

MINUTES OF THE
SHAKOPEE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
February 16, 2021

1. Call to Order. President Amundson called the February 16, 2021 meeting of the Shakopee Public Utilities Commission to order at the SPU meeting room at 5:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call. President Amundson, Vice President Mocol, Commissioner Brennan, Commissioner Fox, and Commissioner Meyer were present.
3. Approval of Consent Agenda. Motion by Vice President Mocol, seconded by Meyer, to approve the consent agenda, namely: February 1, 2021 Minutes, February 16, 2021 Agenda, February 8, 2021 Warrant List, Account Credit Request/Deposit Refunds, February 16, 2021 Warrant List, Water Monthly Dashboard, WaterISAC Involvement, and the West Shakopee Substation Update. Ayes: Amundson, Mocol, Brennan, Fox, and Meyer. Nays: None. Motion carried.
4. Liaison Report. Commissioner Brennan noted that the City Council amended the 2040 Comprehensive Plan concerning the downtown transition plan and entertainment area.
5. Utilities Manager Report. Greg Drent, Interim Utilities Manager, provided an update on a number of pending projects, including AEM's evaluation of process/policies; organizational structure surveys; advanced metering infrastructure; meeting with Xcel Energy regarding West Shakopee Substation; East Shakopee Substation discussions; meeting with MMPA regarding carbon free initiative; construction planning status on the SPU building; Section 125 compliance; videoconferencing options; and the virtual MMUA Legislative Conference, in which he and Commissioner Fox participated, which included electric vehicles and carbon free presentations. Mr. Drent noted that despite the subzero weather, and the temporary increase in market costs, power supply and costs for SPU remained viable, in part because of the behind-the-meter location of the Shakopee Energy Park.
6. Water Report. Lon Schemel, Water Superintendent, reported weather-related water issues, including some frozen meters that broke. Mr. Schemel explained that he contacted the Minnesota Department of Health to clarify the term "elevated" with respect to water contaminants. The Department described "elevated" as jargon and not an official term. Mr. Schemel explained the term maximum contaminants limit goal, the level below which no known or expected health issues arise. A question-and-answer session concerning water topics is being scheduled with the Department of Health for April 19, 2021. Mr. Schemel also noted a good discussion with the City's engineering staff.

7. Electric Report. Brad Carlson, Assistant Electric Superintendent, noted one outage since the last Commission meeting. He also gave an update on pending electric projects.

8. General. Jean McGann, Consulting Finance Director (AEM), discussed the December 2020 preliminary financial statements. Year-end adjustments and close-outs are in process. Ms. McGann noted that the audit is scheduled to be completed in May. In terms of the Investment Manager search, Ms. McGann reported that ten proposals were received and that she recommends interviewing three. Commissioner Fox and Vice-President Mocol volunteered to serve as an informal working group to assist with interviews scheduled for February 19, 2021.

Patti Heminover, Director at Baker Tilly, presented a draft of the recruitment brochure for the Utilities Manager position and discussed the timeline and process. Ms. Heminover recommended that the Commission consider changing the position title to General Manager to add clarity as to the leadership role within SPU. Motion by Commissioner Meyer, seconded by Mocol, to refer to the Utilities Manager position name as General Manager and to change policies and procedures accordingly. Ayes: Amundson, Mocol, Brennan, Fox, and Meyer. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Commissioner Meyer, seconded by Fox, to approve the recruitment brochure, subject to minor revisions communicated to Baker Tilly. Ayes: Amundson, Mocol, Fox, and Meyer. Nays: Brennan. Motion carried 4-1.

Mr. Drent presented the potential purchase of an electric vehicle for SPU. Commissioners asked for additional information concerning specific models, costs, maintenance, longevity, residual value, and how the purchase could provide information and assistance to ratepayers.

9. Adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Meyer, seconded by Mocol, to adjourn to the March 1, 2021 regular meeting. Ayes: Amundson, Mocol, Brennan, Fox, and Meyer. Nays: None. Motion carried.



Greg Drent, Commission Secretary