

November 20, 2020

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in special session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 1:30 p.m. on the above date. To help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this meeting was held electronically. Chapter 21.8 of the Iowa Code allows for an electronic meeting where all members participate remotely when an in-person meeting is impossible or impractical. Present on the conference call were Trustees Richard Main, Jerry Runneberg and Ben Storms. Also present were Larry Butler of Oakhill Consulting and General Manager Chad Cleveland.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the agenda for the November 20, 2020 special meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Larry Butler of Oakhill Consulting went over the proposed Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) Project and the fiber material quotes received. Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to accept the fiber material quote from Power & Telephone of \$482,291.42. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Larry Butler left the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to conduct a public hearing on the proposed Calendar Year 2021 Budget at the Municipal Building on December 7, 2020 beginning at 11:35 a.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on Retransmission Consent Negotiations. Retransmission Consent is a 30 year old federal law that empowers broadcasters, including corporations that own TV stations that carry networks such as ABC, CBS, FOX, and NBC, to charge fees to cable providers for the rights to carry or "retransmit" their signals. These signals are free over the air if you use an antenna. Laurens is in the Des Moines DMA, so we must carry all the Des Moines channels. We will continue to carry KTIV out of Sioux City because of their reasonable rates. Laurens will be dropping the Mankato stations since we cannot get a reliable signal. The Board directed the General Manager to continue the negotiations and get the best rates we can for the next three (3) years.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to renew our group health insurance plan with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield through Woodley Insurance. The renewal goes into effect on December 1, 2020 and runs through November 30, 2021. The Utility will be staying with the same health plan code ERF and drug code RQ9. The Utility will continue to partially self-fund the group health insurance plan as follows:

<u>ERF/RQ9</u>		<u>Administered As</u>
\$2,500 / \$5,000	Deductibles	\$250 / \$500
\$5,000 / \$10,000	Out-Of-Pocket Maximums	\$1,000 / \$2,000
\$8 / \$35 / \$50	Drug Plan	\$8 / \$25 / \$40

Single coverage monthly premium will be \$687.88. Family coverage monthly premium will be \$1,719.75. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to renew our group dental insurance plan with Blue Dental through Woodley Insurance. The renewal goes into effect December 1, 2020 and runs through November 30, 2021. The Utility will be using dental plan code 206. Single coverage monthly premium will be \$44.50. Family coverage monthly premium will be \$146.70. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

General Manager Chad Cleveland reported that the monthly premiums for our group Life, AD&D, Short-term Disability and Long-term Disability insurance plan with Principal through Woodley Insurance will not change for calendar year 2021.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: _____
Secretary, Board of Trustees