

October 2021 Utility and Telecom Regular Board Meeting

The regular Board meeting of the Board of Trustees for Alta Municipal Utilities and Alta Municipal Broadband Telecommunications Utility, City of Alta, Iowa was held at City Hall on October 12, 2021.

Chairman Clyde Bartel called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present – Clyde Bartel, Todd Peterson, Gloria Sanders, Megan Schreck, Rob Hach
Also, present – Randy Tilk, Pam Henderson, Larry Suter, Vi Tilk

AGENDA There was an addition of “2022 Budget” posted to the Trustee agenda at City Hall. Sanders made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Schreck. Ayes: All Nays: None

UTILITY AND TELECOM MINUTES Sanders moved to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2021, Municipal Utilities and Telecommunications meeting. Seconded by Peterson. Ayes: All Nays: None

UTILITY CLAIMS LIST The following bills were presented for approval:

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE Utilities	FOR	SEPT 21 PD OCT 21
Alliant Energy	Service	\$151.86
Alta-Aurelia Community School	Yearbook	\$25.00
Alta, City of	Rental reimbursement	\$75.00
Alta, City of	SW-LF-EL	\$45,180.33
Alta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	\$4,245.08
Altatec	Phone	\$271.28
Bankers Trust	WS4 payment	\$8,000.00
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$311.05
Bonnesen Plumbing	Service	\$8,040.00
Border States	Supplies	\$935.85
BV Co. Solid Waste	Service	\$13.65
Card Connect	Service fee	\$401.88
Cardmember Service	Public relations	\$37.50
Community Oil	Fuel	\$110.74
Drzycimski, Stephanie	Travel expense	\$86.80
Foundation Analytical	Service	\$26.00
4 Seasons Plumbing	Service	\$219.35
Hach Company	Chemicals	\$712.98
Hawkins	Chemicals	\$1,051.79
Hirschman Auto	Supplies	\$69.87
Hy-Vee	Supplies	\$72.23
IDNR	Permit	\$95.00
Iowa Department of Revenue	Water excise tax	\$3,789.34
Itron	Maintenance/hardware	\$3,586.21

KAYL	Public relations	\$78.75
Langschwager, Mitch	Travel expense	\$344.96
Larson Oil	Supplies	\$428.70
Madison National	Insurance	\$32.97
Mike's Electronics	Service	\$95.00
NeoTek	Service	\$166.00
NIMECA	August power	\$26,200.92
Office Elements	Supplies	\$98.25
Pilot Tribune	Public relations	\$169.63
Pitney Bowes	Postage	\$69.12
Redig's Gravel	Supplies	\$412.63
Schuller, Joyce	Rebate	\$50.00
Seneca Companies	Service	\$6,011.68
Skarshaug Testing	Service	\$318.98
Storm Lake Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$252.54
Sutton, Cory	Flex reimbursement	\$436.00
Treasurer State of Iowa	September sales tax	\$2,902.50
Treasurer State of Iowa	Use tax	\$212.31
U.S. Cellular	Service	\$30.70
Van Wert Co.	Supplies	\$5,863.91
Wages	September	\$26,303.89
WAPA	August power	\$19,513.75
WAPA	O & M revenue meter	\$500.00
Wesco	Supplies	\$3,086.39

TOTAL SEPT 21 PD OCT 21 **\$171,088.37**

Sanders moved to approve payment of the utility claims as presented. Hach seconded the motion. Ayes: All Nays: None

Total revenues for the Electric and Water Utilities were \$225,689.43.

TELECOM CLAIMS The following bills were presented for approval:
LIST

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	FOR	SEPT 21 PD OCT 21
Telecom		
Alliant	Service	\$235.38
Alta-Aurelia Community School	Yearbook	\$25.00
Alta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	\$1,238.04
Altatec	Phone	\$321.72
Altatec	DID line charge	\$1,666.08
Aureon	DA/Calea/transport	\$104.81
Bally Sports N	September access	\$1,425.00
Big Ten Network	September access	\$524.40
Buena Vista County E911	September	\$226.15
Card Connect	Service fee	\$401.87
Cardmember Service	Public relations	\$37.50
Century Link	Access	\$176.89
Community Oil	Fuel	\$231.71

Consortia	August service	\$975.00
Freese, David	Internet CR refund	\$48.34
Hy-Vee	Supplies	\$72.23
Interstate TRS Fund	Assessment	\$103.89
KAYL	Public relations	\$78.75
Long Lines	Access	\$14,241.73
Lumen	DA	\$47.61
Lynam, Stephanie	CATV/Internet CR refund	\$104.83
MLB Network	August access	\$151.90
NCTC	September access	\$17,085.99
NeoTek	Service	\$166.00
Nexstar	September access	\$1,083.00
Office Elements	Supplies	\$98.24
Pilot Tribune	Public relations	\$169.63
Pitney Bowes	Postage	\$69.12
Showtime	September access	\$42.99
Treasurer State of Iowa	September sales tax	\$2,327.58
Treasurer State of Iowa	Use tax	\$25.34
United Bank	Telecom Bond	\$1,960.22
U.S. Treasury	Federal excise tax	\$614.35
Wages	September	\$14,729.25
Westphalen, Jordan	Internet CR refund	\$48.63
TOTAL SEPT 21 PD OCT 21		\$60,859.17

Sanders moved to approve payment of the telecom claims as presented. Schreck seconded the motion. Ayes: All Nays: None

Total revenues for the Telephone and Cable/Internet Utilities were \$71,967.88.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The board performed a detailed review of the financial reports and power cost report. Tilk commented that electric costs were getting back to normal levels but the coal base plants have been operating this last month to give us credits for excess sales on our NIMECA Power Bill.

WATER RATES FOR 2022

Tilk commented on Public Financial Management's financial proforma and the suggested rate increase of 2 1/2% to keep the Water Department finances on track and to keep current with our bonding responsibilities of positive cash flow. Rural customer water costs were also discussed. Hach made the motion to introduce Resolution # 522 entitled "RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WATER RATES FOR 2022" with the 2 1/2% increase along with the Rural Customer's rate reduced to \$7.82 per thousand gallons and moved that the same be adopted. Peterson seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was,

AYES: Hach, Peterson, Schreck, Sanders, Bartel
NAYS: None

Whereupon the Chairperson declared Resolution #522 duly adopted as follows:

RESOLUTION # 522

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WATER RATES FOR 2022

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Municipal Utilities of the City of Alta, Iowa, that water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Section 1: Residential – Inside Corporate Limits – Rate 1-0

Water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Service fee per meter ----- \$45.81 per meter per month
All gallons ----- @ \$7.82 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill is the service fee per meter and all water used.

Section 2: Residential –Outside Corporate Limits – Rate 2-0.

Water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Service fee per meter ----- \$54.95 per meter per month
All gallons ----- @ \$7.82 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill is the service fee per meter and all water used.

Section 3: Small Commercial – Inside Corporate Limits (5/8”-3/4” water line) – Rate 3-0.

Water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Service fee per meter ----- \$54.95 per meter per month
All gallons ----- @ \$7.82 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill is the service fee per meter and all water used.

Section 4: Large Commercial – Inside Corporate Limits (1”-1 ½” water line) – Rate 4-0.

Water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Service fee per meter ----- \$73.28 per meter per month
All gallons ----- @ \$7.82 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill is the service fee per meter and all water used.

Section 5: Industrial (2” and larger water line)– Rate 5-0.

Water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Service fee per meter ----- \$91.64 per meter per month
All gallons ----- @ \$7.82 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill is the service fee per meter and all water used.

Section 6: Government/Schools (1” and larger water line) – Rate 7-0.

Water shall be furnished at the monthly rate per meter as follows:

Service fee per meter ----- \$64.13 per meter per month
All gallons ----- @ \$7.82 per 1,000 gallons
Minimum Bill is the service fee per meter and all water used.

Section 7: State Sales Tax shall be added to all the above rates and all other water service charges.

Section 8: Effective date shall be December 15, 2021, and enacted with the January 2022 billing statement.

Section 9: All resolutions and water department rules in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Passed and approved this 12th day of October 2022.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Secretary of the Board of Trustees

WATER UPDATES The master meter pit was installed at the west trailer court that serves water to trailers #19-59 on the 11th and has recorded abnormal usage for trailers being served. All the meters for the trailers have been changed as of September 15th. This will be the first time in over ten years that all the water to the court area will be accounted for and billed. This will help with AMU’s water losses on the system and cheapen treatment costs.

Maguire Iron has found time to paint the water tower the week of the 18th and the system will be running off pumps for pressure. SCE is going to replace a broken valve to the tower while it is offline.

Hydrant flushing will be delayed a couple weeks weather permitting.

TELECOM Tilk commented on the finances of the telecom and the needed rate increased for CATV to cover programming costs.

The Telecom Clerk attended a Long Lines training session for a new billing system.

ELECTRIC	The DGR electric rate study is close to being completed.
2022 ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES	Residential and commercial rebates were discussed. Sanders made the motion to approve the current Residential and Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs into 2022. Seconded by Hach. Ayes: All Nays: None Reminder: 2021 rebate forms must be received by February 28, 2022 to be processed.
TELECOM CLERK VACATION BENEFITS	Discussion was held on Stephanie Drzycimski learning the telecom clerk position and granting vacation. Hach made the motion to grant Drzycimski a week of vacation (5 days). Seconded by Schreck. Ayes: All Nays: None
TRUSTEE DISCUSSION	Hach commented that it is efficient to the community of Alta the way that the Trustee Board is currently run and should not be changed.
MANAGER'S REPORT	The City and AMU just received the employee health insurance benefit information. There is a 6.63% increase in renewal premiums for 2022 along with some minor changes. Premiums for 2021 seen a decrease of 4.4%. Discussion was held with Henderson on a possible joint meeting with the Council if needed to approve the increase before the December renewal date. Bartel asked to check on paint curing temperatures for the tower.
NEXT MEETING DATES	The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. at Alta City Hall.
MOTION TO ADJOURN	Motion made by Sanders to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. Seconded by Hach. Ayes: All Nays: None

Randy Tilk
Randy Tilk
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Alta Municipal Utilities and
Alta Municipal Broadband Communications Utility