

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

### **JOINT WORK STUDY SESSION MEETING WITH PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL**

**December 5, 2019, 1:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Joint Work Study Session Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission with Princeton City Council, City of Princeton, was held in Princeton City Hall, 705 North 2nd Street, on December 5, 2019, at 4:30 P.M.

Present: Chairman Mindi Siercks and Commissioners Dan Erickson and Greg Hanson.

Absent: None

Also Present: Manager Keith Butcher, Bookkeeper Kathy Ohman, Princeton Mayor Brad Schumacher, Princeton City Council Members Jack Edmonds, Jenny Gerald, Jules Zimmer, Jeffrey Reynolds, Princeton City Staff Stephanie Hillesheim, Steve Jackson, Robert Barbian, Ron Lawrence, Chris Klinghagen, Bob Gerold, and Nancy Campbell. Present in audience was Union Times Reporter Tim Hennagir, Rick Schwartz, Tim Siercks, Lee Steinbrecher, Luther Dorr, Kevin Gerrard and Andrea Gerrard and guest.

Joint Work Study Session Meeting was called to order by Chairman Siercks at 4:33 P.M.

Mr. Hanson made a motion to approve the agenda of the December 5, 2019 Joint Work Study Session of the PUC Commission with Princeton City Council. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Robert Barbian gave an opening statement and there were introductions of all in attendance.

#### **PRINCETON PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION GOVERNANCE:**

There was a handout of Minnesota State Statutes regarding public utilities. There was a discussion regarding the ordinance that will be coming before the Princeton City Council which includes Minnesota State Statutes.

#### **PRINCETON PUBLIC UTILITIES HISTORY AND BACKGROUND:**

General Manager Keith Butcher presented the background on public utilities in general. Following Mr. Butcher's presentation there was a discussion and questions asked in regards to public utilities.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS: PRINCETON PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CITY OF PRINCETON:**

Discussion on communications between the PUC and City of Princeton included meeting attendance at City Hall and at the PUC. The discussion included changing perceptions and supporting each other.

#### **RESOURCE SHARING, EQUIPMENT AND MANPOWER:**

There was a discussion on how the PUC and the City of Princeton have worked together in the past, sharing equipment and manpower. The discussion followed into working together going forward and the continued sharing of equipment and manpower. There was also a discussion about future facility plans from the perspective of both the City of Princeton and the PUC.

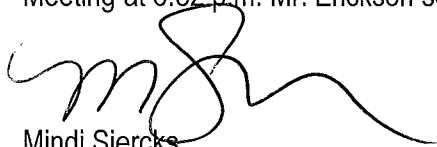
**PPU POLICIES: RESERVES, RATES, DEPOSITS, PILOT:**

The discussion included the PUC policies. Policies included the Cash Reserve Policy. Deposits were discussed at the regular PUC Commission Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> and was felt to be a good policy. There was also a discussion of the PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes). There were also discussion on the PUC contributing to more projects with the City of Princeton.

**COUNCIL AND COMMISSION MEMBERS THOUGHTS, COMMENTS, OR GOALS:**

Each City of Princeton Council Member, Mayor, PUC Commissioners and General Manager spoke on their thoughts of the meeting. The two entities should strive to find common ground and to keep a high level of perspective of the common ground. There will be disagreements between the two entities but with good productive communication it can be worked through. At this time, it was felt there was not a need to schedule a second meeting.

There being no further business, Mr. Hanson made a motion to adjourn the Joint Work Study Session Meeting at 6:32 p.m. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Mindi Siercks  
Chairman



Kathy Ohman  
Secretary