



# UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

## City of New Prague

Monday, March 31, 2025 at 3:30 PM

Power Plant - 300 East Main St

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commission Vice President Chuck Nickolay on Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, at 3:35 pm.

Commissioners Present: Chuck Nickolay, Tom Ewert, Paul Busch and Bruce Wolf

Commissioners Absent: Dan Bishop

Staff Present: General Manager Bruce Reimers, OES Ken Zweber, Finance Director Robin Pikal, Administrative Assistant Alyssa Schapekahm and Billing Specialist Jessica Lambrecht.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Ewert, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried (4-0)

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. February 24, 2025 Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Nickolay, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to approve the February minutes as presented.

Motion carried (4-0)

### 4. UTILITY AND SMMPA BILLS

a. Approval of accounts payable in the amount of **\$173,109.47** and the SMMPA billing of **\$462,430.97**.

Motion made by Commissioner Ewert, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to approve the accounts payable as presented.

Motion carried (4-0)

### 5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Investment Report

b. Financial Report

c. Water and Kilowatt Hours Sales

Motion made by Commissioner Busch, seconded by Commissioner Ewert, to approve the financial reports as presented.

Motion carried (4-0)

**6. SMMPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**a.** February 12, 2025

GM Reimers informed the Commission on the following:

- Board reviewed future debt retirement and rates
- Member Quick start contracts were reviewed and will be presented to the working group one more time before the board meeting in April.
- GM Reimers was appointed to the officer position of treasurer due to board seat changes by Lake City.

**7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

GM Reimers informed the Commission of the following:

- Staff have been meeting with DGR engineers on the design of the new power plant
- The Generation department has been working on new oil and jacket water coolers for engine #6
- Breaker and relay testing has been completed at the power plant and the West substation
- A leak has been discovered on treatment plant number three's main filter and staff have been working with SEH engineering as to the next steps to make the repairs

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**a.** 2025 CIP Funding Discussion

GM Reimers and Finance Director Pikal went over financing options for the 2025 CIP projects. The question was raised by the City's financial consultant whether the Commission would want to consider paying cash this year, being the cost came in somewhat lower than was estimated. The commission decided it would be best to bond for the project.

**b.** Review of Resolutions for Council Meeting

GM Reimers reviewed the resolutions that he will present at the council meeting on Monday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, that will cover the future bonding and refunding for the West Side Energy Station.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Commissioner Ewert, seconded by Commissioner Busch, to adjourn the meeting at 4:35pm.

Motion carried (4-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

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Bruce Reimers  
General Manager