

09/11/2023

The Joint Meeting of the Stuart City Council and Stuart Municipal Utility Board was called to order on the above date at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Cook and Utility Board Chairman Gulbranson. Present were Council Members Kalbach, Kirkpatrick, Morgan, Doely, and Renslow. Present were Utility Board Members Belden and Russell. Also present were City Administrator Ashour, Utility Superintendent Howey, Deputy Clerk Stouffer, Chip Schultz, Bob Cook, Matt Funk, Jim Henderson, Brenda Dudley, Crystal Kirkpatrick, Austin Yates and Alan Bovee.

Moved by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Morgan to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved by Russell, seconded by Belden to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Financial Advisor Chip Schultz made a presentation to the Council and the Board regarding the Wind Turbine Agreement between the City and the Utility, and the current Utility participation in City projects.

The Council and the Board discussed the Board's participation in the Wambold Phase 3 (Housing Phase 4) project. The Board tabled the item.

Board Member Belden made a presentation regarding hiring attorney Tim Whipple to ask for an estimate of cost for a study and opinion regarding options to increase utility revenue. Belden offered to schedule a consultation call with Whipple. The Board and Council discussed the proposal, and agreed to allow Board Member Belden to gather more information.

Mayor Cook requested an update on the status of installing additional lighting at the Soccer Complex. Public Works Director Henderson informed the Mayor that work would begin late fall at the soonest. Henderson will meet with utility employees to plan the placement of the lighting.

Traffic Engineer Austin Yates of the Iowa D.O.T. (Department of Transportation) made a presentation regarding automated traffic enforcement. Yates informed the Council and Board that the D.O.T. cannot approve or deny the use of traffic enforcement cameras, but will help the City to follow the recommended guidelines if it chooses to pursue the program. Yates also informed the Council that, based on the data gathered by the D.O.T., the average speed of traffic on Interstate 80 where it lies within city limits is below the threshold for issuing municipal infractions, and the crash data does not indicate that the presence of a camera would prevent crashes. Yates also discussed the \$6,310,450.00 of revenue generated by automated traffic enforcement infractions during the first ten months of use for Prairie City, Iowa.

Councilmember Renslow requested to form a subcommittee with members of the Council and Utility Board, Brenda Dudley of Midwest Partnership, and City and Utility staff to look into the

possibility of working together to certify site plans with the intention to draw larger companies to the City of Stuart.

Adjournment at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Deputy Clerk Stouffer.

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Dick Cook, Mayor

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John Gulbranson, Utility Board Chairman

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Ashraf Ashour, City Administrator