

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, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018 AT 3:30 P.M.

Item 1. - Commission President Raplinger called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM.

Present: Commissioners Culbert, Marwick, Petroskey and Raplinger

Absent: Commissioner Johnson

Also Present: Greg French – General Manager; Bill Hafdahl – Finance Director; Mary Johnson – Supervisor – Customer Relations; Representative – Virginia Public Access TV

Approved

Item 2 – Commissioner Raplinger requested the addition of 7(a) – E.V. Charging Station be added to the agenda. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Petroskey and supported by Culbert. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 3 – None

Item 4 – Mr. French stated LEA meetings be will scheduled on an as needed basis.

Item 5 – (a) and (b) A motion was made by Petroskey and supported by Marwick that financial resolution No. 5267 - Authorizing the payroll dated August 30, 2018 in the amount of \$101,340.27, direct deposits #29142 through #29211 and the payroll dated September 13, 2018 in the amount of \$109,665.82, direct deposits #29212 through #29280; and the bills dated August 27, 2018 through September 24, 2018 in the amount of \$1,461,110.71, checks #102541 through #102753 and wire and electronic transfers in the amount of \$190,873.10; and Net Payment Adjustments for the month of August 2018 in the amount of \$2050.05 be adopted and to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from the August 27, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 6 (a) – Mr. French stated there were two injuries reported for the month resulting in no restrictions or lost time.

Item 6 (b) – Mr. French stated the Strategic Planning Committee met to discuss a potential solar development and there was unanimous support for management to move ahead on developing a Purchase Power Agreement with Northern Sun. Mr. French further stated the finalized PPA would be brought before the Commission for final action.

Item 7 (a) – Mr. French discussed the E.V. Charging Station indicating the targeted completion date of October 1st has been pushed back to October 15th. He further stated VPU has no control over construction as the work is being handled by MP & Hunt Electric.

Item 8 (a) – Mr. French stated the December meeting falls on Christmas Eve and that past practice has been to move the meeting ahead by a week when it falls on a holiday. A motion was made by Marwick and supported by Culbert to move the December meeting to Monday the 17th at 3:30pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (b) – Mr. French indicated VPU has always budgeted for the Caselle Conference and recommended the request be approved as submitted. A motion was made by Petroskey and supported by Culbert to approve the travel request for 2 Customer Service & Billing Specialists to attend the 2018 Caselle Annual Conference; October 10-12, 2018, in Salt Lake City, UT. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (c) - A motion was made by Marwick and supported by Petroskey to approve the travel request for the Director – Steam, Water and Gas to attend the MMUA First Line Supervision Training; November 14-16, 2018, in Plymouth, MN. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8 (d) – A motion was made by Culbert and supported by Petroskey to approve the travel request for the Accounting Supervisor and the Supervisor of Customer Relations to attend the APPA Customer Connections Conference, November 4-7, 2018, in Orlando, FL. Motion Carried unanimously.

Item 8 (e) – A motion was made by Marwick and supported by Petroskey to approve the travel request for the Accounting Supervisor to attend the MMUA Leadership Academy, September 25-27, 2018, in Plymouth, MN. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9 (a) - Mr. French stated that the plant is producing approximately 55,000 pounds/hour of live steam from #7 coal boiler. Additionally Mr. French updated the Commission on the status of the RFP's he had sent out for the sale of about 5 megawatts of power. He stated he is working through the details with two different entities and hopes to have an answer by the end of the week. He also stated the Commission would be updated as the process further develops. Mr. French gave an update on the Steam Conversion indicating VPU is ahead of schedule with over 400 gas services on Southside ready to go as well as 84 applications for 2019. He stated there is a lot of work yet to be completed by the plumbing & heating contractors, but they have informed him they plan to work through the winter. Finally Mr. French notified the Commission that information regarding the conversion will be included in the upcoming newsletter as he is hoping to get the next 300 service installations ready to go for the spring of 2019. In addition he stated he wants to line-up contractors indicating both Gulbranson Excavating and Radotich Inc. have been fantastic to work with. Finally he stated letters would be going out to those customers on Southside who haven't converted as of yet.

Item 9 (b) – Mr. Hafdahl gave a CIP update indicating AEOA has begun using LED instead of CFL bulbs for the Residential Program as the cost of LED bulbs has been coming down. Additionally Mr. Hafdahl indicated he's processed approximately 6 steam conversion loans for low-income customers and there have probably been the same number of customers who are not low income, but have accessed the service through AEOA to navigate the conversion process.

Item 9 (c) - None

Item 10 – A motion to adjourn at 3:53 was made by Marwick and supported by Petroskey. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Bill Culbert, Secretary

Rob Raplinger, President