

METROPOLITAN LYNCHBURG MOORE
UTILITY DEPARTMENT
BOARD MEETING
September 10, 2024

The Metro Utility Board meeting scheduled for September 10, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. was called to order by Barry Posluszny, Vice Chairperson. Member's present: Glen Thomas, Charles Johnston, and Greg Guinn.

Visitors: Metro Lynchburg News Paper & Lynchburg Times

August 13, 2024, minutes were approved, four in favor, none opposed.

Brian Minoux did not show up for the sewer refund request.

A rate study booklet was provided to all board members prior to the meeting. Mr. Petty stated that the total water revenue decreased 6% for 2024 and wastewater decreased by 11%. This may be a result to the faulty meters that are not registering low flow. Mr. Petty also stated that the special assessment for Jack Daniels would bring in approximately \$396,000 annually. A rate increase was advised. Mr. Petty proposed the following water rate increases:

- Fiscal Year 2025: 3% increase
- Fiscal Year 2026: 3% increase
- Fiscal Year 2027: 5% increase
- Fiscal Year 2028: 5% increase

The advised Wastewater increases are as follows:

- Fiscal Year 2025: 2% increase
- Fiscal Year 2026: 2% increase
- Fiscal Year 2027: 5% increase
- Fiscal Year 2028: 2% increase

Until the faulty meters are replaced, water revenue will continue to decrease, and the rate increase was advised and encouraged. Barry Posluszny asked if the meter replacement was corrected and the revenue began to increase, would the rates still need to be raised. The answer was "Maybe". Factors such as capital improvements would still need to be funded possibly at a steady 2% increase.

The increases stated for water and wastewater are due to the aggressive five-year Construction in Process that Metropolitan Lynchburg Moore County Utility Department has outlined, in addition to the high depreciation that has to remain on the books.

Engineers Report: We are waiting on TDEC for Wastewater Treatment Plant tube settlers

Manager's Report: Ronnie Cunningham informed the Board of upcoming meetings in September and October 2024 with eSource. He also went over bidding for Cates Booster

Station on September 18, 2024. The board also requested that Ronnie order enough Kamstrup meters to change out every meter in town. Approximately 400 meters were ordered to complete this portion of the meter change out project.

Mr. Thomas brought up Commercial Rates for customers. He asked that the department adjust all customers that are listed as commercial properties from residential rates to commercial rates. There are several businesses that are paying residential rates and should be moved to commercial rates. This will keep the department in line with UT MTAS guidelines. Mr. Thomas made that in the form of a motion, seconded by Charles Johnston. Roll Call Vote: Glen Thomas—Yes, Charles Johnston—Yes, Barry Posluszny—Yes, Greg Guinn—Yes. The Department will have to send notices out to all customers that will be affected 60 days prior to the rate change. This will serve as public notice for them to fill a challenge to the rate change.

The meeting was adjourned.

Barry Posluszny, Vice Chair