

MUNICIPAL ENTERPRISES COMMITTEE REPORT – MARCH 9, 2020

Members: Martin, Chairperson, Richard, Reinhold, Ressler (Alternate)

Attendees: Martin, Reinhold, Ressler, Rowe, Zimmerman, Thompson

The Municipal Enterprises Committee met on February 18, 2020 and discussed the following:

Discussion Items:

1. At the last Committee meeting Borough Manager Thompson informed the Committee that it received notice from LEMA regarding the Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP). The Borough has budgeted in 2020 and 2021 a total of \$150,000 for electric security system upgrades. Mr. Thompson indicated he reached out to NSGP to determine if the Borough is eligible for the grant program and is waiting for a response. Upon receipt of the response from NSGP, it was determined that local governments are not eligible for this grant program. No further action is required by the Committee at this time.
2. Borough Manager Thompson presented to the Committee a PowerPoint regarding community experiences with electric vehicle charging stations. The 2020 Electric Division Budget has \$50,000 to develop EV charging stations in the Borough. In addition, the Commonwealth has an EV charging station grant program whereby upon receipt and approval of projects to install EV charging stations, they will issue coupons valued at \$4,500 per plug to be reimbursed for each two plug EV charging station installed. This grant program is funded through money allocated to Pennsylvania from the settlement with Volkswagen. Mr. Thompson reviewed a quotation from Charge Point for a two plug system for approximately \$20,000 less the \$9,000 grant coupons for a net cost of approximately \$11,000. Mr. Thompson advised the Committee that Staff is recommending four EV stations be installed in the Borough. Proposed locations include the parking lot at Borough Hall, the Borough-owned parking lot across the street from the Public Works garage along West Pine Street, at the Whistlestop Plaza and one on non-government owned land to be discussed with the private land owners at Applebees and the Hampton Inn. The Committee has no objections to proceed with the Borough Hall and Public Works sites as well as to authorize the Staff to discuss the project with the private land owners. Staff will prepare possible locations around the Whistlestop Plaza for further review.
3. Borough Manager Thompson reviewed with the Committee the 2019 Annual Power Supply Summary as prepared by AMP. The Summary did not identify any concerns. The Committee did request that the Staff provide the annual comparison of Ephrata's rates versus PPL rates. No further action is required on this item.
4. Borough Manager Thompson reviewed the schedule for the solar actuators replacement. All materials are received and the contractor will deploy 10-15 crew members to replace all the actuators. The estimated time to complete the replacement is by the end of March.
5. Borough Manager Thompson reviewed the 4th Quarter Budget Report with the Committee. There were no concerns with the report.