



405 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West  
Halstad, MN 56548

**Halstad Municipal Utilities Commission met 6/25/25 at 12:20 PM at the Utilities Office.**

Commissioners Tom Maroney, Ron Gotteberg, Darin Johnson

Staff- Lucas Spaeth- Superintendent and Secretary, Alli Tice, Tony Wolff, Amanda Nelson, Josh Poehls, Neil Breidenbach

Additions to agenda –none

Approval of agenda – Move to approve agenda by Johnson, Seconded Gotteberg M/C

Approval of minutes – Move to approve minutes by Gotteberg, Seconded Maroney, M/C

Check and credit card approval – Move approve checks and credit card payments for April, May 2025 Maroney, Seconded by Johnson, Discussed items M/C

Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet- reviewed financial profit and loss year to date through May. Monthly statements from April and May.

Water project update by Spaeth. Recommending applying for funding for the water connection with East Central Regional water and West Central Regional Water District (WCRWD.) The Halstad project could go forward with the addition of a large dairy cow operation being a main customer in North Dakota. Spaeth and Tice will work on best funding available. This funding is not the USDA application previously approved by the Commissioners. This would be public markets through MN Rural Water Association loan programs or RDLG USDA if applicable. WCRWD planning continues with \$3.5 million in federal dollars but no state money available. The survey for WCRWD court filing 116A should be scheduled in coming months.

City Contract Services provided to Perley have ceased as of June 15<sup>th</sup>. Spaeth is working on lead and copper site plan in Borup and a discharge of wastewater ponds. Spaeth is working with Glyndon to complete their Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment plan.

Spaeth updated Commissioners of the planning Northern Municipal Power Agency (NMPA) is under going. NMPA is planning for contract extensions with the Participating cities. NMPA is planning with Minnkota for future power supply. Also planning for contract(s) with Minnkota.

Water and Sewer rates were discussed by Commissioners. The rates that are existing would be looked at for an increase in 2025. Spaeth and Tice were directed to bring rate adjustments to future meeting.

Water Supply Purchase was presented by Spaeth and Breidenbach. Breidenbach commented on the ability to get Halstad water was highly motivated by the dairy extension and bids received from East Central Regional Water. Spaeth presented options for working through multiple funding ideas that will lessen Halstad original dollar amount from our Preliminary Engineers Report. Funding needed was presented as \$706,093. After presenting information Gotteberg moved to approve going forward with applications pending estimates, positive finance package and other board approvals from Norman County, East Central Regional Water District, West Central Regional Water District, and City of Halstad as necessary. Seconded by Maroney M/C

Tice presented the MN Paid Leave law that it would go into effect January 2026. Recommendation from Tice to split the costs evenly with employee and employer. Gotteberg moved to approve a 50/50 split with the employees. Seconded Johnson. M/C

2025 Audit was supplied for review. Tice commented that we had similar instructions to separate duties that preparer has someone other approve journal entries. Another recommendation was to review all utility adjustments by council.

June 21<sup>st</sup> power outage was reviewed. Power generation ran for 16:32 hours with South generator. North generator did not start because of false alarm that was cleared later. Three power outages reported but many service lines on the ground from tree damages. Final damages will not be known until staff can fully clean things up and assess. Cleanup ongoing and repairs to system ongoing. Superintendents Report supplied. Multiple grant applications made. Housing infrastructure, Northwest Regional Development energy block grant application for Landmark. Also HMU will be working on a site plan for the Lead and Copper rule revision. Electric purchases are up 10.1% through May.

Next regular council meeting, July 7, 2025.

Next Regular HMU Meeting Date –

No other business to discuss.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Gotteberg: Second Maroney. M/C

Meeting adjourned 3:00 PM

Secretary- Lucas Spaeth