

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER AND LIGHT COMMISSION

February 22, 2023

Commission President Allwardt called the Regular Meeting of the Water and Light Commission to order at 8:00 a.m., with Commissioners Roy Kordus, Don Merkes, Antoine Tines (telephonically), and Gary Turchan (telephonically) present on roll call. Also present were Melanie Krause, General Manager; Adam Smith, Water Utility Manager; Kristin Hubertus, Finance Manager; Steve Grenell, Engineering Manager; Kurt Melchert, Electric Manager; Ethan Vanderpoel (telephonically), Engineering Technician; and Tammy Phillips, Accounting and Administrative Assistant. Also present was Scott Maurer, Water Distribution Foreman.

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

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

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 25, 2023.
- B. Approve and warrant the following payments dated January 26-February 22, 2023 in the amount of \$4,446,034.00.
- C. Correspondence as listed:
  - Copy of MU Direct Payment Plan.
  - Copy of letter from St. Joseph Food Pantry RE: 811 lbs of food donated.
  - Copy of 2022 Summary of Work-Related Injuries.
  - Copy MU February Newsletter.

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, OEI Grant Application – The City of Menasha, Menasha Joint School District, Menasha Utilities, Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue, and the Menasha Sustainability Committee are collaborating to apply for an Energy Innovation Grant to meet current and future energy goals.

Item VII. New Business, Recognition of Quarter Century Club Inductee, Dennis VanDinter – Congratulations on 25 years.

2023 Water Main Bid Opening – Staff is recommending awarding the bid to Don Hietpas & Sons, Inc. for the \$349,159 Utility portion of the bid.

The motion by Comm. Merkes, seconded by Comm. Kordus, was unanimously approved on roll call to award the 2023 Water Main project to Don Hietpas & Sons, Inc. for the Utility portion of \$349,159 of the total bid of \$758,898. This went to the Board of Public Works on Monday, 2/20/23, and will now get forwarded to the Common Council for approval.

Paula Maurer, Customer Service Manager, joined the meeting at 8:10 a.m.

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

December 2022 (unaudited) Financial and Project Status Reports- The December unaudited financials do not include the adjustments for new lease accounting and the WRS and Life Insurance post-employment accrual entries. Electric consumption was higher than budget by 3% for YTD 2022. Power costs were higher than budget by 14.4%. YTD Net Operating Income was higher by \$160,481, due to lower operating expenses and depreciation.

Water usage was 1% lower compared to budget. Net Operating Income was higher for December due to Lower depreciation and taxes. System losses were 10.16%.

Energy Services – Ballasts and lamps were replaced at Koslo Park in 2022. Costs were higher than budget due to renting a lift to replace the lights.

Telecommunications – Net Operating Income was higher than budget by 4% due to less distribution expenses for the year.

January 2023 Financial and Project Status Reports – Electric consumption was lower than budget by 3.7%, cost of power was 13.8% higher, and revenues were \$365,596 higher than budget.

Water usage was 9.4% higher than budget, and the loss ratio was 5.9%.

After discussion, the Commission accepted the December 2022 and January 2023 Financial and Project Status Reports as presented.

Project Reports, Electric Projects – Crews are finishing control panels at substations. The 2023 AMI meters are being installed. Work continues on ESRI. A security/fire alarm upgrade was completed at the Office Complex. Office and storeroom lighting was replaced.

Water Projects – Crews continue with LSL replacements and replaced valves and hydrants on Ahnaip St. due to a main break. The water tower project is in the design phase. AMI meters are being replaced.

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

Item X. The motion by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Kordus, was unanimously approved on roll call to adjourn at 8:45 a.m.

By: MARK L. ALLWARDT  
President

GARY TURCHAN  
Secretary