

**REGULAR MEETING
LOUDON UTILITIES**

May 26, 2020

The Board of Directors of Loudon Utilities held its properly advertised regular meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 4:30 p.m., in the public meeting space of the Loudon Municipal Building. Those present were Chairman Don P. Campbell, Directors Gene Farmer, Tim Dixon, Carlie McEachern (videoconference), and Bart Watson. Others present were Manager Ty Ross, Nicole Curtis, John Davis (videoconference), Bill Watkins, Attorney Kris Frye (videoconference), and Secretary Meghan Hull. The press was represented by Parker Wright with the *Loudon County News Herald*. Chip Lynn video recorded the meeting for redskinradio.com. Also present or attending by videoconference were approximately ten (10) people.

Chairman Campbell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Campbell read a statement defining the meeting being held by videoconference pursuant to Executive Order No. 16 to protect the safety and health of the citizens of Loudon from the coronavirus outbreak. Campbell asked for a roll call of attendance of the Board Members and Attorney. All were in attendance or available by videoconference.

Chairman Campbell asked if anyone wished to speak to the Board about anything not on the agenda. There was no response.

Chairman Campbell asked for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 27, 2020. **A motion was made by Director Dixon, seconded by Director Watson and unanimously passed that the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 27, 2020 be approved as written.**

Financial Reports had been distributed for the workshop. Finance Director Curtis gave a presentation on the financial reports. **A motion was made by Director Watson, seconded by Director Farmer and unanimously passed that the reports be received and placed on file.**

The first item for Board action was consideration of the City's formation of a Benefit Advisory Committee. The intent of the committee is to determine best practices for the provision of excellent medical benefits for eligible employees and family members which can help sustain the fund balance of the jointly funded medical benefit plan. **A motion was made by Director Farmer, seconded by Director Watson, and unanimously agreed to concur with the Loudon City Council in the establishment of a Benefit Advisory Committee, members to include property tax payers to the City of Loudon, rate payers to Loudon Utilities, and/or employed by the City of Loudon or Loudon Utilities.**

Next Board considered a resolution to allow appropriate funding for water system improvements. Attorney Frye explained the basis of the Industrial Development Board to monitor the funds for the proposed projects that would be publicly bid with Board approval. All monies will be protected from co-mingling of any other funds. **A motion was made by Director Watson and seconded by Director Farmer that the following resolution be approved:**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-21

**APPROVING A CONTRIBUTION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT
OF PUBLIC WORKS FACILITIES OF THE WATER SYSTEM**

Upon a vote, the resolution was passed unanimously.

The next item for Board action was to approve water rate increases beginning July 1, 2020 through January 1, 2023. **A motion was made by Director Farmer and seconded by Director Watson that the following resolution be approved:**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-22

**PROVIDING FOR WATER RATE INCREASES
THROUGH JANUARY 1, 2023**

Upon a vote, the resolution was passed unanimously.

Board discussed the Actuarially Determined Contribution rate set by Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System and the recommendation to maintain the current level of funding rate. **A motion was made by Director Dixon and seconded by Director Farmer that the following resolution be approved:**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-23

**ACKNOWLEDGING THE
TENNESSEE CONSOLIDATED RETIREMENT SYSTEM RATE
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020**

Upon a vote, the resolution was passed unanimously.

The last item for Board consideration was to set the natural gas rate. **A motion was made by Director Dixon and seconded by Director Farmer that the following resolution be approved:**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-24

**ESTABLISHING NATURAL GAS RATES
EFFECTIVE JUNE 2020**

Upon a vote, the resolution was passed unanimously.

Manager Ross stated that the Tennessee Valley Authority fuel cost adjustment had increased \$0.01415 per kWh to \$0.01427 per kWh. This results in a \$0.12 increase for each 1,000 kWh of residential customer usage.

Manager Ross introduced a matching grant offered by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. TVA is offering a matching grant program for the community's use that could greatly benefit the district schools with students' summer-break foods, no-contact thermometer purchases, computer software, etc. **A motion was made by Director Dixon, seconded by Director Farmer and unanimously agreed to authorize \$5,000 to the TVA matching fund grant for utilization with the local school programs under the guidelines TVA has set forth.**

There being nothing further, Chairman Campbell adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Secretary

Chairman