

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2020

The Municipal Utilities Commission (MUC) met in its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, October 26, 2020 at 11:45 a.m. with the following Commissioners present: Justin Mattern, Carol Laumer, Abdirizak Mahboub, Nathan Weber, Ross Magnuson and Cole Erickson. Absent was Commissioner Bruce DeBlieck.

Others present at the meeting were: General Manager John Harren, Compliance/HR Manager Janell Johnson, Finance & Office Services Supervisor Andrea Prekker, IS Coordinator Mike Sangren, Administrative Secretary Beth Mattheisen, and Attorney Alissa Harrington (Flaherty & Hood, P.A).


Commissioner Mattern opened the meeting by asking if any revisions were needed to the agenda presented. There being none, Commissioner Mattern requested a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda. Following review and discussion, Commissioner Mahboub offered a resolution to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Weber seconded.

RESOLUTION NO. 36

“BE IT RESOLVED, by the Municipal Utilities Commission of the City of Willmar, Minnesota, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented which includes:

- ❖ Minutes from the October 12, 2020 Commission meeting; and,
- ❖ Bills represented by vouchers No. 20201487 to No. 20201541 and associated wire transfers inclusive in the amount of \$2,022,824.81.

Dated this 26th day of October, 2020.



President

Attest:



Secretary

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of six ayes and zero nays.

Commissioner Weber (LC Chair) reviewed with the Commission the October 14th WMU Labor Committee meeting minutes (see attached). The main topic of discussion focused on the upcoming labor contract negotiations. Following a review of the minutes, Commissioner Weber offered a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Laumer seconded the motion which carried by a vote of six ayes and zero nays. Weber further stated that the Labor Committee has begun the negotiating process with IBEW. Additional information regarding the contract negotiations will be forthcoming.

As a member of Missouri River Energy Services (MRES), the Utility is provided a monthly update from the MRES and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (WMMPA) Board of Directors meeting. The update provides a brief overview of the topics discussed by the Boards and the actions taken. One item to note was that MRES Board Chair Harold Schiebout announced his intent to step down from the MRES Board at the end of the year. (Harold has served on the MRES Board for 44 years and has been Chair for 34 years.) A summary of the October 8, 2020 MRES and WMMPA Board of Directors meeting was presented for review.

General Manager Harren informed the Commission that meetings of both the WMU Labor and Planning Committees would be forthcoming (TBD). Tentative Planning Committee agenda item(s) will include:

Power Plant Phases I & II Environmental Studies, Willmar/Priam Ownership & Construction Agreement; and, Power Plant Substation Control Building. Tentative Labor Committee agenda item would include Renewable Energy Program review.

For information: 2020 Upcoming meetings/events to note include:

- MRES Area Meeting Webinars (4) @ 9:00 a.m. Oct. 28 & 29 and Nov. 4 & 5


There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Mattern offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Weber seconded the motion which carried by a vote of six ayes and zero nays, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES


Beth Mattheisen
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:


Abdirizak Mahboub, Secretary