



405 2nd Avenue West
Halstad, MN 56548

Halstad Municipal Utilities Commission met 12/6/21 at 10:00 AM at the Utilities Office.

Commissioners President Tom Maroney, Darin Johnson, Ron Gotteberg
Staff- Lucas Spaeth- Superintendent, Allison Tice Office Coordinator,

Additions to agenda –

Approval of agenda – Motion Gotteberg, Second Johnson, M/C

Approval of minutes – Motion Maroney, Second Johnson, M/C

Check and credit card approval – Motion Gotteberg, Second Johnson, to approve October expenditures. M/C

Year to date November Financials Reviewed, Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet- Reviewed year to operations. End of year we will right off some bad debt for unpaid and expired Revenue Recapture bills.

COVID 19 was discussed, and we have 100% staff vaccinated. Some Federal programs agencies may see staff shortages if compliance with mandates continues to pressure. HMU has seen some long wait periods for orders and some timing issues with minor staff illness that we have worked through to date.

Spaeth updated Commissioners of Water Supply system. Meetings with highway 75 corridor local government units. AE2S has been working with ECRWD for contacting some public supporters as well. The meetings attended with Norman and Polk County Boards have been informative. We will continue to work with the local state Senator Eken and Representative Marquart to secure financial support through MN. Next steps include some prefund agreement to leverage the work meetings for water supply and to establish the governing board which would take responsibility for the water system.

Staff updated Commissioners on School Heating which we are heating with electric and propane. Staff is assisting to get heat in South portions of the building. HMU would like to see Off Peak heating program to assist with heating for the future.

HMU generators qualify for LMCIT incentive program. Some testing will need to be completed to stay in the program which we will receive a 10% premium credit estimated to be \$1900 annually. Staff has some additional data and testing work to stay up to date with operations and maintenance. A motion by Gotteberg to approve Border States Electric IR Scanning proposal; Second Johnson M/C.

Spaeth presented a proposal from Border States to do testing on electric equipment in the generator O&M. Spaeth suggested looking into the testing already completed and see if we can do some 2022 and some the following 2023 fiscal year.

Spaeth talked about training for Minnesota Municipal Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection Process. Spaeth was trained to follow the M-MIP program set by State of MN and adopted by HMU. Technical Specifications Manual (TSM) was updated by STAR Energy services and will go into effect January 2022. STAR Energy sent proposals for online Power Portal and Utility Management services for DG connections. Commission discussed proposals and would like to see if DG expands in Halstad. STAR proposals were not acted upon.

Superintendent talked about three proposals from TMI Coatings. The proposals consisted of Water Tower painting, HMU shop repair, and Wastewater Treatment Facility basement cleaning. No action was taken by Commissioners.

Wholesale power rates were discussed with most rate components of 2021 year staying the same for 2022. Wind subscriptions will see an increase from 0.003 and will be 0.005 starting April 2022.

Superintendent report given by Spaeth; Worked on metering at Heritage Homes after some additional tests performed by Chapman metering it was found that the current transformer failed and has been replaced by HMU Staff. Staff assisted FireFrost ATV with sign installation on the recreation trail. Minnkota is proactively getting ready for some sort of change in the MISO market structure which could look to have a four-season approach. Spaeth said if MISO capacity markets change HMU could be required to run generators more often but also could see financial incentives if generator performance is kept at its current ability.

Next Regular Meeting Date –

No other business to discuss.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Johnson, second Gotteberg. M/C

Meeting Adjourned 11:55 AM

Secretary- Lucas Spaeth