

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 24, 2024  
5:30 P.M.

Present:	John Ortwerth William Fisher Darrell McCoy Kellie Cookson	President Vice President Secretary Board Member
	Darrin Gordon Courtney Harris Mathew Munzlinger Matthew Jones Paul Trenhaile Erica Mitchell	General Manager Administrative Support Specialist Director of Operations Senior IT Specialist Finance Director Coordinator of Customer & Community Relations
	Barry Louderman Mike Dobson Robert Koehn	Mayor Mayor Pro Tem City Councilman
	James Lemon Ethan Matchett	Lemon Law Firm Lemon Law Firm

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m. by President John Ortwerth.

President Ortwerth asked that a motion be made to amend the agenda and switch items II and III.

On motion of William Fisher, seconded by Kellie Cookson, the Board voted unanimously to switch agenda items II and III, beginning with the Review of Board Governance Policy/Review of Lease Purchase Agreement, and moving to Comments from the Audience. Motion Approved.

Member McCoy voiced that he would like to make a motion to table the agenda item Review of Board Governance Policy/Review of Lease Purchase Agreement until the next scheduled Board meeting due to legal review and short notice. President Ortwerth voiced that he felt it would be important to highlight the things the members would be doing a final vote on to approve the final rate structure. Member McCoy stated that it had already been voted on at the last Board meeting.

Motion was made by Darrell McCoy, seconded by Kellie Cookson to table the agenda item Review of Board Governance Policy/Review of Lease Purchase Agreement until the next regular scheduled board meeting. ROLL CALL: AYES - 3: Board Members, Darrell McCoy, Kellie Cookson, & Mayor Louderman. NAYS - 2: Board Members John Ortwerth & William Fisher. Motion Approved.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

NONE

### **SCHEDULE OF RATES & FEES – PAUL TRENHAILE**

Paul Trenhaile presented the redlined draft of the proposed Schedule of Rates and Fees showing the changes from the current schedule. Mr. Trenhaile noted the schedule reflects the 9% increase that was approved at the Board meeting that was held on September 16, 2024. The changes to the current schedule include:

- Increase electric rates by approximately 9%. This includes an increase to the customer charge for customers outside city limits of \$2.45. This would require removing the general rate provision stating there

is a 40% surcharge to the customer charge for customers who live outside city limits. The increase for the average residential customer who uses 1,200 kWh a month would be approximately \$15 a month.

- Increase the customer requested service call outside regular hours from \$80 to \$100.
- Include the meter tampering charges in the Schedule of Rates and Fees. These were already outlined in an internal policy but were not included in the Schedule of Rates and Fees. Increase the 1st violation from \$70 to \$125 and 2nd violation from \$100 to \$250.

Mr. Trenhaile asked the Board Members if they had any further questions regarding the presented changes. Member McCoy stated since the last Board meeting, he gathered the HBPW is within legal rights of charging the customers that are outside of the city limits, and suggested Ethan Matchett take a comprehensive look to make sure the HBPW is within the RSMo (Revised Statutes of Missouri).

Motion was made by Darrell McCoy, seconded by Kellie Cookson to adopt the Schedule of Rates & Fees as presented. ROLL CALL: AYES - 3: Board Members, Darrell McCoy, Kellie Cookson, & Mayor Louderman. NAYS - 2: Board Members John Ortwerth & William Fisher. Motion approved.

Mayor Louderman voiced most of the time when the Board votes it's unanimous and voiced, he has had to weigh in a few times to vote recently at the HBPW meetings. Mayor Louderman noted although he knows it's part of the job, but he would like the Board to come together as a whole and be able to vote accordingly. He asked that the members remember to vote on what is good for the city, and what the citizens can pay and not pay. Member Ortwerth voiced in his history of being on the Board, there is always analysis done in advance, and everyone is very conscious and aware of what's going on. Member Ortwerth noted there is transparency on items, and most things are discussed in previous meetings before making decisions. In his experience, that is why most of the time the decisions are unanimous. President Ortwerth thanked the Mayor for his comment.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Darrell McCoy made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by William Fisher and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:39p.m.



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Darrin Gordon  
General Manager



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Darrell McCoy  
Secretary