

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**April 27, 2022, 1:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission, City of Princeton, was held at the Mille Lacs County Historical Society Depot Museum in the Amdall Room, 202 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 1:00 P.M.

Present: Chair Richard Schwartz and Commissioners Dan Erickson and Greg Hanson.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Manager Keith Butcher, Secretary Kathy Ohman, City Councilor Jules Zimmer, Electric Superintendent Jeremy Linden, Water Supervisor Scott Schmit, and George Eilertson (Northland Securities).

Meeting was called to order by Chair Schwartz at 1:03 P.M.

Mr. Schwartz called for additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

Mr. Erickson made a motion to approve the agenda of the April 27, 2022 Regular PUC Commission Meeting. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Hanson moved to approve the Minutes for the March 23, 2022 Regular PUC Commission Meeting. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no Public Comments.

After a discussion, Mr. Erickson made a motion to approve the certification of accounts payable for the period of March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **6. REPORTS:**

- a. Included in the Commission packets were the April SMMPA Key Metrics worksheet and March 9, 2022 Board Meeting minutes.
- b. Included in the Commission packets were the March 2022 PUC financial reports.
- c. The March 2022 EV and ACH Reports were included in the Commission packets.
- d. Included in the Commission packets were the 2021 Reliability Report

- e. The 2021 Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Report were included in the Commission packets. This will also be included in the bill message this month along with being posted on PPU website.

## **7. UPDATES:**

- a. Electric Superintendent Jeremy Linden provided the Electric Department update.
- b. Water/Power Plant Superintendent Scott Schmit provided the Water Department update and the Power Plant update.
- c. City Councilor Jules Zimmer provided an update on City activities.
- d. General Manager Keith Butcher provided an update on PPU activities.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **a. REDEMPTION OF REFUNDING BOND SERIES 2012A**

General Manager Keith Butcher presented Memo 22-05: Redemption of Refunding Bond Series 2012A. George Eilertson from Northland Securities reported on the 2012 Refunding Bond and paying the bond off early. The resolution presented is to call or pay off the 2012 Refunding Bond. Mr. Hanson made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-05. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Eilertson left the meeting

### **b. SIGNATORY CHANGES**

General Manager Keith Butcher presented Memo 22-06: Signatory Changes. With the resignation of Commissioner Greg Hanson, this resolution will remove Commissioner Greg Hanson as a signer on three of PPU's bank accounts and add Commissioner Richard Schwartz as a signer on three PPU bank accounts. Mr. Erickson made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-05. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **c. ACH DISCUSSION**

General Manager Keith Butcher reported customers have bene signing up for ACH and will receive the 3% discount on their water bill through August 2022.

### **d. RATE STUDY UPDATE**

General Manager Keith Butcher provided an update on the Electric Rate Study efforts.

### **e. CITY COUNCIL JOINT MEETING DISCUSSION**

In February, a joint meeting with the City of Princeton was scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>. With the resignation of PPU Commissioner Greg Hanson, the City Council canceled the meeting. Mr. Hanson made a motion to cancel the May 5<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting with the City of Princeton. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. General Manager Keith Butcher will work with the City of Princeton to reschedule this meeting.

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. SECURITY UPGRADES**

General Manager Keith Butcher presented Memo 22-11: Security Upgrade Proposal. Discussion followed. Mr. Hanson made a motion to approve the security upgrade of \$6,249.80. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

City Councilor Jules Zimmer left the meeting.

**b. WATER SYSTEM STUDY**

General Manager Keith Butcher and Water Superintendent have met with WSB to discuss conducting a water system rate study to determine the needs for the Water department. This study will be similar to the Electric rate study. Discussion followed. The consensus of the PPU Commission was to continue looking into conducting a Water System Study..

**c. COMMISSIONER HANSON RESIGNATION**

General Manager Keith Butcher presented the resignation letter from Commissioner Hanson effective June 1, 2022. Mr. Hanson stated it has been a pleasure and an honor to work with this group of individuals

**d. TOM BOVITZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

General Manager Keith Butcher reported he did not receive any applications for the 2022 Scholarship.

There being no further business, Mr. Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A tour of PPU facilities followed the PPU Regular Commission Meeting.



Richard Schwartz  
Chair



Kathy Ohman  
Secretary