

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER AND LIGHT COMMISSION

May 24, 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**, **Antoine Tines**, and **Gary Turchan** present on roll call. Also present were **Melanie Krause**, General Manager; **Adam Smith**, Water Utility Manager; **Kristin Hubertus**, Finance Manager; **Paula Maurer**, Customer Service Manager; **Kurt Melchert**, Electric Manager; **Ethan Vanderpoel**, Engineering Technician; and **Tammy Phillips**, Accounting and Administrative Assistant.

Those excused were: Commissioner Merkes

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 April 26, 2023.
- B. Minutes of the Closed Meeting of April 26, 2023
- C. Approve and warrant the following payments dated April 27-May 24, 2023 in the amount of \$4,205,583.74.
- D. Correspondence as listed:
  - Copy of Press Release RE: MU APPA Diamond RP3 Award for Reliable and Safe Electric Service
  - Copy of Press Release RE: 2023 Tree Line Award from Arbor Day Foundation
  - Copy of letter to Cru Stublely RE: Winnebago and Calumet County Boundary Agreements
  - Copy of Press Release RE: Menasha Utilities Completion of Lead Water Lateral Replacements
  - Copy of Menasha Utilities June bill insert RE: Rebate Information
  - Copy of Menasha Utilities Spring Donation Drive
  - Copy of Email from St. Joseph Food Program RE: 738 lbs of food donated.
  - Copy of Email from APPA RE: MU Exceptional Electric Reliability in 2022
  - Copy of Email from APPA RE: MU 2022 First Place Safety Awards of Excellence
  - Copy of May MU Employee Newsletter

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

Steve Grenell, Engineering Manager, joined the meeting at 8:05 a.m.

Item V. Purchase Orders over \$10,000 issued since the last Commission meeting were presented for informational purposes.

Item VI. Unfinished Business – There was no unfinished business discussed at this meeting.

Item VII. New Business, Recognition of Quarter Century Club Inductee, Jennifer Heller-  
Congratulations on 25 years.

Investment Update – At the July 27, 2022 Commission meeting, it was approved to update our Investment Policy and engage Ehlers Investment Advisory Services to invest Utility reserves. The projected cash flow shows estimated earnings of \$70,553 for 2023.

Water Budget Reallocation – Staff is recommending a reallocation of funds from the facility modifications budget to cover the Utility side lead service line replacements and fund the additional costs for the tower piping and painting project, not to exceed \$100,000.

The motion by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Turchan, was unanimous on roll call to accept the reallocation of funds.

Electric Budget Reallocation – Staff is recommending the use of \$10,000 from the 2022 tree trimming budget to cover the 2023 overage of \$9,074.50.

The motion by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Kordus, was unanimous on roll call to accept the reallocation of funds.

Award Bid for Tower Piping & Painting – Staff is recommending awarding the bid of \$196,216 to Viking Painting, LLC.

The motion by Comm. Allwardt, seconded by Comm. Turchan, was unanimous on roll call to award the bid of \$195,216 from Viking Painting, LLC for tower piping replacement and painting. The commission also recommended the Board of Public Works approve the bid and forward it to the Common Council for approval.

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

April Financial and Project Status Reports – Electric consumption was at budget for April. The cost of power was lower than budget by 12.6% and net income was higher than budget due to lower purchase power expense.

Water consumption was lower than budget by 4.5%. Some expenses were higher due to timing from the accounting conversion. Income was lower than budget by 1%. System loss ratios remain high, and leak detection continues.

After discussion, the Commission accepted the April Financial and Project Status Reports as presented.

Project Reports, Electric Projects – SCADA upgrade has been completed. Crews continue to work on collecting asset data for ESRI, the 7<sup>th</sup> St. overhead rebuild, AMI meter replacements, and the Racine St. rebuild.

Water Projects – LSL Replacement Program has been completed. Crews are working on AMI meter replacements, large meter testing, flushing hydrants, and leak detection.

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 9:01 a.m.

By: MARK L. ALLWARDT  
President

GARY TURCHAN  
Secretary