

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

July 22, 2026, 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 July 22, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Nowak at 1:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Nick Nowak, Tom Jackson, and Richard Schwartz.

Absent: None

PPU Staff: General Manager Keith Butcher, Electric Superintendent Jeremy Linden, Water/Power Plant Superintendent Scott Schmit, Office Manager Christina Cunningham, and Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Ohman.

Others: City of Princeton Administrator Michele McPherson, City Councilor Liaison Nick Taylor, Ed Yost, George Eilertson from Northland Securities, Princeton Residents Daniel Erickson and Jack Edmonds.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to approve the agenda of the July 22, 2026, Regular PUC Meeting. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no Public Comments.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Public Utilities Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2026
- b. Public Utilities Commission Closed Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2026
- c. Certification of Accounts Payable
- d. Electric Distribution Improvements – Phase II: Pay Estimate #2
- e. Memo 26-24: M-MIP Update
- f. Locating Services
 - i. Memo 26-25: 2026 Locating Assistance
 - ii. Premier Locating Agreement

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of the July 22, 2026 Regular PUC Meeting. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motion carried.

5. **REPORTS:**

- a. General Manager Report
 - i. Office Manager Report
 - ii. Water/Power Plant Superintendent Report
 - iii. Electric Superintendent Report
- b. Financial Reports – Q2 Reports and Cash Reserves
- c. Other Reports
 - i. SMMPA and EV Reports

6. **REGULAR AGENDA**

a. **2026 BONDING DISCUSSION**

George Eilertson from Northland Securities presented to the PUC Commission a finance plan for 2026 for Phase II of the Capital Improvements Plan along with the proposed schedule for bonding.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to accept the timeline schedule and to proceed with the bonding for Phase II of the CAP Plan. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

b. **CITY REPORT**

City Councilor Liaison Nick Taylor reported on activities with the City of Princeton.

Discussion.

7. **CLOSED SESSION: GENERAL MANAGER REVIEW**

Mr. Jackson made a motion to close the regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission at 1:58 p.m. for the purpose of completing the performance and evaluation review of the General Manager. Mr. Schwartz seconded. Motion carried.

The regular session of the Public Utilities Commission was resumed at 3:05 p.m.

8. **CLOSED MEETING RECAP**

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve a step increase for General Manager Keith Butcher. Mr. Schwartz seconded. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Schwartz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 p.m. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motion carried.



Chair



Secretary/Treasurer