

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

April 25, 2019, 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 Princeton City Hall, 705 North 2nd Street, on April 25, 2019, at 1:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Mindi Siercks and Commissioner Henry Findell. Commissioner Dan Erickson arrived at 1:40 P.M.

Absent: None

Also Present: Manager Connie Wangen, Bookkeeper Kathy Ohman, City Councilor Jack Edmonds, Electric Superintendent Jon Brooks, Water Superintendent Scott Daniels, City Administrator Bob Barbian, and Union Times Reporter Tim Hennagir.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Siercks at 1:03 P.M.

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

Mr. Findell made a motion to approve the agenda of the April 25, 2019 Regular PUC Commission Meeting. Ms. Siercks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Findell moved to approve the Minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting. Ms. Siercks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Findell made a motion to approve the accounts payable listing for the period of March 1, 2019 through March 31, 2019. Ms. Siercks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

General Manager Wangen reported the following:

- A. The monthly SMMPA Board Meeting was held April 10th in Wells, Minnesota. There were discussions on the solar program which is moving forward for utilities and cities. From the 5 MW solar farm in Owatonna, SMMPA is making available 2 MW to utilities and cities. The 2 MW will be divided up amongst SMMPA members. PUC's portion of the 2 MW would be 41 KW with an additional 50 KW being given. The additional 50 KW being given would need to be used on a city owned building or property and the 41 KW can be used anywhere. If Princeton would want to install a solar billboard, SMMPA would purchase the power generated. Manager Connie Wangen will look into this further.
- B. In the Generation Plant, the air emissions testing was done on Engines #3, #4, #5 and #6. All four engines passed with a carbon reduction of at least 70%. The Cat Engine #7 is out of service at this time and was not tested. Ziegler is working on replacing the drive shaft on the Cat Engine. Once the work has been completed and a test run is done, the air emissions testing will be done. They have also been working on upgrading the fuel pump on Engine #3. There was a relay wired incorrectly on Engine #4's horn that they were able to re-wire.

In the Electric Department, the line crew is starting to upgrade primary and secondary services in the Pondview area and west of Riverview Terrace. Letters have been mailed to homeowners giving them the opportunity to bury their services at the same time. Once this area has been completed, they will be moving to 5th Avenue North and the Rainbow Park area. The line crew is also installing fault indicators on transformers. In the 2019 Budget, a cable plow was approved to be purchased. At this time, Manager Connie Wangen would like to push this back and use those funds to purchase additional fault indicators. Mr. Findell made a motion to push the purchase of a cable plow ahead to 2020 and purchase an additional 40 single phase and 80 3-phase fault indicators. Ms. Siercks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. In the Water Department, Scott Daniels reported four new water services have been installed along with installing a new fire hydrant by Erdman Automation's new addition. They have also been working on curb stops where the tops have been busted off during the winter.

In the Water Distribution System, the new fire hydrant by Erdman Automation's new addition has been installed. As agreed upon, Princeton Public Utilities paid for the cost of the fire hydrant. Any additional costs with installation and parts will be paid for by RW Builders, Erdman Automation, and the City of Princeton.

The 2018 Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Report for Princeton was presented to the PUC Commission. It is a requirement that this report be distributed or available to customers. It will be posted on the PUC website and printed in the local paper.

- D. City Administrator Bob Barbian did not have any City of Princeton updates.
- E. General Manager Connie Wangen reported Keith Butcher, our SMMPA Rep for energy efficiency and rebates, met with Holiday Corp. who are doing updates to their stores. They will be receiving a \$5,085.00 commercial lighting rebate.

Relocating the water main that is located in the Sherburne County Roundabout will be abandoned and a new water main will be installed from Water Treatment Plant #2 north between Crystal Cabinets and Princeton Auto. Princeton Auto will be contributing to the cost to relocate the second water main that is currently located near their building into an easement. The contractors are scheduled to begin work on Monday.

General Manager Connie Wangen reported interviews have gone very well for the PUC General Manager position. Four interviews have been completed and the last interview will be done next Tuesday. All candidates are very good candidates. Each have said they could be in place within three to four weeks. A decision will be made for second interviews after next Tuesday's interview.

National Drinking Water Week is May 5th through May 11th. A water brochure was made up and will be mailed to customers with monthly bills. The PUC will be promoting water week offering tours of the Water Treatment Plants, coloring books, pencils and give aways. Princeton Mayor Brad Schumacher has been working with the Superintendent of the Princeton Schools to give children in school tours of the Power Plant, Water Treatment Plant and the Sewage Plant. The Superintendent will decide on a specific grade. This will be co-sponsored by the PUC and the City of Princeton.

The Union Times is creating a game Princeton-Opoly and are offering sponsorship options. One option discussed is to purchase board spaces. The two utility spaces on the board are \$295.00 each. 500 games will be produced and available to purchase. Games will be available to purchase in November. Mr. Erickson made a motion to purchase or sponsor two utility spaces for Electric and Water at a cost of \$295.00 each. Mr. Findell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 19-05 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 \$278.08 through April 25, 2019 was presented. Mr. Findell made a motion to accept Resolution 19-05. Mr. Erickson seconded. Ms. Siercks abstained from voting.

There being no further business, Mr. Erickson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m. Mr. Findell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.



Mindi Siercks
Chairman



Kathy Ohman
Secretary