The Utilities Board of the Town of Cedar Bluff

January 18, 2022

STATE OF ALABAMA

CHEROKEE COUNTY

The Utilities Board of the Town of Cedar Bluff met for their regular business meeting Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Utility Board room located at 4971 AL Hwy 68, Cedar Bluff Alabama. Meeting was called to order at 4:05 by Vice Chair Bo Martin.

Roll Call:

Jack Bond Present James Bo Martin Present

Cindy Early Absent Linda Pickelsimer Present

Minutes for the November 16, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. A motion to approve as presented was made by Linda Pickelsimer and seconded by Bo Martin.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

Treasurer Pickelsimer presented the Financial Reports for the month of November. Mrs. Pickelsimer stated all transactions were reviewed, and reports seemed to be in order. A motion to accept the reports as printed was made by Mrs. Pickelsimer, and was seconded by Bo Martin.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

Treasurer Pickelsimer presented the Financial Reports for the month of December. Mrs. Pickelsimer stated all transactions were reviewed, and reports seemed to be in order. A motion to accept the reports as printed was made by Mrs. Pickelsimer, and was seconded by Bo Martin.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

In the Manager’s Report, Mr. Harrell presented the Board with a work log for the months of November and December. In November, the log consisted of 18 water leaks, 1 sewer tap, 1 pump station repair, and 1 sewer line extension. The utility workers performed a total of 105 work orders for the month. In December, the log consisted of 3 water leaks, 3 sewer taps, 1 sewer leak, and 4 water meters replaced. The utility workers performed a total of 48 work orders for the month.

Next item on the agenda was Utility Board customer Renae Moten. Mrs. Moten addressed the Board with concerns of sediment in her water after a scheduled water outage by the Board in November 2021. Mrs. Moten brought a cup of the sediment that was collected to show the members. She stated the sediment had caused her toilet to continue running and ran her bill higher than usual. Ms. Moten had purchased a filter and had it installed between the meter and her home to filter the water before it entered the pipes connected to the home. After discussion, Mr. Martin asked Ms. Moten to go retrieve the filter so they could evaluate what had been caught since installation. At 4:25pm, discussion was tabled until her return.

In unfinished business, there was no updates concerning the proposed sewer project on County Road 44.

In New Business, first item was a proposed Service Deposit Refund Policy. Treasurer Pickelsimer stated the Board has several customers’ service deposits on file for a possible future reconnection. Some had not been reconnected in a number of years. This had been done as a service to the customer, but the Board is liable for these held deposits. Ms. Pickelsimer expressed a need for a policy to be able to refund these deposits back to the customers if not reconnected within a reasonable length of time. After discussion, Linda Pickelsimer made a motion to adopt a policy to apply deposits and refund remainder when accounts are closed, unless it is a seasonal customer. Board member Jack Bond recommended all service deposits be done instead of only non-seasonal customers. After discussion, Mrs. Pickelsimer’s motion was amended to include all closed accounts instead of all non-seasonal accounts. Motion was seconded by Bo Martin.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

Next on the agenda was review of the current covid policy. After lengthy discussion, Mr. Martin made a motion to table the covid policy until all Board members are present and the policy can be reviewed. Jack Bond seconded the motion.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

At 4:40pm Mrs. Moten returned to the meeting with her water filter. After observation of the filter, Mr. Martin made a motion to adjust Mrs. Moten’s bill for the overage for two months, and for the price of the water filter. Adjustment would be $31.61 for overage of usual minimum usage for the months of November and December and $61.81 for the expense of the filter. Motion was seconded by Jack Bond.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

At this time, Manager Harrell asked the Board to consider paying him directly for his phone service so he would be able to get on a phone plan with his wife due to his upcoming retirement. The Board pays phone service for all utility personnel. Ms. Burt stated the monthly service for each phone is $51.34. Mr. Harrell wishes to change service providers and stated he is planning to retire around the end of July 2022. The change would not affect the phone costs for the Board. Mr. Harrell would be paid for the service of his phone, and his phone will be removed from the Board’s current plan. After discussion, Linda Pickelsimer made a motion to give Mr. Harrell a monthly phone allowance in the amount of $51.34 for reimbursement of his phone service from the start date to the end of July 2022. Motion was seconded by Jack Bond.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

After assuring there was no other business to discuss, Jack Bond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bo Martin seconded the motion.

Motion Carried (3-0)

AYE: Bond, Martin, Pickelsimer

NAY: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Early

Meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

APPROVED February 15, 2022:

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JAMES MARTIN, VICE CHAIRMAN

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JENNI BURT, SECRETARY