

FLORENCE UTILITY COMMISSION BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday October 18, 2022 – 2:00 p.m.  
Florence Utility Office, 501 Spring Avenue, Florence

**PRESENT:**

Board Members: Gene Lefebber, Dennis Krueger and Troy Frappier  
Also Present: Kevin Inman, Kathy Wertanen, Kristina Williams, WPPI Energy Services Manager  
Jesse Roberts, Town Board Supervisor John Holbrook,

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Commission Vice-President, D. Krueger.

**2. Commission Reorganization**

- a. Motion by D. Krueger to nominate G. Lefebber as Commission President, supported by T. Frappier. Motion carried.
- b. Motion by D. Krueger to nominate D. Krueger as Commission Vice-President, supported by T. Frappier. Motion carried.
- c. Motion by D. Krueger to nominate T. Frappier as Commission Secretary / Treasurer, supported by G. Lefebber. Motion carried.

**3. Any Additions to the Agenda**

None

**4. Meeting Minutes Approval**

Motion by G. Lefebber, supported by T. Frappier to approve the September 13, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**5. WPPI Report**

Jesse Roberts reported on: Focus on Energy – Energy Saving Fair online marketplace; Public Power Week raffle winners; responses to high bill complaints and natural gas generators being installed locally.

**6. Financial**

- a. Income Review - K. Williams provided August financials
- b. Invoice Review – general discussion  
Invoice Approval
  - Motion by D. Krueger, supported by T. Frappier to approve checks 41069 through 41149, 16400, 16401. Motion carried.
- c. 2021 Audit
  - Baker Tilly continues to work to finalize the 2021 audit.
  - Guidance will be sought from Baker Tilly regarding a recommended reserves balance.

**7. Customer Accounts** - General discussion.

**8. Department Updates**

- a. General Updates
- b. Electric Department
  - 1) Information provided regarding refurbishing / replacing the substation transformer. Motion by G. Lefebber, supported by D. Krueger to research the WPPI Member Loan Program as a potential funding source for this project.

- c. Natural Gas Department
  - 1) Continuing to work with Kinect Energy on a three-year plan to hedge gas to mitigate unpredictable pricing risks.
- d. Water Department
  - 1) The Simplified Rate Case was submitted to the PSC. Awaiting approval.
- e. Wastewater Department
  - 1) The sludge removal project was over budget by \$25,000. This overage amount can be allocated to 2023 expenses if needed.
  - 2) Central Avenue paving will be replaced in 2025. At that time, we will replace the clay tile currently in place. Will coordinate with Mead & Hunt and the DOT regarding the process.
- f. Personnel
  - 1) Motion by D. Krueger, supported by T. Frappier to approve the 2023 renewal of employee dental benefits with Delta Dental. There were no changes to the monthly premium. Motion carried.
- g. Department(s) – Roundtable Discussion
  - Nothing additional to discuss.

**9. Closed Session**

Motion by D. Krueger, supported by T. Frappier to move to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85(1)(c)(e)(f)(g) to discuss:

- a. Land Sale 19.85(1)(e)
  - Motion carried.

**10. Return to Open Session**

Motion by D. Krueger, supported by T. Frappier to move to open session. Motion carried.

**11. Action on Items in Closed Session** -None

**12. Open Discussion** -None

**13. Board Comments** -None

**14. Adjourn**

There being no further business, a motion was made by D. Krueger, supported by T. Frappier to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kathy Wertanen*

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