

## **SPECIAL MEETING – October 13, 2021**

President Hackl called the Special Meeting of the Muscoda Village Board to order at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Kratochwill Memorial Building. The following members were present: Anderson, Imhoff, Johnson, Miller, Seifert and Wiederholt. Also present: Wardell, Louis and Johnson.

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION:** Motion Anderson, second Imhoff to accept the Proof of Publication. Motion carried.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

### **DISCUSSION WITH ELECTRIC ENGINEER DAVID KRAUSE: action if necessary**

Electrical Engineer David Krause was present to give a status report on the substation expansion project, circuit rebuilds, and brief history of the projects.

Project #1-Expansion of Industrial (Scot) Substation:

- There is thirty plus miles of ATC transmission line from Lone Rock to Woodman. If there is any outage on the 30-mile line, all customers are out of power.
- ATC has been rebuilding this line and will be constructing a “switching” station in Muscoda. With this new ATC equipment; an outage can be stopped in Muscoda. ATC’s cost is \$4.5 million.
- With load growth in Muscoda and the need for backup capacity, the Village made the determination in 2019 to expand the Industrial (Scot) Substation with a budget of \$3 million dollars not including the new transformer that cost \$400,000.
- The Village has an interconnection agreement with ATC for connections and common facilities.
- Mathews substation is close to life expectancy. Some of the equipment is 40 plus years old. Once the circuits have been converted to a higher voltage, the Mathews substation could be eliminated.
- Time table: There will need to be one day load reduction for Scot Industries the first part of February, and the entire project should be completed by end of March, 2022.
- Several contracts need to be prepared and bid out:
  - Subgrade construction – underground work
  - Structural steel
  - Materials and parts
  - Above grade construction work
  - Testing, commissioning and startup – Since this is a “professional service” does it need to be publicly bid or can it be sole sourced
  - Fencing – 7’ tall with three strands of barbed wire to be constructed by end of November. Administrator Johnson will review fence ordinance for regulations and confer with Attorney Wood on bidding.
  - Feeder work for loop
- Krause noted that these contractors work year around and he didn’t see any issues with obtaining the necessary materials for completion of the project.
- There is also a precision connection that needs to be made between the ATC equipment and the Village’s substation. MJ Electric can do this attachment work, foundations and coordination between the two. They are the contractor for the ATC project. The estimated cost is \$45,000. Johnson will check with the Attorney to see if we can contract with MJ Electric to do the precision work or if it needs to be bid out.

Project #2-Distribution conversion (rebuilding of circuits):

- Before the Mathews substation can be retired, the distribution circuits need to be converted and upgraded to a higher voltage.
- The Village has seven circuits and four of them need to be converted.
- This is a three to five year project at an estimated cost of \$3.5 million.
- At a Special Meeting in August of 2020, the Board voted to have Mr. Krause work on the distribution conversion project, prepare a Construction Authority (CA) and submit to Public Service Commission (PSC).
- In order for electric upgrades/expenses to be included in the next electric rate case; the projects need to be approved by the PSC and that process can take up to six months.
- At this point the CA has not been filed as there were concerns on financing and how these two projects would affect a rate increase.
- Wardell noted that if the four circuits were not upgraded, the Pineland circuit needs to be completed as it is the oldest and we are having issues with it.

Administration Johnson was instructed to have Financial Advisor Carol Wirth run examples of debt issues for both projects, taxable and tax exempt issues and just for the substation expansion.

**WORK ON 2022 BUDGETS:**

Due to lateness of evening, budgets were not worked on

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion** Anderson, second Imhoff to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**

*Cinda Johnson*  
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Cinda Johnson, Village Administrator