



**August 5, 2024
Regular Board Meeting**

The Regular Meeting of Madison Utilities convened at the Madison Utilities' Office located at 101 Ray Sanderson Drive with Chairman Terris Tatum presiding. Vice Chairman Kerry Straub, Director Larry Miles, Director Al Sullivan, and Director Connie Spears were in attendance. Also, present were Secretary/Treasurer/General Manager Emory DeBord and Recording Clerk Jodie Parker.

Others present were Wastewater Manager Mark Bland, Finance Manager Gary Sparks, New Development Coordinator Reece Lee, Assistant Finance Manager Drew Greene, and Attorney Woody Sanderson.

Chairman Terris Tatum called the Regular Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Registered public in attendance: City Councilor Karen Denzine and Mr. Henry Smith

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Tatum asked Mr. Smith if he would like to address the Board. Mr. Smith declined to comment so Director Spears briefly explained his situation to the Board. No Board action was taken at this time.

2. CURRENT AGENDA/MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

a. August 5, 2024 Current Agenda

The agenda for the August 5, 2024, Regular Meeting was presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Straub moved to approve the August 5, 2024, Regular Meeting Agenda; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. July 1, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the July 1, 2024, Regular Meeting were presented to the Board. Vice Chairman Straub moved to approve the July 1, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. PLATS/BONDS

a. Preliminary Project Approval
None

b. Dedication and Improvements

i. Ardent Daycare at Town Madison

Director Sullivan moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Ardent Daycare at Town Madison; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. Bellawoods Phase 3

Director Sullivan moved to approve the Dedication and Improvements for Bellawoods Phase 3; Vice Chairman Straub seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. FY2024 – 3rd Quarter FYTD Review

Assistant Finance Manager Greene discussed some of the variances in the budget review which stemmed from anomalies such as increased overtime expenses during the ice storm and higher maintenance and chemical costs to startup the Keene plant full time. Vice Chairman Straub asked if the overtime incurred due to the recent main break was a factor. Assistant Finance Manager Greene stated that it will not be accounted for until the next quarter.

Director Miles moved to approve the FY2024 – 3rd Quarter FYTD Review; Director Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Pay Plan Proposal dated 7-30-2024 effective 8-6-2024

Finance Manager Sparks stated that MU has been contracting custodial services for many years, but for the past few it has not been going well. He added that MU has changed providers several times over the years with no success. Finance Manager Sparks explained that a part-time employee would be brought in through a temporary agency which may turn to full-time if it works out. He added that the total employee count did not change due to the reclassification of an existing position to Custodian. The only other change was for the administrative assistant position to move from a Grade 7 to a Grade 8 as they will be supervising the custodial employee. Additionally, he mentioned that the contract had been reviewed and amended by legal.

Vice Chairman Straub moved to authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with ExpressPros and approve the Pay Plan Proposal dated 7-30-2024; Director Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. LEGAL

Attorney Sanderson informed the Board that the condemnation hearing for the adjacent property had been rescheduled to the upcoming Wednesday and then the next step would be the valuation of the property.

7. WATER and WASTEWATER REPORT

Wastewater Manager Bland updated the Board on the progress at the Quarry Water Treatment Plant, stating that two new filters had started up . He also informed the Board that the water main tie-in at Gillespie and Wall Triana was completed but there is a leak that the contractor is aware of.

Wastewater Manager Bland continued with an update on his recent meeting with the Clift Cove HOA to discuss the new tank and he stated that the lead and copper study is nearly complete.

8. FINANCE REPORT

Finance Manager Sparks stated that he is currently working on the budget for the next fiscal year. He also mentioned that the Board had received a request for financial statements and that there is a new act, effective October 1, which governs public record requests. Finance Manager Sparks said he is using that information to respond to the email and the first step is to send the documents which require the requestor to identify themselves and confirm they are a citizen of Alabama. He continued that nothing else can be done until that is received.

9. CUSTOMER SERVICE

Customer Service Manager Leftwich mentioned that the AMR/AMI Specialist position had been filled, as well as a new Field Service Rep who started that day.

10. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager DeBord mentioned that Krebs Engineering is modeling a potential temporary connection for a neighboring water system who may need to purchase wholesale water in the future.

11. VICE CHAIRMAN STRAUB

None

12. DIRECTOR SULLIVAN

None

13. DIRECTOR MILES

None

14. DIRECTOR SPEARS

None

15. CHAIRMAN TATUM

None

16. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:10 p.m. the Board agreed to adjourn.

Approved,



Terris Tatum, Chairman



Kerry Straub, Vice Chairman

Al Sullivan, Director



Larry Mifes, Director



Connie Spears, Director

ATTEST:



Emory DeBord, Secretary/Treasurer