

MINUTES OF THE
SHAKOPEE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
March 7, 2022
Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order. President Mocol called the March 7, 2022 meeting of the Shakopee Public Utilities Commission to order at 5:00 PM. President Mocol, Vice President Fox, Commissioner Brennan, Commissioner Krieg, and Commissioner Letourneau were present.
2. Communications. Vice President Fox noted that he was asked about electric vehicle rates.
3. Approval of Consent Agenda. Vice President Fox moved approval of the Consent Agenda: (a) February 22, 2022 Minutes; (b) March 7, 2022 Agenda; (c) March 7, 2022 Warrant List, (d) MMPA February Meeting Update; (e) Res#2022-07 Resolution Approving Payment for the Pipe Oversizing Cost on the Watermain Project: Whispering Waters 1st Addition. Commissioner Letourneau seconded the motion. Ayes: Mocol, Fox, Brennan, Krieg, and Letourneau. Nays: None. Motion carried.
4. Liaison Report. Commissioner Brennan reported that the City Council approved plans for the West End lift station project, as well as the Southern Shakopee Alternative Urban Areawide Review.
5. Public Comment Period. No public comments were offered.
6. General Manager Report. Greg Drent, General Manager, provided an update on current SPU projects, including the revised Employee Handbook, which is being reviewed by Flaherty and Hood, West End development planning, the NISC agreement, and SPU's Remote Working Policy. He noted a recent phone call scam in which the caller pretended to be SPU staff seeking payment. Mr. Drent also noted that he is working with City Administrator Bill Reynolds to plan a joint meeting with the City Council; the Commission discussed March 29th as a potential date.
7. Water Report. Lon Schemel, Water Superintendent, reported that SPU is researching a lab to provide PFAS testing in September. He noted that he received samples for water aging from the USGS. Mr. Schemel reported that SPU started filling Tank #8.
8. Bid Results and Estimates for Well 23. Mr. Schemel stated that SPU opened sealed bids on February 28th and received three responses. Paul Herubin, Project Engineer, Sambatek, explained that the bid process allowed bidders to present options for all three methods of installing a well. Mr. Herubin stated that he investigated the past work of the apparent low bidder, Traut Companies, and was satisfied. He recommended awarding the contract to Traut Companies in the amount of \$389,209. In response to a question from Commissioner Brennan, Mr. Adams clarified that although this well was not originally planned for 2022, due to increased growth, SPU

accelerated the timing of the project. Motion by Vice President Fox to award the contract for Well #23 to Traut Companies, in the amount of \$389,209. Commissioner Krieg seconded the motion. Ayes: Mocol, Fox, Brennan, Krieg, and Letourneau. Nays: None. Motion carried.

9. City Project No. 21-001 Maras Street, 12th Avenue, Hanson Avenue. Joseph Adams, Director of Planning and Engineering, reported that the City opened bids on March 4, 2022 and is in the process of evaluating them. Although City staff stressed that it was premature to release the full responses at this time, Mr. Adams verified that the watermain portion of the responses fall within SPU's CIP budget. Vice President Fox moved to support the City in awarding bids for this project. Commissioner Krieg seconded the motion. Ayes: Mocol, Fox, Brennan, Krieg, and Letourneau. Nays: None. Motion carried.

10. Electric Report. Brad Carlson, Electrical Superintendent, reported that two outages occurred since the last Commission meeting. He also provided an update on current projects, including tree trimming, Windermere 5th Addition, Trademark, and 3-phase transformer at the Old Shakopee Mall. Mr. Carlson noted that SPU and MVEC held a joint meeting with about 25 representatives to discuss the transfer of service territory.

11. MMPA Wholesale Power Contract. Mr. Drent provided some background information of the 12-member municipal power agency and on SPU's existing wholesale contract with MMPA. He noted that MMPA is exploring 100% renewable energy sources and potential new projects, which may require bonding. Mr. Drent explained that these additional costs for MMPA will likely result in a requested extension of the wholesale power contract. No action is required at this time.

12. Customer Service/Marketing Update. Sharon Walsh, Director of Key Accounts/Marketing/Special Projects, noted that she has made static clings for Energy Star appliances and is working with local retailers to display them. She reported on updates to the website and Facebook posts regarding Tank #8. Ms. Walsh explained that the phone scam pretending to be SPU staff has occurred several times in the last six months, and that she has created an informational post to clarify SPU practices and how customers can identify a genuine SPU call. She noted that SPU plans to schedule a blood drive that will be open to the public.

13. Smart Switch Program. Mr. Drent provided an overview of the Smart Switch Program, in which participating customers receive \$12/year credit and SPU may cycle the home air conditioner for certain periods to manage the system peak demand. Mr. Drent explained that the annual costs of the program, including software, are \$51,904 while the savings to SPU on its wholesale power costs are \$29,343. He discussed incorporating action on the program into the 2023 CIP to allow sufficient notice to customers. Vice President Fox moved to discontinue the program in 2023 and asked staff to bring back recommendations on phase-out procedures. Commissioner Letourneau seconded the motion. Ayes: Mocol, Fox, Brennan, Krieg, and Letourneau. Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Adjourn. Motion by Commissioner Letourneau, seconded by Vice President Fox, to adjourn to the Monday, March 21, 2022 meeting, Ayes: Mocol, Fox, Brennan, Krieg, and Letourneau. Nays: None. Motion carried.



Greg Drent, Commission Secretary