CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES
PUBLIC UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018

REGULAR MEETING

Regular meeting of the Public Utility Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico held in the City Commission Chambers, 405 W. 3rd Street, at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 15, 2018.

INTRODUCTION:

ROLL CALL:

Jeff Dornbusch, Vice-Chairman
Ron Pacourek, Member
Ed Williams, Member

ABSENT:
George Szigeti, Chairman
Randy Ashbaugh, Member

ALSO PRESENT:
Bo Easley, Electric Division Director
Andy Alvarez, Sanitation Director
Arnie Castaneda, Water/Wastewater Supervisor
Traci Burnette, Grant/Projects Coordinator
Priscilla Fuentes, Electric Division Administrative Assistant
Kristen Weddle, Sanitation Department Administrative Assistant
Angela A. Torres, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Chairman Dornbusch called for approval of the agenda.

Member Pacourek moved to approve the agenda with the change of the date to the minutes. Member Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Member Pacourek moved to approve the minutes. Member Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Klaus Wittern commented on the recommended proposal for the AMR and AMI Project. It was meant to be the written as a proposal. He looked through the numbers and it appeared to him that the written
proposal did not include GRT taxes, whereas the resource vice proposal did include it, and that would make a difference of about $50,000. He feels that the City Commission should investigate that. Both proposals in his opinion are inconsistent with what the Commissions previous directed which was to go to AMI verses the AMR. In his opinion, AMR is old history, old technology, and is not sufficient for the public to benefit from it. He also recommended that the city go out for RFP because so far you have only had 3 proposals.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Member Williams addressed Mr. Wittern’s comment by saying, at the last meeting when they approved the proposal to move forward, it was with the understanding that GRT would be looked into as well as the correction of any numbers, and the reason why they went this direction was because of cost. As far as an RFP, those two entities that existed were there to help Municipalities.

Discussion/Update: Electric Department – Electric Division Director Bo Easley:

Electric Division Director Bo Easley reported the following:

- High school Fitness Center - The electric portion is completed and everything is coming along very well.
- The Corona and Cielo Vista Subdivision – Bixby Electric has all of the conduit in the ground, they have all of the wire pulled, and all of the new transformers are set. They will soon start hooking up the new wire in the transformers. The project should be completed in about 3 weeks.
- Substation Battery Replacement – HEI should be here within the next few weeks to start the project and get the batteries at the substation.
- Mud Mountain Antenna – The Commission approved a new tower replacement. He has been working on the contracts with KRQE, KASA, & KOB. The contracts had not been re-done since 2012.
- First Savings Bank – They are just waiting on the electricians to start on their side. They will be adding a new Padmount transformer and run power up the new pole.
- AMR Meter Project – Even if it has a state contract, anything over $60,000 still has to have 3 quotes. They will be looking into the difference between an AMR and an AMI system and he’ll take it to the Commission.
- NMDOT Roundabout Project – They received the 60% drawings and he submitted his paperwork on the poles that need to be moved for that project.
- Housing Authority Solar – The Housing Authority will adding solar to their properties on Cedar, Riverside, Coleman and 3rd Street.
comes on board, he can work to start separating these departments to Water only and Wastewater only because the combination of these two departments are unique to T or C (as far as he knows).

The board asked that Ms. Torres forward this information to the Interim City Manager and that the item be brought back to the next meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:
There were no additional comments from the board.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF:
There were no additional comments from staff.

ADJOURNMENT:
There being no further business to come before the Public Utility Advisory Board, George Szigeti, Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned.

February 19, 2019

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of August, 2018.

[Signature]
Jeff Cornhusch, Vice-Chairman
Public Utility Advisory Board