

PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 27, 2022

The Public Utility Board met in regular session on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room located on the Upper Level of City Hall. Roll call was taken, and members of the Board present were: John Bell, Charlie James, Richard Vaughn, and Charles Williams. Absent was member Whit McCoskrie. Also present were: Lauren EH Nelson, Council Liaison; Renee Tyler, Director of Administration; Courtney L. Doyle, Asst. Deputy Director of Administration/City Clerk; Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities; and Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the April 25, 2022 Board meeting were presented for approval.

Motion was offered by Charles Williams and seconded by John Bell to approve the minutes of April 25, 2022, as presented. Motion carried with four members of the Board voting in favor, and one member (McCoskrie) absent.

The minutes of the May 23, 2022 Board meeting were presented for approval.

Motion was offered by Charles Williams and seconded by Richard Vaughn to approve the minutes of May 23, 2022, as presented. Motion carried with four members of the Board voting in favor, and one member (McCoskrie) absent.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Utility Financial Report for May 2022 was presented to the Board for review and discussion. Kathy Holschlag, Chief Financial Officer, offered to answer any questions.

Holschlag stated sales tax collections are up 21% in comparison to last year.

Holschlag noted the Gas Fund experienced a loss month-to-date and remains ahead year-to-date; she cautioned this lead will not continue with the required MUELP gas loan repayments. The Water Fund experienced a slight operational loss.

After some review and discussion, motion was offered by John Bell and seconded by Charles Williams to accept the Financial Report for May 2022, as presented. Motion carried with four members of the Board voting in favor, and one member (McCoskrie) absent.

SUBJECTS OF DISCUSSION:

- a. Market update (Gas and Electric).

Prior to the market update, John Bell mentioned continued issues with overturned trash cans and cans being left out at the curb. Renee Tyler, Director of Administration, noted this has been a discussion both internally and with the City Council.

Tyler stated it would be helpful to have a recommendation of action from the Public Utility Board. Charles Williams stated he believes an increasing fee should be implemented for people who leave their carts past trash collection day. Williams stated he doesn't want to see Fulton have issues with debris and rodents moving ahead. Tyler encouraged Williams and the other Board members to convey their thoughts to the Councilmembers as well.

Following some discussion, motion was offered by Charles Williams and seconded by Richard Vaughn to recommend the Council pass an ordinance to implement the following policy and fee structure:

If a receptacle (trash or recycling) is left out at the curb or not removed following trash collection, a warning should first be issued by the placement of a sticker on the can and a letter shall be issued to the tenant and landlord (or property owner on file with the Callaway County Assessor's Office) after each offense. For each day or new offense, an increasing fee shall be imposed and added to the utility bill. The calendar for the number of offenses shall reset on January 1st annually.

Offense (Past initial warning)	Fee per offense
1 st	\$5.00
2 nd	\$10.00
3 rd	\$25.00
4 th	\$50.00
5 th and all subsequent offenses	\$100.00

Darrell Dunlap, Superintendent of Utilities, provided the clarification that the utilities can be shut off if these fees are not paid as these are utility fees. Motion carried with four members of the Board voting in favor, and one member (McCoskrie) absent.

This proposed policy will be reviewed by City Counselor Tom Riley prior to consideration by the City Council.

Dunlap provided a market overview for both gas and electric with an emphasis of daily load costs. Fluctuations are causing increased costs to the city; so far, the city has had nine days where costs were higher than expected. Dunlap noted that strategic purchasing has helped the city minimize the impact and limit the severity.

b. Grant updates.

Dunlap stated there are a number of utility improvement projects the city will apply for through the state ARPA funding program. The applications are due mid-July, and the city will provide a 21% match to assist with getting points towards the award of these funds.

Dunlap noted the city will also apply for a federal gas grant and will be hiring a vendor to assist with this grant application as it is more tedious and complicated.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Dunlap reported he and Tyler have begun preliminary research into electric car chargers that the city could obtain and place in key locations. The city would act as a distributor for these chargers.

Tyler stated there is an opportunity to not only place these chargers in Fulton, but in other municipalities across the county as well. There is also an opportunity to provide these chargers for citizens to have access to electric charge for at-home use. The city has the advantage of being a utility provider, and Tyler noted the plan is becoming more tangible. Additional information will be available in the coming months.

Charlie James stated he has served a number of terms on the Public Utility Board, and he has decided not to renew his appointment. His final meeting is today, and he expressed his sincere appreciation to the city

and to his fellow Board members for their diligent work. The Board members and city staff also conveyed their appreciation for Charlie's continued wisdom and leadership for many years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no need for an executive session at this Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Public Utility Board, motion was offered by John Bell and seconded by Charles Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with four members of the Board voting in favor, and one member (McCoskrie) absent. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney L. Doyle, CMC/MRCC
Asst. Deputy Director of Administration /
City Clerk