



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: June 7, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to approve a 2.5% wage increase for exempt non-management employees, a 3% wage increase for exempt management employees, excluding the General Manager, effective July 1, 2023 and approve June 19 as a paid holiday for exempt employees.

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

As discussed at the closed meeting on May 17, management staff recommended a 2.5% wage increase to non-management positions and a 3% increase to management positions, excluding the General Manager. The wage increases are to be effective July 1, 2023.

Additionally, a bill to establish Juneteenth as a state-recognized holiday was signed into law by Gov. Tim Walz. The holiday is to recognize the date on which slavery was abolished in the United States. Public business cannot be conducted on June 19 in observance of the holiday.

The new law was set to go into effect on Aug. 1, 2023, however, a provision contained in [HF 1830](#) ([Rep. Ginny Klevorn](#), DFL-Plymouth/[Sen. Samakab Hussein](#), DFL-St. Paul), the state and local government omnibus bill, changes the effective date to make the new holiday effective before June 19 of this year, requiring that the day be observed. The HF 1830 conference committee report containing the updated effective date was passed by the House and Senate and will now go to Gov. Tim Walz to be signed. Cities will need to update their existing schedules to reflect the June 19 holiday and make any necessary adjustments.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider a motion to approve a 2.5% wage increase for exempt non-management employees, a 3% wage increase for exempt management employees, excluding the General Manager, effective July 1, 2023 and approve June 19 as a paid holiday for exempt employees.