

Grand Rapids Public Utilities

February 12, 2025

Commission Work Session

GRPU Management Team



**GRAND RAPIDS
PUBLIC UTILITIES**
Service is Our Nature



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Commission Work Session

AGENDA

1. Consider a motion to approve \$1,467,847.46 in verified claims for January 2025.
2. Operational and Capital Updates



Uninterrupted, High-Quality Utility Services (US)

Operations: 2025 Legislative Efforts by Julie Kennedy

- MMUA State Legislative Rally
 - January 27-29 in St. Paul
- APPA Federal Legislative Rally
 - February 24-26 in Washington, DC



2025 State Legislative Priorities

The MMUA Board of Directors has given direction as to how MMUA will address a list of issues that may arise during the 2025 legislative session. The following is a summary of the issues, provided in the order of priority assigned by the Board.

Issue Discussed	Requested Legislative Action
Nuclear moratorium	Repeal the statutory restriction on the siting of new nuclear electric generating facilities in Minnesota.
Reform net metering statutes	Amend current law to: a) establish a more equitable compensation process b) reduce the total size of generating facilities eligible for net metering from 40 kilowatts to 20 kilowatts c) require facilities to be sized to 105 percent of the load served.
PFAS remediation challenges	Treat municipal utilities as a conduit—and not a source—of PFAS. Any new treatment mandates need to identify adequate funding resources so that utilities are not forced to raise their rates.
Bonding bill	Pass a bonding bill that adequately funds projects and programs so that municipal utilities can make needed improvements, repairs, and upgrades.
Minnesota's Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) Law	Clarify and modify ESST leave mandates to address staffing issues experienced by employers including municipal utilities.
Exempt sales to cryptocurrency related data mining operations from Energy Conservation and Optimization Act (ECO) calculations	Clarify that the exemption of sales to cryptocurrency data centers from ECO plans begins the first year the threshold is met and is thereafter permanent.
Modify Cold Weather Rule (CWR) notice requirements	Authorize more efficient options for providing required CWR notices.
Electric vehicle charging stations	Clarify that it is acceptable for third parties to charge customers for the use of a charging station so long as the power to the charging station comes from the utility within whose service territory the station is located.
Telecommunications installation safety training	Exempt utility workers already trained in directional boring from the 2024 mandate on telecommunication line installers.
Lead and copper service lines replacement	Provide funding and limit liability for utility-installed lead and copper line replacements.



Strategic and Sustainable Fiscal Management (FM)

Operations: Procurement Policy Updates by Jean Lane

- Review redlined policy document
- Consider approval Feb 26, 2025
- Two main changes:
 - Master Service Agreements and subsequent Statement of Work

- _____1.3.7 If a vendor has an approved master service agreement, then only the statement of work document needs to be ratified by the Commission if under \$25,000 and approved by the Commission if \$25,000 and greater.



Strategic and Sustainable Fiscal Management (FM)

Operations: Procurement Policy Updates by Jean Lane

Two main changes:

- Add one purchase category and adjust limits as follows:

2.1.1 Micro Purchases

Procurements valued under ~~\$1,500~~ 2,500 will be considered Micro Purchases, and may be made in the open market. Local purchases are encouraged. Purchase orders are recommended. No GRPUC prior approval required for purchases.

2.1.2 Mini Purchases

Procurements valued between \$2,501 and \$15,000 will be considered Mini Purchases and two competitive written quotations are required unless an exception is granted by the General Manager. A purchase order is mandatory and serves as the legal purchasing document. Additionally, local purchases are encouraged

2.1.3 Small Purchases

Procurements valued between ~~\$1,500~~ 15,001 and \$25,000 will be considered Small Purchases and shall be purchased by a minimum of two competitive written quotes. The GM may approve exceptions to this procedure for purchases in the open market under \$25,000. GM approval is required for solicitation of quotes of unbudgeted goods or services. Local purchases are encouraged. Purchase orders are required. Once selected, services require a standard short-form contract. The GM is authorized to sign all contracts up to \$25,000 and change orders on behalf of GRPUC and present the contract(s) and change orders for ratification at the next GRPUC meeting. No GRPUC prior approval required for purchases. Single source vendor can use vendor contract or GRPU standard short-form contract.



Strategic and Sustainable Fiscal Management (FM)

Operations: New Policy – Prior approved check list by Jean Lane

Key points:

- Minnesota legal compliance adherence
- Best practices for cash flow planning and bill payment
- Formalizing existing current practice
 - With adopted Commission resolution, authority can be granted to pay before approval
- Review draft policy document
- Consider approval Feb 26, 2025

Document D: Check #	October 2024 Check Register Vendor Name	Document Amount	
10/1/2024 5219	Northeast Service Cooperative	63,213.38	10/31/2024
10/1/2024 5220	Northeast Service Cooperative	4,462.00	10/31/2024
10/6/2024 5221	Invoice Cloud	3,390.30	10/31/2024
10/8/2024 5222	Wells Fargo PCard	11,528.89	10/8/2024
10/7/2024 5223	Public Employees Retirement Association	19,004.69	10/7/2024
10/7/2024 5224	MN Department of Revenue	5,612.06	10/7/2024
10/7/2024 5225	Wells Fargo Bank	32,357.27	10/7/2024
10/7/2024 5226	Empower Retirement	9,790.25	10/7/2024



Strategic and Sustainable Fiscal Management (FM)

Operations: 2025 Bonding by Jean Lane

3rd Ave NE Improvements

City Street Improvement	\$3,515,000	
GRPUC Water	\$850,000	
GRPUC Sanitary Sewer	\$815,000	1,665,000

Debt Issuance	\$145,000	
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Total Issuance Limit	\$5,325,000	
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DRAFT: Schedule of Events

City of Grand Rapids
Itasca County, Minnesota

Estimated \$5,325,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2025A
Financing streets, water and sanitary sewer for the 2nd and 4th project

Draft as of January 15, 2025

January 24, 2025	Public hearing notice for the issuance of Street Reconstruction Bonds due to the Grand Rapids Herald Review.
January 27, 2025	City Council meets at 5:00 PM and calls for a public hearing for the issuance of G.O. Street Reconstruction Bonds.
January 29, 2025	Public hearing notice for the issuance of Street Reconstruction Bonds published in the Grand Rapids Herald Review.
February 10, 2025	City Council meets at 5:00 PM and considers the following actions: 1. Hold a public hearing related to the issuance of Street Reconstruction Bonds 2. Call for the sale of G.O. Bonds, Series 2025A, including the issuance of debt for street reconstruction
February 12, 2025	GRPU receives copy of Pre-Sale Report and information on Series 2025A Bonds (no action needed)
Week of Feb. 24, 2025	Rating call / update with Standard & Poor's. Ehlers distributes Official Statement.
February 26, 2025	GRPU requests the City to call for the sale of G.O. Bonds to reimburse for the water and sanitary sewer expenses. [Packet information due February 20, 2025.]
March 10, 2025	Ehlers receives bids for sale G.O. Bonds. City Council meets at 5:00 PM to consider the bids and a resolution awarding the sale of G.O. Bonds.
March 26, 2025	GRPU receives results of bond sale and pledges revenues to payment.
March ____, 2025	Estimated Bonds close / Funds available to the City.



Engaging and Educating the Community (EC)

Operations: NMNB Association Home & Cabin Show by Julie Kennedy

GRPU team members will be hosting a table at the event

NMBA Home & Cabin Show
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Operational Excellence (OE)

Operations: Emergency Action Plan by Julie Kennedy

- Review draft policy document
- Consider approval Feb 26, 2025

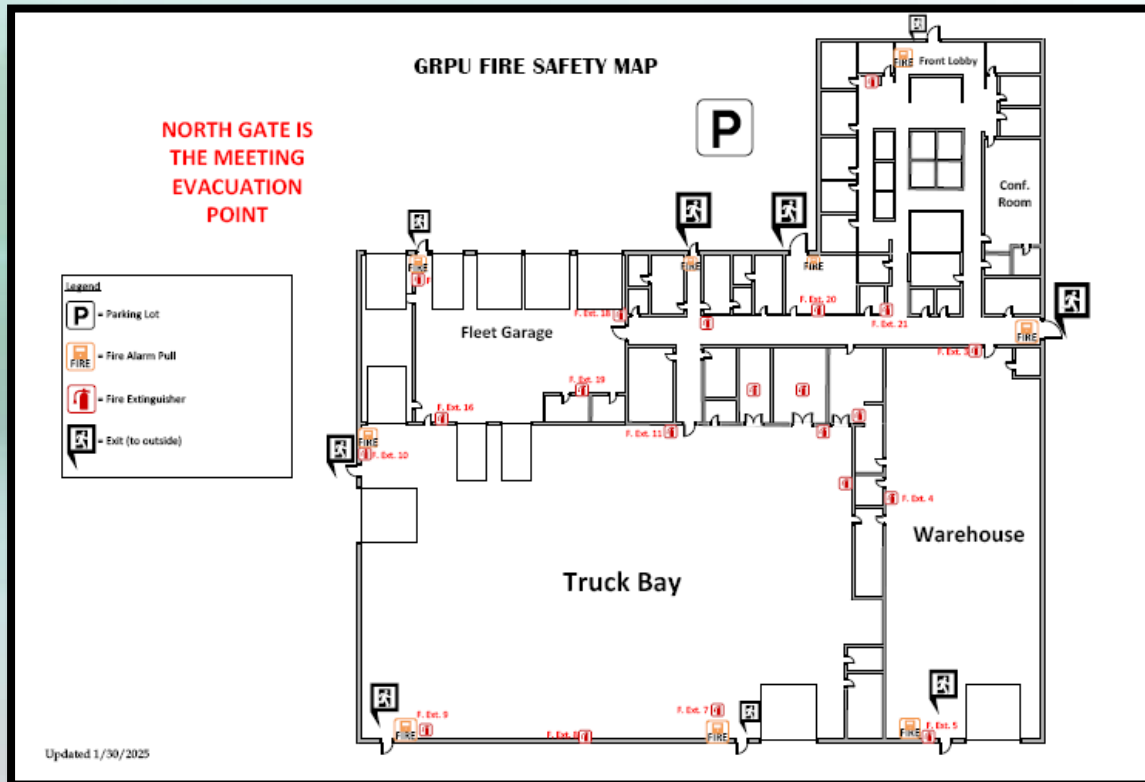


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Grand Rapids Public Utilities

Upcoming Commission Meetings

Regular Meeting: February 26, 2025

Work Session: March 12, 2025



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