

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

May 25, 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 10th Avenue South, on May 25th, 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 Administrator Michele McPherson, City Councilor Jules Zimmer, Electric Superintendent Jeremy Linden, Water/Power Plant Superintendent Scott Schmit, PUC Customer Jack Edmonds, and Randy Hatch from the Princeton American Legion.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Schwartz at 1:02 P.M.

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

Mr. Hanson made a motion to approve the agenda of the May 25, 2022 Regular PUC Commission Meeting. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Erickson moved to approve the Minutes for the April 27, 2022 Regular PUC Commission Meeting. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

General Manager Keith Butcher reported during the Public Comments, City Councilor Gerold had requested that the Commission review its regular meeting time. She felt that meeting in the middle of the day may discourage people from applying to be on the Commission and therefore limit participation.

Mr. Erickson made a motion to approve the certification of accounts payable for the period of April 1, 2022 through April 30, 2022. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. REPORTS:

- a. Included in the Commission packets were the May SMMPA Key Metrics worksheet and April 13, 2022 Board Meeting minutes.
- b. Included in the Commission packets were the April 2022 PUC financial reports.
- c. The April 2022 EV and ACH Reports were included in the Commission packets.

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.

Mr. Erickson and the entire PPU Commission thanked all involved in the PPU Tours on April 27th, 2022. The tours were very informative.

- c. City Administrator Michele McPherson and 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. ACH DISCUSSION

General Manager Keith Butcher reported there were not any new updates on ACH. After a discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to review ACH annually.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

a. LEGION DONATION REQUEST FOR JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

Randy Hatch from the Princeton American Legion presented a request to the PPU Commission asking for donations for the 4th of July fireworks display. Contributions made by individuals and businesses make this event possible. This year the event will be held on Monday, July 4th in partnership with the Mille Lacs County Fair Board. Discussion followed. The consensus of the PPU Commission was to table the discussion until the June 22nd Regular PUC Commission Meeting and for General Manager Keith Butcher to request a legal opinion from PPU's attorney.

Randy Hatch left the meeting.

b. WSB WATER SYSTEM STUDY PROPOSAL

General Manager Keith Butcher and Water Superintendent Scott Schmit presented Memo 22-12: Comprehensive Water System Plan along with a proposal from WSB to complete a comprehensive water system plan to determine the needs for the Water department. Discussion followed. Mr. Erickson made a motion to approve the proposal to complete a comprehensive water system study. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.


c. RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDIT (REC) DISCUSSION

General Manager Keith Butcher presented Memo 22-13: Renewable Energy Credits (REC). There is more interest from PPU customers regarding actions they can take to minimize their environmental impacts. Through SMMPA, PPU can play a more active role by providing a renewable energy purchase program. The consensus of the PPU Commission was for General Manager Keith Butcher to continue exploring program options.

There being no further business, Mr. Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 p.m. Mr. Erickson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Schwartz". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a prominent loop at the end.

Richard Schwartz
Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kathy Ohman". The signature is more compact and less stylized than the one above.

Kathy Ohman
Secretary