agenda:

A- Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of 07/13/2023 and Special Meeting of 07/20/2023

B- Approval of Financial Statement as of 07/31/2023

C- Approval of bills as presented

Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved by Avey, seconded by Jones to approve Elevated Water Storage Tank Pay Application No. 8 to Caldwell Tanks, Inc, (\$271,605.00) for the Elevated Water Storage Tank Project.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved by Avey, seconded by Jones to approve Payment Application No. 11 from Great Plains Contractors, LLC (\$89,600.53) for the Water Mains Improvements Project.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Superintendent Howey made a presentation to the Board regarding the progress of the Elevated Water Storage Tank Project and the Water Mains Improvements Project.

The Board discussed the Wambold Phase 3 (Housing Phase 4) project. The Board decided to table the item until the next joint meeting to further discuss Utility participation in the Wambold Phase 3 (Housing Phase 4) project.

Bruce Nuzum and Steven Benne of the IADG (Iowa Area Development Group) made a presentation to the Board regarding the Utility sponsoring Karl Chevrolet's application for a Rural Economic Development Loan through the USDA.

Moved by Avey, seconded by Jones to request that CIPCO sponsor Karl Chevrolet's application for a Rural Economic Development Loan through the USDA, and that Stuart Municipal Utilities remain a second option for sponsorship, to be discussed at a future meeting if necessary.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Superintendent Howey discussed with the Board the proposed Task Order #7 from DGR Engineering regarding a plan to address the growing electric needs of the customers of Stuart Municipal Utilities.

Moved by Gulbranson to accept Task Order #7 as submitted by DGR.

There was no second to the motion.

Motion not carried.

The item was tabled.

Renee Von Bokern of Von Bokern & Associates discussed with the Board the proper process for union employee wage and position changes, and requested the discussion continue under closed session.

Moved by Avey, seconded by Belden to go into closed session for an exempt bargaining strategy meeting under Iowa Code Chapter 20.17(3) Negotiation sessions, strategy meetings of public employers, mediation, and the deliberative process of arbitrators shall be exempt from the provisions of Chapter 21.

Roll Call: Ayes: Avey, Belden, Gulbranson, Jones
Nays: none

Closed Session began at 6:05 pm.

Moved by Avey, seconded by Jones to end closed session.

Roll Call: Ayes: Avey, Belden, Gulbranson, Jones
Nays: none

Closed session ended at 7:00 pm.

The Board approved the Monthly Reports submitted by City Administrator Ashour which included the Financial Report, Delinquent Account Report, Payment Agreement Report, Budget Billing Report, and Offset Program Report.

Adjournment at 7:05pm

Minutes submitted by Deputy Clerk Stouffer.

John Gulbranson, Chairman

Ashraf Ashour, City Administrator