

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**February 28, 2018, 1:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission, City of Princeton, was held in Commission Offices, 907 First Street, on February 28, 2018, at 1:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Mindi Siercks and Commissioners George Freichels and Henry Findell.

Absent: None

Also Present: Manager Connie Wangen, Bookkeeper Kathy Ohman, City Councilor Jack Edmonds, Electric Supervisor Jon Brooks, and Water Superintendent Scott Daniels. City Administrator Bob Barbian arrived at 1:00 P.M. Dave Schultz from WSB arrived at 1:00 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Siercks at 1:02 P.M.

Chairman Siercks called for additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Manager Wangen reported the following:

- A. The SMMPA Meeting was held February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in New Prague, Minnesota. Electric Supervisor Jon B. and Water Superintendent Scott D. attended the meeting as well. A large discussion was in regards to SMMPA's coal delivery to the Sherco 3 Plant in Becker. SMMPA acquires all of its coal through Western Fuels Association. Western Fuel Association and Burlington Northern have been in negotiations for coal delivery to Sherco 3. The CEO and General Manager of Western Fuel was at the February board meeting and presented the results of the negotiations. The SMMPA Board did approve the new contract. Year-end financials were reviewed. The new website was presented. SMMPA is doing more advertising this year.
- B. New Prague has implemented their new AMI metering. Connie W., Jon B., and Scott D. went to New Prague on February 14<sup>th</sup> to meet with them regarding AMI metering. Currently the PPUC has AMR metering where once a month we drive by with a communication device and read meters. Final bills are read as needed. The AMI meters would communicate through a gateway. The meters would also have the availability to be checked at any time in the office. Remote disconnects would be available at an additional cost. Manager Wangen has a meeting tomorrow with Eaton/Cannon regarding load management. We would like to discuss AMI metering at this time also. Mr. Findell made a motion to move forward with AMI meters. Mr. Freichels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. SMMPA will have their Spring Informational Meeting in Princeton on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A meal will be served at 5:30 PM followed by a one hour meeting.

- D. In the Generation Plant, they have been doing fuel injector testing on each of the units. Engines #4, #5, and #6 have been completed with each injector being tested. They are working on Engine #3 at this time. They are also installing two new air tanks with the help of the Water Department.

In the Water Department, they have been repairing leaks in the chemical lines at Water Treat Plant #2. A new reclaim meter has been ordered for Water Treatment Plant #1.

In the Electric Department, Jim B. and Corey Z. installed the new batteries at the North Sub. Jim B. is now testing all of the battery banks. In prior years, Great River Energy did the testing of the battery banks. Having this done in-house is cost effective. There will be a meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> with SEH regarding the Fuse Coordination Study which has been completed. The line crew has been doing some power line inspections, tree trimming, and squirrel prevention.

- E. There was a pre-construction meeting on the roundabout on Highway 95 that Jon B. and Scott D. attended. The PPUC has a cabinet that will need to be moved and will also have to move where the electric crosses Highway 95. We are working on the permit to cross the highway. MN-DOT is requiring a surety bond for this permit. The project should be completed in approximately two months' time.

Kwik Trip is scheduled to start building in August. The new Casey's should be built sometime this summer. Aldi's has done some soil borings, but nothing is definite yet.

- F. The MPCA is reviewing the Air Permit renewal. Manager Wangen has seen a tentative schedule for approval by early to mid-summer.
- G. Manager Wangen reported we are in the midst of updating our spill containment plan which is required. Engineer Zipf has toured the Generation Plant, South Substation and the new lot checking our plan. There will be some updating that will need to be done for our spill containment.

All residential water and electric customers were billed the Electric and Water Service Line Protection Fee implemented in January. In January, one customer had their underground electric burn off, which was repaired temporarily. The costs to replace the permanent line will be covered by the Electric Service Line Protection Fee.

Manager Wangen has been meeting with several commercial customers, banks, and the City of Princeton to participate in the SolarChoice project. We have received quite a bit of interest in the SolarChoice project, but has not received many participants.

Once the Middle Water Tower is finished this spring, T-Mobile will be re-installing their antenna along with additional equipment to it. KLM Engineering has approved the drawings and designs for the additional equipment.

The Contractor Service Agreement has been updated for 2018 with the help of Attorney Dove. Section 3 has been added with Responsible Contractor Requirements. An Exhibit B will be attached to the service contract when there is a service contract of \$50,000.00 or greater. Going forward there will be two service contracts. One for \$50,000.00 and over, but less than required to go out for bids. The second one will have

Section 3 crossed off. Mr. Findell made a motion to approve the updated Contractor Service Agreement. Mr. Freichels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-02 RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON regarding Distributed Generation and Net Metering and Rules Governing the Interconnection of Cogeneration and Small Power Production Facilities to establish the application procedures and qualification criteria for the delivery, interconnection, metering, and purchase of electricity from distributed generation facilities was presented. Mr. Freichels made a motion to accept Resolution 18-02. Mr. Findell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-03 RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON regarding a resolution approving Princeton Public Utilities Commission Cogeneration and Small Production Tariff requiring the utility to annually file a Cogeneration and Small Power Production Tariff with the Princeton Public Utilities Commission Board was presented. Mr. Freichels made a motion to accept Resolution 18-03. Mr. Findell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The liability coverage waiver form was presented to the PUC Commission which includes \$500,000.00 cyber security insurance. Mr. Findell made a motion to approve the tort liability coverage limits of \$1,500,000 from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust for 2018, the PUC does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04. Mr. Freichels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-04 RESOLUTION OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON REGARDING AUTHORIZING THE SERVICES OF MINUTEMAN PRESS, PRINCETON, MN for the use of their services for printing and web design/upgrades in the amount of \$580.22 through February 28, 2018 was presented. Mr. Findell made a motion to accept Resolution 18-04. Mr. Freichels seconded. Ms. Siercks abstained from voting.

Connie W., Scott D., Scott S., and Paul P. will be attending the St. Cloud MN Rural Water Conference on March 6<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup>. Paul P. will be testing for his Class C Water License. Corey Z. and Tim B. will be attending Substation School in April. Two employees will be attending Generation School in April.

The February 2018 Connector Newsletter was included.

The attached list of bills was reviewed and approved by the Commission.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Mindi Siercks  
Chairman

Kathy Ohman  
Secretary