



UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City of New Prague

Monday, September 25, 2023 at 3:30 PM

Power Plant - 300 East Main St

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Dan Bishop on Monday, September 25, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Dan Bishop, Dick Jordan, Paul Busch, Tom Ewert, Bruce Wolf

Staff Present: GM Bruce Reimers, EOS Ken Zweber, Finance Director Robin Pikal

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

General Manager Reimers asked that the amount in the Utility and SMMPA bills be changed from \$367,259.18 to \$242,386.90. Motion made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Busch to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried (5-0).

3. REVIEW OF 2023 RATE STUDY

a. By: Dave Berg Consulting

Rate Consultant Dave Berg presented the 2023 Water and Electric Rate Study Analysis. This information will be used to provide financial and rate guidance for the 2024 budget.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. August 28, 2023, Utilities Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Jordan, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to approve the August meeting minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

5. UTILITY AND SMMPA BILLS

a. Approval of accounts payable in the amount of **\$242,386.90** and the SMMPA billing of **\$639,769.84**.

Motion made by Commissioner Ewert, seconded by Commissioner Busch to approve. Motion carried (5-0).

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Investment Summary

b. Financial Report (Note: Finance system set up has continued in September. Current financial reports through July 31st will be prepared as soon as possible and provided to Commission members via email prior to the October Commission meeting. The October Commission meeting packet will include financial documents through August 31st.)

c. Water and Kilowatt Hours Sales

Motion made by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Ewert, to approve all reports as presented. Motion carried (5-0).

7. SMMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

- a. August 9, 2023
- b. September 13, 2023

General Manager Reimers informed the Commission that the following was discussed at the September SMMPA Board Meeting:

- SMMPA staff has started work on resource planning, stating that there is a need for nearly 60 MW of new base load generation needed over the next 5 years and that they will be working with members to see if they are interested in installing new generation in their communities.
- SMMPA will be hosting a budget workshop in Owatonna on September 26, 2023. Wholesale rates for 2024 are looking to stay the same as 2023.

8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Reimers informed the Commission on the following:

- The water main replacement along 10th Avenue NE has begun and it is scheduled to be completed in about 3 weeks.
- The electric department is working with several new commercial projects and continuing work on the NE CIP project.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

General Manager Reimers asked that the Commission look at their calendars for the November 27, 2023, meeting date and suggested that one option would be to hold the meeting at 9:00 a.m. instead of 3:30 p.m. A final decision will be made at the October meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Ewert to adjourn the September 25, 2023, meeting at 5:18 p.m. Motion carried (5-0).

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING - Monday, October 30, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Reimers
General Manager