MINUTES OF THE COMBINED MEETING OF THE BOUNTIFUL CITY COUNCIL POWER COMMITTEE AND THE BOUNTIFUL CITY POWER COMMISSION

April 7, 2020 - 8:00 a.m.

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42 43 Those in Attendance

Power CommissionPower DepartmentJed Pitcher, ChairmanAllen Johnson, DirectorSusan Becker*Jay ChristensenDan Bell*Alan Farnes*John Cushing*Jess Pearce*Richard Higginson, City Council Rep.Luke Veigel*David Irvine*

Recording Secretary
Nancy Lawrence*

City Council/Mayor

Paul Summers*

Randy Lewis, Mayor* Kendalynn Harris*

City Administration

Gary Hill, City Manager
Galen Rasmussen, Assistant City Manager

WELCOME

Chairman Pitcher called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m., took roll call, and welcomed those in attendance. Jay Christensen offered the invocation.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Johnson welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their attendance. He noted that the staff has worked for several months in preparing the FY 2021 Budget Overview and he thanked them for their hard work. He then turned the time to Jay Christensen to present the proposed budget overview. Mr. Christensen narrated a PowerPoint presentation of the FY 2021 proposed budget for Bountiful City Light & Power, balanced at \$42,210,748. This proposed budget, which is up \$8,006,502, includes:

- 2.0 % increase to Rates (with a two-tier KWH rate system for residential customers)
- Increases to two Connection Fees
- No change to Deposits
- Paying off the 2010 Bond (\$9,350,000)
- Continued emphasis on maintenance and upgrades of transmission and distribution systems; and
- Proposed changes to Electric Rate Schedules and Electric Service Policies & Agreements

^{*}Attended electronically via Zoom, Meeting ID #575 098 928, in conformance with COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions.

The bulleted categories above were then presented in greater detail, as follows.

Operating Revenue is proposed at \$28,342,893, up \$142,136 with the proposed rate increase. This includes Electric Metered Sales of \$25,108,154, up \$208,154, and Air Products Income of \$2,413,073, up \$35,997, partially offset by Contribution in Aid to Construction of \$250,000, down \$100,000 with fewer projects being done.

Personnel Services (included in **Operating Expenses**) is proposed at \$4,849,728, up \$211,960 and includes merit increases for 10 employees, a 2.0% Cola for all employees, an adjustment to Tier 2 retirement benefits, and a 6.0% increase for employee medical insurance. There is no proposed change in the number of employees.

Operations and Maintenance (also included in **Operating Expenses**), is proposed at \$19,617,136, down by \$(102,219). Major expense categories in this sub-section are Power Generation & Resources, Distribution, Street Lights, Special Equipment, Substation, and Contingency.

Non-Operating Revenues & Expenses are proposed at a net expense of \$(9,225,214), and are up \$(8,707,595). This category includes bond principal and interest payments and the proposal to pay off the 2010 Bond on 01 November 2020. Paying off the bond at this time will produce a net financial gain.

Capital Expenditures, \$4,320,000, are down by \$(386,000) from the current year and include the following:

- \$1,100,000 for buildings (security wall, paving, and landscaping)
- \$200,000 for the Distribution system to begin remote meter collector system
- \$30,000 Distribution Street Lights for 10 new street lights on Bountiful Blvd.
- \$450,000 for a new double bucket truck and a tree trimming truck
- \$1,500,000 to start rebuild of the NW Substation
- \$550,000 to continue the upgrade of Feeder #575 along 3100 South
- \$200,000 for upgrade of the Distribution system for Feeder #272 (from the NW substation to 400 East and 1100 North
- \$50,000 for the Distribution System on Stone Creek Property
- \$40,000 for the Distribution System Feeder #373 East
- \$200,000 for the Distribution System to begin a study for a photovoltaic system and possible battery system.

Operating Transfers In (Out), is proposed at \$10,881,420 net transfers in to the Power Department, and includes \$13,392,235 from Retained Earnings (to pay off the 2010 Bond, the amortization of the San Juan power plant, and to fund several of the capital Expenditure projects), and the \$(2,510,815) transfer out to the general fund.

Mr. Christensen reviewed the **10-year Capital Plan**, proposed at \$31,670,000 total capital expenditures, noting that many of those projects will be started during the 2020-21 budget year. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the merits of paying off the 2010 bond, with the most significant being the future savings of approximately \$1 million per year. There are

currently no plans to take on additional debt. Concerns about the Cash Flow projection were voiced and it was the general consensus that the plan, as presented, would be okay.

The proposed rate increase of 2.0% on all monthly customer charges (with a two-tier KWH rate system for residential customers) was discussed in terms of how it impacts BCL&P customers, and rate comparisons with Rocky Mountain Power. It was noted that the increase in a base cost factor would provide more stability than attaching the increase to usage. Discussion followed with an exploration of tweaking the rate schedule to minimize any negative impact to low income customers. The proposal has almost zero impact on users up to 800 KWH and it still provides for funding to maintain the system and plan for future resources.

The proposed budget addresses COVID 19 by allowing for re-allocation of personnel to maintain pandemic guidelines and still provide essential electrical services to the City and its citizens.

In conclusion, Mr. Christensen stated that it is the staff recommendation to approve the proposed FY 2021 Budget (as stated on page 1, lines 36-45). Councilman Higginson asked again about delaying paying off the bond, with concern regarding the Cash Flow. Following discussion, Mr. Hill said that he felt comfortable with the cash position if the bond were to be paid off in FY 2021. Commissioner Pitcher asked about the timing of a rate increase with regard to COVID-19 ramifications. Again Mr. Hill supported the proposed plan, noting that a small, consistent rate increase had been planned in to the budgeting process and is necessary to maintain a reliable power resource for Bountiful residents. Even with the rate increase, Bountiful residents will enjoy a less expensive power resource, with prudent infrastructure maintenance included, and an annual contribution from the Power Department to the General Fund of the City.

Commissioner Irvine made a motion to approve the BCL&P Proposed FY 2021 Budget as presented and discussed, with the stipulation that at the end of May (and again in September if deemed necessary) the rate structure be re-visited just in case the economic uncertainty gets worse. Commissioner Cushing voiced approval of this motion and the motion was seconded by Commissioners Summers. Voting was unanimous with Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine, and Summers and Councilman Higginson voting "aye".

The City Council Power Committee then took action as follows: Councilwoman Harris made a motion to accept BCLP's Proposed FY 2012 Budget as presented and discussed. Mayor Lewis seconded the motion which carried unanimously with Councilpersons Higginson and Harris and Mayor Lewis voting "aye".

The Joint Meeting concluded at 9:30 a.m., the City Council Power Committee was excused, and the BCL&P Power Commission continued its regular meeting.

 MINUTES - November 26, 2019 and February 18, 2020

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Bountiful City Power Commission held November 26, 2019 were presented and unanimously approved on a motion made by Commissioner Summers and seconded by Commissioner Bell. Voting was unanimous with Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine, Pitcher and Summers and Councilman Higginson voting "aye".

Minutes of the meeting of the Bountiful City Power Commission held February 18, 2020 were presented and approved, with the **correction** that Jed Pitcher was the Chairman of the subject meeting, **not** John Cushing. Councilman Higginson motioned for the approval and Commissioner Becker seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous with Commissioners Cushing, Becker, Bell, Irvine, Pitcher and Summers and Councilman Higginson voting "aye".

<u>BUDGET REPORT – YEAR-TO-DATE 8-MONTH PERIOD ENDED 29 FEBRUARY</u> 2020

Mr. Christensen presented the Budget Report for the Year-To-Date (YTD) 8-Month Period Ended 29 February 2020. He noted that July through January 2020 is final, and February 2020 is preliminary, though most line item YTD amounts will not change from this report when they are final.

Total Revenues YTD were \$19,509,365, below its historically allocated budget (HAB) by \$(790,051). Major items (below) budget included: electric metered sales (EMS), below its HAB by \$(656,836) or 3.7%; Air Products, below its HAB by \$(102,235) with a load factor of 63.0%; and Contribution in Aid to Construction, below its HAB by \$(131,249).

Total Operating Expenses YTD were \$18,302,305, below its HAB by \$1,587,633. Major items (above) or below their HAB's included: power costs, below its HAB by \$1,286,171 with the lower EMS plus careful purchasing and scheduling of power resources; and distribution expense, below its HAB by \$140,239 with work on budgeted projects. Street light expense was above its HAB by \$(162,840) with work on budgeted projects.

Total Capital Expenditures YTD were \$627,612.

The Net Margin YTD was \$549,447, above its HAB by \$502,049, with lower than budgeted power and other costs that more than offset lower than budgeted revenues.

Total cash and cash equivalents were a net \$26,897,370 at month end, up \$850,167 from \$26,047,203 at 30 June 2019.

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Irvine made a motion to accept the Budget Report as presented. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine, and Summers and Councilman Higginson voted "aye".

ECHO TURBINE REPAIR APPROVAL

Alan Farnes reported that Prime Machine should be completed with the reassembly of all three turbines by April 13th. A refurbished runner was installed in Unit 1 (the new runner that was ordered from China still does not have a delivery date). He said that the scope of the work done by Prime Machine has grown (due to the need to refurbish an old runner and then remove it and replace it with the new runner next winter) and therefore additional work needs to be approved by the City Council. He reviewed the additional work that Prime Machine will do, (\$475,302) as well as additional required work by other contractors (\$133,163) and stated that the total project cost to repair all three turbines will be approximately \$1,227,232.

It is the staff recommendation that the additional \$475,302 for Prime Machine Inc. be approved. Following a short discussion, Commissioner Summers made a motion to recommend to the City Council that the additional expenses to Prime Machine Inc. be approved, as recommended. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine and Summers, and Councilman Higginson voted "aye".

PACIFICORP 138 KV SUBSTATION EXPENSES

Alan Farnes reported that the 138 KV Substation rebuild project was substantially completed and fully operational in May 2019. However, we recently received an invoice from PacifiCorp for their engineering costs associated with the substation upgrade (as per our operating agreement with them). They also had to remove a significant number of control cables that ran between our old control building and their control building and then install new control cables running from our new control building to their control building. This required a significant amount of work by their Substation Technicians.

It is the recommendation of staff that this invoice in the amount of \$31,205.15 be approved. Councilman Higginson made a motion to recommend to the City Council payment of the PacifiCorp invoice, as presented. Commissioner Summers seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine and Summers, and Councilman Higginson voted "aye". It was noted that the total for this project came in under budget.

TRANSFORMER BID PURCHASE

Mr. Pearce reviewed that our inventory of overhead and pad mount transformers is running low and bids were received from two vendors for the needed transformers:

6 ea. 37.5 KVA pole mount

10 ea. 50 KVA pad mount

14 ea. 50 KVA pole mount

1 ea. 150 KVA pad mount

1 ea. 300 KVA pad mount

1 ea. 500 KVA pad mount

It is the recommendation of staff to accept the low bid from Anixter Power Solutions for ERMCO transformers at a total cost of \$78,535.00. Commissioner Cushing made a motion to recommend to the City Council that the bid from Anixter Power be approved as recommended.

Commissioners Summers seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine and Summers, and Councilman Higginson voted "aye".

STEEL POLE PURCHASE

Mr. Veigel reported that 29 new poles (7 of which are steel) are needed as part of the complete rebuild of Feeder 575 on 3100 South between Orchard Drive and 400 East. An invitation to bid for the 7 steel poles was sent out to five vendors and three responded. It is the recommendation of staff to accept the low bid of \$169,000 for seven (7) 24-inch steel poles.

Discussion followed regarding the need for steel poles vs wood (wood poles are 18" in diameter) and vs a 30-inch steel pole, Mr. Veigel explained that the objective is to use a pole strong enough to hold up better to a car collision, and yet minimize blocking vision. The more narrow a pole is at its base, the thicker the steel will be. Commissioner Summers made a motion to recommend approval of the bid from MICA Steelworks, Inc. in the amount of \$169,000.00 and Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine and Summers, and Councilman Higginson voted "aye".

DIRECTIONAL BORING BID APPROVAL

Mr. Veigel reviewed that there are several underground distribution circuits and streetlight circuits throughout the system that need to have new conduit installed and repairs made. These projects are designed to increase the system reliability, provide additional capacity and back up to the system, add additional lights to Bountiful Blvd., and to repair existing lights that no longer work. To minimize the inconvenience to residents and limit the restoration of property, bids have been requested from contractors to install these conduits using directional boring.

Bids were received from four contractors and it is the recommendation of staff to award the bid to Americom Technology, Inc. (low bidder) in the amount of \$261,077. This work is included in the FY 2019-20 budget. Following a short discussion, Commissioner Bell motioned to recommend to the City Council that the bid be awarded to Americom Technology, Inc., as presented. Commissioner Becker seconded the motion and voting was unanimous. Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine and Summers, and Councilman Higginson voted "aye".

PLANT UPDATE

Alan Farnes reported that the two Titan turbines at the Power Plant have been repaired and are now available for operation. Solar Turbines submitted a quote of \$2,280,610.06 for this project, but have invoiced us for \$1,697,144.46, for a total savings of \$583,465.60. The bulk of this savings was the result of our Power Plant staff assisting with the work, thereby reducing the labor from Solar Turbines, Inc. included in the initial bid.

Mr. Farnes also gave an update on repair work which is being done at the Pineview Hydro plant. He explained that two actuators had failed, and two new actuators were ordered from Germany in November. They arrived in March and it is hoped that they will be re-installed and ready to run the first part of next week. The cost of this project is just over \$35,000 and was approved last November.

RESOURCE UPDATE

Mr. Johnson reported that there is nothing new from UAMPS – they will be operating and our contracted power has not been changed.

The trip to Corvallis to view the proposed nuclear project has been cancelled and will be re-scheduled.

The following items were included in the packet, but not discussed in the meeting:

POWER SYSTEMS OPERATIONS REPORT

- a. January and February Resource Report
- b. February 2020 Lost Time/Safety Report
- c. February 2020 Public Relations Report
- d. February 2020 Outage Reports

OTHER BUSINESS

The APPA national conference has not been cancelled, but Mr. Johnson suggested that airlines reservations not be made at this point.

Commissioner Becker reported that in a department meeting at her work, it was noted that Standard and Poor's and Goldman Sachs sources had predicted a more optimistic outlook about the economy.

NEXT POWER COMMISSION

The next meeting of the Power Commission meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2020. Depending on conditions of the pandemic, Allen Johnson will confirm whether or not the meeting will be held; and in which format.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Summers and seconded by Commissioner Cushing. Voting was unanimous with Commissioners Pitcher, Becker, Bell, Cushing, Irvine and Summers, and Councilman Higginson voting "aye".

Jed Pitcher, CHAIRMAN