

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER AND LIGHT COMMISSION

November 10, 2015

Draft

Commission President Allwardt called the Regular Meeting of the Water and Light Commission to order at 3:02 p.m., with Commissioners Don Merkes, James Smolinski, and Dan Zelinski present on roll call. Also present were Melanie Krause, General Manager; Steve Grenell, Engineering Manager; William Menting, Electric Manager; Kristin Hubertus, Finance Manager; Paula Maurer, Customer Services Manager; John Teale, Technical Services Engineer; and Dawn Lucier, Administrative and Accounting Assistant.

Those excused were Commissioner Kordus and Tim Gosz, Water Utility Manager.

With the absence of Commissioner Kordus, Commissioner Smolinski was appointed as acting secretary.

Item II. No one from the Gallery was heard on any topic of public concern to the Utility.

Item III. Motion made by Comm. Merkes, seconded by Comm. Zelinski, was unanimous on roll call to approve the following:

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2015
- B. Approve and warrant payments summarized by checks dated November 5, 2015, which includes Net Payroll Voucher Checks, Operation and Maintenance Voucher Checks for a total of \$206,243.75, and Operation and Maintenance Vouchers and Rebates to be paid prior to the next Regular Meeting. Motion approved unanimously on roll call
- C. Correspondence as listed:
 - Copy of October 2015 MU Employee Newsletter
 - Copy of letter dated October 27, from Public Service Commission RE: Extension For filing electric rate case

Item IV. Claims Against The Utility – There were no claims discussed at this meeting.

Item V. Purchase Orders over \$10,000.00 issued since the last Commission meeting were presented for informational purposes.

Item VI. Unfinished Business, 2016 Health Insurance Proposals – Three proposed health insurance options for 2016 were presented which incorporated Commission comments and feedback from employee meetings.

A motion was made by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Smolinski to approve the three options as presented in the revised table.

A motion was made by Comm. Zelinski to amend the previous motion to reduce the cash option in lieu of health insurance to \$2,500. Comm. Merkes seconded the motion for discussion.

General discussion followed.

Motion to amend failed 3 to 1. Commissioners Allwardt, Merkes and Smolinski voted no. Commissioner Zelinski voted yes.

The original motion carried 3 to 1. Commissioners Allwardt, Merkes and Smolinski voted yes. Commissioner Zelinski voted no.

Long Term Power Supply Contract Extension – Lengthy discussion ensued over Commissioner’s questions and concerns regarding the contract extension. Advantages to contracting with outside legal counsel to review the contract were also discussed.

The motion by Comm. Merkes, Seconded by Comm. Zelinski was unanimous on roll call to approve the engagement letter with Quarles & Brady, LLP not to exceed \$10,000.

Commissioners asked to have staff submit the list of questions sent to Quarles & Brady, LLP to WPPI.

Item VII. New Business, Feasibility study of Racine Street Bridge project – The agreement from Power System Engineering is for professional services to provide a feasibility study of routing alternatives of the overhead lines running parallel to the Racine Street Bridge in order to determine the most favorable option for reconstruction.

The motion by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Merkes, was unanimously approved on roll call to accept the feasibility study agreement from Power System Engineering for the Racine Street Bridge line move not to exceed \$16,000.

Withdrawal from LGPIF – Due to the property insurance premium from the Local Government Property Insurance Fund (LGPIF) increasing 80%, staff initiated requests for proposals with other carriers. The Municipal Property Insurance Company (MPIC) has submitted their proposal which comes in more favorable than LGPIF; other proposals have not been received yet.

The motion by Comm. Merkes, seconded by Comm. Smolinski was unanimously approved on roll call to authorize Menasha Utilities to withdraw from the Local Government Property Insurance Fund and to proceed with insuring through the Municipal Property Insurance Company, or another company if a more favorable proposal is received.

Item VIII. Strategic Reports, Monthly Strategic Initiative Update – The September report was discussed.

October Financial and Project Status Reports – The October Financial and Project Status Reports will be provided at the November 2015 meeting.

Project Reports, Water Plant projects – There was no additional information presented.

Metering Practice & Plan – There was no additional information presented.

Item IX. No one from the Gallery was heard on any topic of public concern to the Utility.

Item X. The motion by Comm. Merkes, seconded by Comm. Allwardt, was unanimously approved on roll call to adjourn at 3:59 p.m.

By: MARK L. ALLWARDT
President

JAMES SMOLINSKI
Acting Secretary

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL UNTIL ACTED UPON AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING, THEREFORE, ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION.