



UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

City of New Prague

Monday, November 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM

Power Plant - 300 East Main St

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Dan Bishop on Monday, November 27, 2023, at 9:05 a.m.

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

Staff present: GM Bruce Reimers and EOS Ken Zweber

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Ewert and seconded by Commissioner Wolf to approve the agenda. Motion carried (5-0).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. October 30, 2023, Utilities Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Jordan, seconded by Commissioner Ewert, to approve the October minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

4. UTILITY AND SMMPA BILLS

- a. Approval of accounts payable in the amount of **\$126,436.69** and the SMMPA billing of **\$428,039.47**.

Motion made by Commissioner Busch, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, to approve the SMMPA and utility bills. Motion carried (5-0).

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Investment Report
- b. Financial Report
- c. Water and Kilowatt Hours Sales

A motion was made by Commissioner Jordan and seconded by Commissioner Bishop to approve the financial reports as presented. Motion carried (5-0).

6. PFAS LITIGATION RETAINER AGREEMENT

- a. Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P.

GM Reimers discussed a memo, advising the commission follow the recommendation of City Attorney Scott Riggs, City Council, and City Administrator Josh Tetzlaff to retain the Law Firms of Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P. and Napoli Shkolnik regarding PFAS environmental concerns and potential settlements. A motion was made by Commissioner Ewert and seconded by Commissioner Bishop to sign the retainer agreement. Motion carried (5-0).

7. APPROVE THE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

a. 2000 Ford F-250 Truck

Motion made by Commissioner Jordan, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, approving the sale of surplus property. Motion carried (5-0).

8. SMMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

a. October 13, 2023

GM Reimers informed the commission on the following:

- GM Reimers sat in on the finalist interviews for the COO position.
- SMMPA staff is working with Grid North Partners in developing new transmission projects that SMMPA will be able to make investments in. It is estimated that the SMMPA investment will be around \$35 million.

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

GM Reimers informed the commission on the following:

- The electric department has been working with Jeff Belzer's and MVE Biological installing larger services to serve new loads.
- Staff have begun interviews for the open Generation Operator position but have not received many qualified applicants.
- The water department has been working with our SCADA contractors installing the new control equipment. Overall, staff is happy with the switchover and hope to have everything completed by the end of the year.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Jordan, seconded by Commissioner Ewert, to adjourn the November 27, 2023, meeting at 9:52 a.m. Motion carried (5-0).

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – Wednesday, December 27, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Reimers
General Manager