

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA WAS HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022 AT 3:30 P.M.

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

Approved

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 – 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), (b) and (c) - A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Teasck that financial resolution No. 5319 - Authorizing the payroll dated April 7, 2022 in the amount of \$99,561.36, direct deposits #35480 through #35538; and the payroll dated April 21, 2022 in the amount of \$108,477.26, direct deposits #35539 through #35597; and the bills dated March 28, 2022 through April 25, 2022 in the amount of \$886,858.09, checks #112689 through #112841 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$1,489,405.50; and Net Payment Adjustments for the month of March 2022 in the amount of \$2858.97; the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from the March 28, 2022 meeting; and the Waiver of Liability coverage be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5 (a) – Commissioner Marwick reported there were no injuries for the month.

Item 6 (a) – Mr. French stated that a meeting with Mesabi Community College has not yet been held due to scheduling conflicts. He further stated Otto Maki (The Design Group) is in the process of finding a date that will work for all parties. Mr. French will update the Commission at next month's meeting.

Item 6 (b) – Mr. French discussed the 3rd Street N Water Loop Project recommending the Commission give pre-approval for VPU to call for bids once the plans & specs are completed. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and supported by Commissioner Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7 (a) – A discussion was held on commission communications. Commissioner Makowsky expressed concern that the methods of communication between VPU and the commission are outdated. He further stated he would like to make it a long-term goal to move toward a more electronic process of communication to create efficiencies. Commissioner Makowsky also made a motion to allow commissioners the option to conference call into monthly meetings upon request. Commissioner Johnson supported the motion. 4 ayes – 1 nay. Motion carried.

Item 7 (b) – Mr. French recommended VPU reject the bids on the 1st Street N Water Main Project and re-bid next year since the project was bid almost double the initial budget. He added there haven't been any breaks on that line stating it is no longer as significant an emergency. He said the project could be added to next year's capital project list freeing up designated funds to be used this year toward the 3rd Street N Water Loop project. A motion to decline the abids for the 1st Street Water Main Project was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French gave an operations update stating, that due to fluctuating temps, the plant is generating 37,000 – 47,000 lbs/hr of steam with coal. He further stated a final inspection of the package boiler is scheduled for Wednesday, there have been 16 water breaks to date, and that sump issues with a College manhole have been addressed.

Item 8 (b) – None

Item 9 – A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Teasck to adjourn at 4:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

James Petroskey, Secretary

Jeff Marwick, President