

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, DECEMBER 28, 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; Cassandra Belak – Director of Finance; Mary Johnson – Supervisor – Customer Relations; Charlie Baribeau, and Maija Biondich – 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) and (b) - A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve financial resolution No. 5331 - Authorizing the payroll dated December 1, 2022 in the amount of \$106,734.14, direct deposits #36441 through #36493; and the payroll dated December 15, 2022 in the amount of \$90,992.71, direct deposits #36494 through #36545; and the bills dated November 28, 2022 through December 23, 2022 in the amount of \$1,071,826.32, checks #114176 through #114340 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$1,246,035.22; and Net Payment Adjustments for the month of November 2022 in the amount of \$4,336.88; and to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from the November 28, 2022 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 5 (a) – Mr. French stated there were no injuries reported for the month.

Item 5 (b)

1. - A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Teasck to approve the 2023 budget. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. French noted the budget includes no rate increases for 2023.
2. – A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve the one-year AFSCME65 contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6 (a) – None

Item 7 (a) – A motion was made by Commissioner Teasck and supported by Commissioner Petroskey to approve the 2022 write-offs in the amount of \$22,293.85. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. French noted that the balance was up by about \$10k from last year due to forgiven assessments on tax-forfeited properties. Additionally, he noted the write-off amount was about 0.1% of total revenues.

Item 7 (b) – Mr. French stated that Ray Pesavento and Dave Swanson will be retiring. He stated both men have been with the Utility for many years, and have been wonderful employees. He thanked them for their efforts, and recommended the Commission approve the payout of benefits earned. A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve the payout of benefits for both employees. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French gave an operations update stating the plant has been producing about 50,000 lbs/hr of steam off #10 gas boiler. He further stated installation of the 2nd package boiler should be completed by the end of January, and then the plant will operate on both package boilers. He reminded the Commission that #7 coal boiler was out of compliance with mercury levels, and even after work was done to address the issue, the boiler failed the mercury level emission testing. As such, an operations decision was made to take #7 off-line to reduce additional violation penalties from the MPCA.

Item 8 (b) – Mesabi Community College Steam Conversion.

Item (9) – A motion was made by Commissioner Petroskey and supported by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn at 3:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

James Petroskey, Secretary

Jeff Marwick, President