

Approved

Item 1. - Commission President Marwick called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

Present: Commissioners Johnson, Makowsky, Marwick, Petroskey and Teasck
Absent: None
Also Present: Greg French - General Manager; Bill Hafdahl – Assistant General Manager, Mary Johnson – Supervisor – Customer Relations; Charlie Baribeau – Virginia City Council; Representative – Virginia Public Access TV

Item 2 (b) – A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve the meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3 – None

Item 4 (a) - A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson that financial resolution No. 5305 - Authorizing the payroll dated March 25, 2021 in the amount of \$102,193.07, direct deposits #33782 through #33847; and the payroll dated April 8, 2021 in the amount of \$104,459.20, direct deposits #33848 through #33913; and the payroll dated April 22, 2021 in the amount of \$101,192.97, direct deposits #33914 through #33979; and the bills dated March 22, 2021 through April 26, 2021 in the amount of \$2,041,362.13, checks #110155 through #110404 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$3,475,264.19; and Net Payment Adjustments for the month of March 2021 in the amount of \$3681.21 be adopted.

Item 4 (b) – Mr. French requested that “on the Highway 53 bridge water line,” be added to the minutes for Item 6 (b) clarifying where the drone fly-over was done. A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes, with the added language, from the March 22, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5 (a) – Mr. French stated there was one injury reported resulting in no restrictions or lost time.

Item 6 (a) – Mr. French gave an update on disconnects for non-payment. Of 22 targeted accounts, VPU worked 9 disconnects. All but 3, which are vacant properties, have been reconnected with about \$14,000 collected.

Item 7 (a) – A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and supported by Commissioner Petroskey to approve the travel request for Line Crew staff to attend the MMUA Underground School for Apprentices; May 11-14, 2021 in Marshall, MN. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7 (b) – A motion was made by Commissioner Teasck and supported by Commissioner Petroskey to award the bid, including the base cost plus alternate 1 and 2, for the 2021 Water Main Loops project. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French stated a notice will be going out to Northside steam customers who have not yet converted. He further stated there are a total of 190 customers left to convert, with 70 customers still needing to apply for gas services. Gas work has begun now that the frost is out of the ground. Mr. French also informed the Commission that the engineering design for the substation near the City’s planned Public Safety Building (near Tritec) is in process. Mr. French stated the plant is producing about 50,000 lb/hr of steam off #11 wood boiler with gas stabilizers. The plant will use up the wood supply, and then switch to burning coal sometime this week. Mr. French stated that the drone fly-over and inspection, done on the Highway 53 bridge water line, revealed that a gasket was blown at an anchor point near the middle of the line under the bridge. Once the anchor point is accessible, the gasket will be replaced. Mr. French gave an update on NEMMPA beginning a whole-sale contract discussion with Minnesota Power. He stated NEMMPA is into a 90-day negotiation period and will pursue wholesale power RFP’s if negotiations do not show favorable results. He stated he will keep the Commission updated, noting some confidential information will not be openly discussed as sessions will need to be closed for those discussions per the NDA in place.

Item 8 (b) – Other discussion included the EV Station, critical gas days, Virginia’s water supply/Rouchleau Pit, and potential demo plans for Malone Hall.

Item 9 – A motion was made by Commissioner Teasck and supported by Commissioner Petroskey to adjourn at 4:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

James Petroskey, Secretary

Jeff Marwick, President