

November 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 November 9, 2021.

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

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

AGENDA Sanders made the motion to approve the agenda as posted. Seconded by Hach.
Ayes: All Nays: None

UTILITY AND TELECOM MINUTES Sanders moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 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	OCT 21 PD NOV 21
Ahlers & Cooney	Legal service	\$61.50
Alliant Energy	Service	\$163.68
Alta, City of	SW-LF-EL	\$42,336.12
Alta Golf & Country Club	Rebates	\$415.85
Alta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	\$5,393.32
Altatec	Phone	\$283.13
Bankers Trust	November WS4	\$3,000.00
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$786.98
Card Connect	Service fee	\$393.46
Cardmember Service	Travel/public relations	\$548.24
Central Iowa Distributing	Supplies	\$646.64
Elevate Roofing	Service	\$5,040.77
First Coop	Fuel	\$27.75
Four Seasons Plumbing	Service	\$229.60
Foundation Analytical	Service	\$364.00
Gworks	Tech support/license fee	\$3,507.78
Hach Co.	Chemicals	\$3,863.54
Hawkins	Chemicals	\$5,612.39
Hy-Vee	Supplies	\$5.33
IAMU	Training	\$225.00
Iowa Dept. of Revenue	Water excise tax	\$3,754.16
Iowa One Call	Service	\$27.90
Johnson, Shirley	Rebate	\$70.00
Kleinschmit, Melissa	Deposit refund	\$300.00
Langschwager, Mitch	Travel expense	\$312.96

Loffler	Copier contract	\$39.73
Lynam, Stephanie	Deposit refund	\$300.00
Madison National Life	Insurance	\$32.85
Maguire Iron	Service	\$44,976.00
Mike's Electronics	Service	\$317.50
NeoTek	Service	\$166.00
NIMECA	FERC legal fees	\$157.29
NIMECA	Water heaters	\$5,863.07
NIMECA	September power	\$15,874.46
Office Elements	Supplies	\$138.38
Pilot Tribune	Public relations	\$86.22
Pitney Bowes	Annual fee/supplies	\$85.56
Power Solutions	Service/supplies	\$98.55
Prins, Jessica	Deposit refund	\$300.00
Redig's	Supplies	\$436.83
Rust's Western Shed	Service	\$11.77
SCE, LLC	Service	\$3,981.02
Storm Lake Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$117.89
Sutton, Cory	Flex reimbursement	\$1,383.60
Tilk, Randy	Flex reimbursement/rebate	\$767.65
Treasurer State of Iowa	October sales tax	\$2,854.36
Treasurer State of Iowa	Unclaimed property	\$702.34
US Bank	Copier contract	\$60.26
U. S. Cellular	Service	\$32.35
Van Meter	Supplies	\$1,226.84
Wages	October	\$28,207.20
WAPA	September power	\$16,527.59
Wesco	Supplies	\$5,128.28
Westphalen, Jordan	Deposit refund	\$300.00
TOTAL OCT 21 PD NOV 21		\$207,543.69

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

Total revenues for the Electric and Water Utilities were \$213,328.91.

TELECOM CLAIMS The following bills were presented for approval:
LIST

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	FOR	OCT 21 PD NOV 21
Telecom		
Ahlers & Cooney	Legal service	\$61.50
Alliant	Service	\$218.50
Alta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	\$1,208.42
Altatec	Internet DID line charge	\$1,666.08
Altatec	Phone	\$333.56
Aureon	DA/Calea/transport	\$106.01
Big Ten Network	October access	\$531.30
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$70.54

Buena Vista County E911	October	\$226.67
Card Connect	Service fee	\$393.46
Cardmember Services	Travel/public relations	\$287.47
Century Link	Access	\$176.89
Consortia	September service	\$975.00
Gibson, Fred	Travel expense	\$117.20
Hy-Vee	Supplies	\$5.32
IAMU	Training	\$130.00
Interstate TRS	Assessment	\$103.89
Iowa One Call	Service	\$27.90
Loffler	Copier contract	\$39.72
Long Lines	Access	\$7,787.85
Lumen	DA	\$47.61
MLB Network	September access	\$151.90
NCTC	October access	\$17,145.77
NeoTek	Service	\$166.00
Nexstar	October access	\$1,097.25
O'Bannon, Abigail	Internet CR refund	\$64.09
Office Elements	Supplies	\$138.38
Pilot Tribune	Public relations	\$86.22
Pitney Bowes	Annual fee/supplies	\$85.55
Power Solutions	Service/supplies	\$108.38
Showtime	October access	\$42.99
Treasurer State of Iowa	October sales tax	\$2,389.99
Treasurer State of Iowa	Unclaimed property	\$126.56
Trent Chinn Promotions	Internet CR refund	\$66.95
United Bank	Telecom bond	\$1,960.22
US Bank	Copier contract	\$60.24
Wages	October	\$12,306.01
TOTAL OCT 21 PD NOV 21		\$50,511.39

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

Total revenues for the Telephone and Cable/Internet Utilities were \$73,066.68.

PUBLIC FORUM

Suter asked about the electric underground conversion and the next project. Manager Tilk commented on the progress of the current project with cutting over secondary services that will finish in 2022, the new services that take priority, and just getting our apprentice lineman back on Monday. The next main project will be the alley going south of the substation with single phase primary to the park and could start this year with installing some conduits by the water tower. This would correspond with a lighting project of ALTA's on the tower that the City is part of. The installation of single versus three-phase primary circuits on the entire system were commented on and loads.

Henderson commented that as a Council member, she needs to know what is going on in the utilities so she can respond to the residents that contact her and more joint meetings between the Council and Trustees need to be scheduled like in the past. Tilk commented on the reasons for the past meetings. Bartel asked what she, the Council, and her contacts wanted the Board of Trustees to accomplish and that joint meetings must be productive with goals to move forward on. Discussion was held on knowing what the City and AMU are doing for the year, tree trimming, equipment sharing, and supporting local such as the telecommunications.

**FINANCIAL
REPORTS**

The board performed a detailed review of the financial reports and power cost report.

WATER UPDATES

Tilk commented that the painting and maintenance upgrades at the water tower were completed and inspected. The tower will be filled Thurs and water testing will be completed before serving the system. Water main and service line leaks commented on. Hydrant flushing might get delayed until spring with the freezing temperatures ahead.

**TELECOM RATES
FOR 2022**

Discussion was held on the increased costs in cable programming and rates for 2022. Hach made the motion to introduce Resolution # 523 entitled "RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TELECOMMUNICATION RATES FOR 2022" with rates as discussed. Peterson seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was,

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

Whereupon the Chairperson declared Resolution # 523 duly adopted as follows:

RESOLUTION # 523

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TELECOMMUNICATION RATES FOR 2022

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Alta Municipal Broadband Communication Utility of the City of Alta, Iowa, that the following services and fees be offered for sale to the customers of Alta Municipal Utilities:

- A. TELEPHONE (all prices per month)
 - a. Residential Phone - \$18.95
 - b. Business Phone - \$35.95
 - c. Call Feature Package (Caller ID, Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, Voicemail) - \$3.50
 - d. Long Distance - \$0.11/minute
 - e. Block of 100 minutes - \$5.95

f. Block of 200 minutes - \$9.95

B. CABLE TV (all prices per month)

- a. Broadcast Starter - \$41.95
- b. Basic Plus - \$99.95
- c. Digital Box – Regular (1 TV) - \$14.95
- d. Digital Box – DVR (1 TV) - \$20.95
- e. DTA (Digital Transport Adaptor) - \$5.50 each
- f. Additional Digital Box - \$6.95
- g. Additional DVR Box - \$14.05
- h. Note: must have a digital box or premium DTA to receive Variety Plus Programming/ Music Channels at no additional charge and to be able to receive Premium Channels.

C. PREMIUM CHANNELS (all prices per month)

- a. Cinemax - \$13.95
- b. Encore - \$4.95
- c. HBO Package - \$17.95
- d. Showtime - \$17.95
- e. Spanish Package - \$6.95
- f. Starz - \$10.95
- g. Sports Package - \$8.95
- h. If purchasing two or more packages, receive \$1.00 off each package priced \$10.00 or higher and \$0.50 off packages priced below \$10.00.

D. INTERNET (all prices per month)

- a. 15 Mb Residential (3 Mb up) - \$60.95
- b. 30 Mb Residential (5 Mb up) - \$79.95
- c. 50 Mb Residential (5 Mb up) - \$89.95
- d. 100 Mb Residential (5Mb up) - \$99.95
- e. Business Silver (15 Mb – 5 Mb up) - \$66.95
- f. Business Gold (30 Mb – 5 Mb up) - \$85.95
- g. Business Platinum (50 Mb – 10 Mb up) - \$95.95
- h. Business Titanium (100 Mb – 10 Mb up) \$105.95
- g. Modem Rental Fee -\$5.00 (waived with multiple services)
- h. Note: Customer must provide wireless router that meets AMU specs for quality of service.

E. PACKAGES (all prices per month)

- a. Value Plan: Basic Phone with Popular Feature Package, 15 Mb High Speed Internet, and Basic Plus TV Programming for \$160.95.
- b. Value Plus Plan: Basic Phone with Popular Feature Package, 30 Mb High Speed Internet, and Basic Plus TV Programming for \$177.95.
- c. Gold Plan – 15 Mb High Speed Internet and Basic Variety Plus TV Programming with Digital DVR Box for \$159.95.
- d. Gold Plus Plan – Basic Phone with Popular Feature Package, 15 Mb High Speed Internet and Basic Variety Plus TV Programming with Digital DVR Box for \$178.95.

- e. Platinum Plan – 30 Mb High Speed Internet and Basic Variety Plus TV Programming with Digital DVR Box for \$175.95.
- f. Platinum Plus Plan – Basic Phone with Popular Feature Package, 30 Mb High Speed Internet and Basic Variety Plus TV Programming with Digital DVR Box for \$195.95.
- g. Diamond Plan – 50 Mb High Speed Internet and Basic Variety Plus TV Programming with Digital DVR Box for \$184.95.

Residential Value Plans not listed may include combinations of Internet of different speeds, Basic Plus Cable with or without box, and phone. A combination of three services will receive a twelve percent packaged discount and a combination of two will receive a ten percent packaged discount.

F. INSTALLATION AND SERVICE FEES

- a. Service installation fee of \$89.95, includes the first cable jack and labor up to one hour.
- b. Any additional cable jack installations to provide services are time and material.
- c. Customer Service Charge Rate is \$70.00 an hour for service calls and repairs. \$10.00 minimum charge.
- d. Existing infrastructure will be repaired as needed on a time and material basis except for repair of the first primary cable jack at the discretion of the telecom technician.
- e. Repairs to customer related damaged infrastructure not related to normal wear and tear will be on a time and material basis.
- f. Cable installation for new residential housing will be charge on a material basis to recover costs.
- g. Note: AMU is not responsible for inadequate cable quality in existing installations.
- h. Temporary Disconnect \$50.00.

G. EQUIPMENT AND REPACEMENT COST

- a. Current cost of equipment plus 25%.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above fees for services replace all other fees for like services. Effective date of new fees will be January 1, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman and Secretary are directed to execute Resolution # 523 in the form approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9th day of November, 2021.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Secretary of the Board of Trustees

ELECTRIC
UPDATES

Progress on the DGR electric rate study was discussed. The Engineer commented that our financials are where they should be and a meeting is needed to finalize the path for the study for future Green power requirements. Hach and Bartel volunteered to attend the meeting to be scheduled the first of December.

The Discussion was held on some communication issues with replacing just one of the EMCP controllers for the panels on the two generators and the need for reliability. Tilk commented that the new proposal would save almost \$5,000 if installed at the same time. Hach made the motion to proceed with the changing both EMCP controllers with Ziegler's proposal cost of \$32,404.33. Seconded by Bartel. Ayes: All Nays: None

Tilk commented that the Versalift bucket truck is out of service to have some work done on it.

2022 BUDGET

The Board reviewed the budget detail of revenues and expenses for the proposed 2022 Electric, Water, Telephone, and CATV/Internet Budgets. Hach moved to schedule a public hearing for the calendar year 2022 budget on November 23, 2021, to be held at Alta City Hall at 4:30 p.m. Seconded by Sanders. Ayes: All Nays: None

EMPLOYEE
HEALTH
INSURANCE
RENEWAL

Henderson was asked how the Council decided on the employee's health insurance renewal. Hach made the motion to renew the current employee health plan with an increase of 6.63%. Seconded by Sanders. Ayes: All Nays: None

MANAGER'S
REPORT

Hach commented on having a City/AMU employee appreciation dinner like they did in the past. Mayor Walsh will be contacted.

NEXT MEETING
DATES

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. at Alta City Hall.

MOTION TO
ADJOURN

Motion made by Hach to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Seconded by Sanders. Ayes: All Nays: None

Randy Tilk

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