

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in regular session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 3:00 p.m. on the above date. Present were Trustees Kelly Horsman, Jerry Runneberg, and Ben Storms. Also present were County Supervisor Clarence Siepker and General Manager Chad Cleveland.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the November 25, 2024 regular meeting agenda. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on acquiring some ground from Pocahontas County that is adjacent to LMPC's 400' communications tower. Supervisor Clarence Siepker reported that he had visited with the Board of Supervisors, and it was recommended that a potential land swap between Pocahontas County and Laurens Municipal Electric Utility be considered. The Board of Trustees are in favor of the proposed land swap idea. The County Attorney is reviewing the proposed land swap and will advise on any concerns.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2024 regular Board meeting and the November 7, 2024 special Board meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the summary of receipts for October 2024 in the amount of \$448,877.29 and the list of expenses for October 2024 in the amount of \$267,744.85. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

### **Summary of Receipts**

A/R- Electric	\$ 255,608.03
A/R- Communications	\$ 62,568.25
Merchandise/Services- Electric	\$ 252.00
Merchandise/Services- Communications	\$ 114.00
Carrier Access Fees- Communications	\$ 3,019.27
Write Off Recovery- Electric	\$ 609.57
Write Off Recovery- Communications	\$ 759.04
NIMECA Power Credits- Electric	\$ 5,961.56
Investments Accrued Interest- Electric	\$ 74,041.99
REC Inventory- Electric	\$ 1,798.00
ERATE Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 61.20
Deposits- Electric	\$ 2,295.00
Deposits- Communications	\$ 388.00
Marathon Energy Sales- Electric	\$ 8,907.36
E911 Fees- Telephone	\$ 643.26
Tower Lease- Communications	\$ 3,427.09
Attachment H Revenues- Electric	\$ 28,315.07
Lifeline Broadband Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 9.00
Lifeline Voice Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 11.00
Miscellaneous- Communications	\$ 73.77
REC Inventory Sales Price Differential- Electric	\$ (89.90)
Office Phones- Electric	\$ 60.00
RSM Overpayment Refund- Electric	\$ 26.84
RSM Overpayment Refund- Communications	\$ 17.89
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 448,877.29</b>

## List of Expenses

A&M Laundry	Dust Mops & Mats	\$	89.28
AFLAC	Employee Contributions	\$	214.29
Aureon	CALEA/SS7/Transport	\$	560.32
B & K Embroidery	Company Clothing	\$	329.99
Bally Sports North	Programming Fees	\$	763.80
Big 10 Network	Programming Fees	\$	298.12
Calix Inc.	Operations Cloud	\$	502.81
City of Laurens	Utility Billing	\$	92,885.71
Cleveland, Chad	Meeting Expenses	\$	156.78
CMBA Architects	City Hall Renovation Project	\$	55.00
Consortia Consulting	Consulting Contract	\$	1,125.00
Customers	Closed Account Credit Refund	\$	470.87
Department of Energy	WAPA Power Bill	\$	31,656.58
DGR Engineering	Fuel Storage/SCADA/Rates	\$	13,336.50
Display Systems International	Programming Fees	\$	165.76
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Administration	\$	120.00
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Claims	\$	1,185.12
GFC Leasing	Canon Copier Lease	\$	80.57
Gordon Flesch Company	Banner Paper	\$	197.00
Grainger	Safety Supplies	\$	104.87
Gray Media Group	Programming Fees	\$	657.00
Hearst Television	Programming Fees	\$	1,255.60
Horsetech	Shipping Fees	\$	10.20
Internal Revenue Service	Federal Excise Tax	\$	497.26
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	\$	9,555.70
Interstate TRS Fund	TRS Fund Assessment	\$	246.75
Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales Tax	\$	5,388.64
Iowa Department of Revenue	State Withholding	\$	1,392.04
Iowa One Call	Locates	\$	61.40
Iowa Utilities Commission	IUC/OCA Assessment	\$	1,877.00
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Contributions	\$	5,623.70
JCL Solutions	Janitorial Supplies	\$	134.51
Laurens House of Print	75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Giveaways	\$	3,351.64
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Communications Bill	\$	115.22
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Utility Bill	\$	110.74
Laurens Sun	Publications/Advertising	\$	252.96
Laurens VFW	Open House Meal/Donation	\$	1,144.94
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$	10,228.62
Lumen Access Billing	Access Charges	\$	95.15
Lumen Lexcis	Directory Listings	\$	36.45
LumenServe	Tower Lighting Monitoring	\$	316.24
Merchant Bankcard	Credit Card Processing	\$	442.49
Mid America Computer Corporation	Utility Billing Fees	\$	873.28
MidAmerican Energy	Neal 4 Operations	\$	24,000.00
National Content & Technology Cooperative	Programming Fees	\$	9,883.76
Nexstar Broadcasting	Programming Fees	\$	1,349.32
NIMECA	Property Insurance	\$	47.99
Office Elements	Office Supplies	\$	298.74
Paymentus Group, Inc.	Credit Card Processing Fees	\$	243.65

Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$	24,442.46
Petty Cash	Postage/Supplies	\$	28.00
PLIC-SBD Grand Island	Life/Disability Insurance	\$	604.84
Pocahontas County E911	E911 Fees	\$	820.21
Pop Media	Programming Fees	\$	26.52
Pro Cooperative	Vehicle Fuel	\$	328.31
R&D Industries	Network Support	\$	13.50
Record Democrat	Advertising	\$	103.50
RSM US LLP	Network Support/Server	\$	7,150.18
Schultz, Ethan	Tuition Reimbursement	\$	625.00
Stuart C. Irby	Locate Paint/Flags	\$	925.16
Treasurer, State of Iowa	Unclaimed Property	\$	379.11
US Card Systems	Credit Card Terminal Lease	\$	29.95
Verizon	Wireless Phone Service	\$	155.52
Visa	Open House Supplies	\$	106.95
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Group Health Insurance	\$	8,216.28
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>267,744.85</b>

Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report, Investment Schedule, Income Statement, and Balance Sheet for October 2024. No specific action was taken.

At 4:20 p.m. Chairman Storms announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing and meeting on the matter of Approving the Calendar Year 2025 Budget as published in the Laurens Sun on November 13, 2024.

The Chairman asked the Secretary whether any written objections had been filed by any resident or property owner of the City to the approval of the Budget. The Secretary advised the Board of Trustees that no written objections had been filed. The Chairman then called for oral objections to the approval of the Budget, and none were made. The Chairman then declared the time for receiving oral and written objections to be closed.

At 4:50 p.m. Chairman Storms declared the hearing on the matter of Approving the Calendar Year 2025 Budget to be closed.

Trustee Runneberg introduced and moved for adoption a resolution approving the Calendar Year ending December 31, 2025 Budget as set forth in the detailed budget worksheet in support thereof showing the estimated revenues and expenditures for said calendar year. Trustee Horsman seconded the motion. The roll was called, and the vote was:

Ayes: Horsman, Runneberg, and Storms. Nays: None.

The Chairman declared the resolution duly adopted.

Trustee Runneberg introduced and moved for adoption a resolution establishing a Large Interruptible Electric rate for the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility. Trustee Horsman seconded the motion. The roll was called, and the vote was:

Ayes: Horsman, Runneberg, and Storms. Nays: None.

The Chairman declared the resolution duly adopted.

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A LARGE INTERRUPTIBLE RATE  
FOR THE LAURENS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to an election held in the year 1947, the Municipal Electric System in and for the City of Laurens, Pocahontas County, Iowa was established; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an election held in the year 1949, the management and control of the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility was put in the hands of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees may, by resolution, establish, impose, adjust, and provide for the collection of rates to be charged for the electricity and use of the services provided by the Laurens Municipal Electric Utility.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the City of Laurens, Pocahontas County, Iowa that the Large Interruptible rate shall be as follows:

**APPLICABLE:** To customers located within the assigned electric service area of Laurens Municipal Electric Utility who take delivery of power and energy at transmission voltage (69kV or above), agree to interruptible service as per the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Demand Response Program, and who have anticipated monthly peak demands of 5 MW or greater. The applicability of this rate to a customer is contingent upon the Utility's reasonable determination that the customer's service needs will not negatively impact other customers.

**FUNDAMENTAL SERVICE PROVISIONS:** It is the intent of Laurens Municipal Electric Utility to adopt this rate to ensure that all costs related to serving the customer are recovered from that customer, whether such costs are known in advance or not. Further, the Utility intends that all advance costs incurred in arranging for and preparing to provide service to the customer be paid for by the customer. This may include legal, contractual, engineering, power supplier credit reserve requirements, and other related costs, in addition to any costs associated with physically providing service to the customer that are not directly paid by the customer.

**AUTHORITY:** This rate is adopted according to Iowa Code § 384.84 and Article III, § 38A of the Iowa Constitution.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2025 for applicable customers taking service on or after this date.

**MONTHLY RATE:**

Customer Charge:               \$200.00/month

SPP Energy Charge:           The charge listed here is estimated based on the total actual cost of energy purchased from the SPP energy market, including all ancillary charges and adjustments to prior monthly charges. The total actual cost will be passed on to the customer without markup.

SPP Transmission Demand Charge:   \$5.60 per kW-mo. of demand coincident with the NIMECA billing peak (SPP NITS service). The charge per kW-mo. listed here is estimated; the actual cost will

be determined monthly and passed on to the customer without markup.

CTS Transmission Demand Charge:	\$3.65 per kW-mo. times the greater of the maximum non-coincident peak demand in the billing month, or maximum monthly non-coincident demand registered in any month in the preceding calendar year.
Corn Belt O&M Fees:	The actual cost will be determined monthly and passed on to the customer without markup.
Corn Belt Dispatch Fees:	The actual cost will be determined monthly and passed on to the customer without markup.
Tape Translation Fees:	The actual cost will be determined monthly and passed on to the customer without markup.
NIMECA Service Charges:	The actual cost will be determined monthly and passed on to the customer without markup.
Basin Dispatch fee:	The actual cost will be determined monthly and passed on to the customer without markup.
Firm Demand Charge:	\$3.00 per kW-mo. of Firm Demand.
Power Supply Energy Charge:	\$0.00276 per total kWh
Power Supply Demand Charge:	\$0.55 per kW (Non-Coincident Demand)

#### DEFINITIONS:

**SPP Energy Charge:** Equal to a direct pass-through of all costs of purchasing energy to serve the customer's load, including all costs related to participating in the SPP energy market and all direct and ancillary charges. It is the responsibility of the customer to arrange for a third-party entity to establish energy purchase schedules unless the customer wishes to purchase energy in the SPP real-time market.

**SPP Transmission Demand Charge:** Equal to a direct pass-through of the cost of transmission needed to serve the customer's load. It will be based on the share of NIMECA's billing peak for SPP NITS service attributable to the customer.

**CTS Transmission Demand Charge:** This applies to all monthly non-coincident peak demand units and is intended to compensate for costs assessed to LMPC for demand-driven charges related to its required investment in Corn Belt Power Cooperative's Common Transmission System (CTS).

**NIMECA Ancillary Charges:** This applies to all energy purchased in a month and is intended to recover all costs to Laurens Municipal Electric Utility from NIMECA that are attributable to the customer (CTS operations and maintenance charges, CTS dispatch fees, tape translations, and service charges).

**Basin Dispatch Fee:** This applies to costs related to Basin Electric Power Cooperative performing market services for NIMECA that are occasioned by the customer's load and is intended to recover all costs to Laurens Municipal Electric Utility from NIMECA that are attributable to the customer.

**Firm Demand Charge:** Applied to the maximum level of demand (in kW) that is required by the customer to maintain essential operations during periods of interruption ("Firm Demand"). The amount of firm demand will be determined annually by mutual agreement between Laurens Municipal Electric Utility and the customer, provided that the amount of firm demand shall be subject to the requirements of SPP, including annual certification/testing requirements as well as any planning reserve margin requirements.

**Power Supply Demand Charge:** This applies to all monthly non-coincident peak demand units.

**Power Supply Energy Charge:** This applies to all monthly energy (kWh) purchases.

#### DETERMINATION OF BILLING QUANTITIES:

**Coincident peak demand (NIMECA):** This is equal to the 15-minute demand (in kilowatts) incurred by the customer at the same 15-minute period in the month that NIMECA's billing peak for transmission service is incurred.

**Non-coincident peak demand:** This is equal to the maximum 15-minute demand (in kilowatts) incurred by the customer during any 15-minute period in a billing month, adjusted to include transmission system losses (if required).

**Billing energy:** All energy registered by the appropriate metering as being delivered to the customer in the current billing month, adjusted to include transmission system losses (if required).

#### INTERRUPTIBLE DETAILS:

The customer is responsible for complying with the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) Demand Response Program. If the failure of the customer to curtail its load below the level of Firm Demand results in additional costs to NIMECA or Laurens Municipal Electric Utility, whether due to penalties, additional capacity costs, or any other mechanism, the customer shall reimburse the Utility for these additional costs. Payment of said additional costs, or waiver of the same, shall not be construed as giving the customer the right to exceed the level of Firm Demand in any subsequent curtailment period. These rules are subject to change by SPP and are currently under review.

#### CUSTOMER SURETY PROVISIONS:

At Laurens Municipal Electric Utility's sole discretion and based on the Utility's evaluation of the relevant aspects relating to the serving of the customer's load, certain surety provisions may be required (surety bonds, prepayment provisions, deposits, etc.). If such provisions are required, they will be included in the Contract for Service developed between the parties.

#### ADDITIONAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS:

Depending on the nature of the customer's load and Laurens Municipal Electric Utility's reasonable determination, certain additional terms and conditions of service may be necessary, or additional costs might need to be assessed to the customer (for example, provisions related to decommissioning costs, wind-down costs, etc.). If such provisions are required, the Utility may include them in a Contract for Service entered by the parties.

This resolution shall be effective upon approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024.

Ben Storms

Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the final Application for Payment from Graves Construction Company in the amount of \$21,442.45 for the Storage Building Project. CMBA Architects have certified the work covered by this application for payment has been completed. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the City Hall Renovation Project. CMBA Architects had provided the Board of Trustees and City Council various options to consider. The Board of Trustees stated that with the financial commitments already in place for 2025, the most LMPC would be able to commit towards any City Hall improvements in 2025 would be an amount equal to the State of Iowa's competitive quote threshold (\$80,000).

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve the renewal of the Group Vision Insurance Plan with Avesis through Woodley Insurance. The renewal goes into effect February 1, 2025 and runs through January 31, 2027. Single coverage monthly premium will be \$9.76. Family coverage monthly premium will be \$ 25.37. Employees with Family coverage will continue to pay the difference between the family and single coverage premium. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the engagement letter from T.P. Anderson & Company to complete an audit of the calendar year ended December 31, 2024 for a fee that will not exceed \$20,500 and LMPC will seek out competitive quotes on auditing services for calendar years 2025, 2026, and 2027 next fall. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve a Holiday Lighting Credit of \$25 on the January 2025 Utility bill for electric customers putting up at least 200 Christmas Lights or one (1) inflatable outside of the home. The lights and/or inflatables need to be on every evening between December 15, 2024 and January 1, 2025. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to approve a One Time Payment of \$300 in Laurens Chamber Bucks to all active full-time employees and \$150 in Laurens Chamber Bucks to all active part-time employees. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Horsman to increase all wage scales for calendar year 2025 by 4% and require all LMPC employees who have family health insurance coverage to pay 8 percent of the difference between the family and single coverage premium. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Horsman and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to set the General Manager's wage for calendar year 2025 at Grade 5, Step 23 of the General Manager's Wage Scale. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Ben Storms  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland  
Secretary, Board of Trustees