

Decorah Telecommunications Utility Board Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2018 – 5:00pm
Council Chambers

Minutes

Members attending:

Paul Mattson
Jarrad Walter
Bruce Butters
Anna Norris
Lydia Andersen

Others in attendance:

Chopper Albert
Chad Bird
Wanda Hemesath

Paul Scott
Jim Fritz
Phil Iverson

City Council Members attending:

Mayor Lorraine Borowski
Andy Carlson
Ross Hadley

Dan Bellrichard
Johanna Bergan

Steve Luse

Workshop discussion regarding fiber network financial overview and telecommunications utility funding

Michael Maloney from DA Davidson was present and reviewed bonding options and processes with the commission and the council members present.

Maloney reviewed his history working with other telco utilities in Iowa including Waverly, Indianola, and Hartley. He also discussed three main items required for a fiber project funding including; fiber-optic network, operations funding, and equipment funding. He spent some time reviewing and discussing each.

Maloney also reviewed the dynamic of obtaining funding without an electric utility established and covered what rate maintenance means in regard to servicing debt obligations.

He reviewed general obligation debts, revenue debts, and other debt options. There was discussion on each of the options which may be available.

There was conversation about completing another, or third-party study review and the possibility of developing a professional business plan to be able to enter the investment market and sell bonds to investors with tangible signs of viability.

Maloney also discussed other possible sources of funding such as grants and state and federal loan programs.

Maloney concluded by laying out a proposed timeline for business plan development and implementation if funding were to proceed.

There was a considerable discussion and questions after.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm with motion and second by Butters and Walter respectively.

Respectfully submitted

