

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the  
Waupun Utilities Commission  
Monday, August 12, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Heeringa at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioners Gerritson, Heeringa, Homan, Kaczmariski, Mielke, Thurmer, and Westphal were present.

Motion made by Thurmer, seconded by Homan and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2019, regular meeting.

On motion by Gerritson, seconded by Kaczmariski and unanimously carried, bills for the months of June and July 2019 were approved as presented.

General Manager Posthuma reported on Legislative Act 14 put into effect regarding the deployment of 5G advanced wireless equipment in municipal rights-of-way within the state. Municipal electric utilities will receive guidelines and model agreements, through Municipal Electric Utilities of WI (MEUW), to provide a consistent approach when negotiating future contracts.

Water & Sewer Maint/Treatment Supervisor reported that Whole Effluent Toxicity testing is complete for the third quarter. The testing is a measurement of potential effluent discharge toxicity to aquatic life in our receiving stream. The water and sewer crew continues to work on jetting the sanitary system, along with hydrant and valve maintenance.

Electric Supervisor Brooks reported on electrical work on the portion of Madison Street construction, several new residential electric services, and installation of new switchgear and distribution feeder from the Main substation. Report made of two outages due to Madison Street construction incidents, and one additional outage caused by a primary cable fault.

On motion by Westphal, seconded by Homan and unanimously carried, the year-to-date financial reports through July 2019 were approved as presented. Electric operating income was \$133,600 or \$30,800 below budget on lower margins and higher distribution expense. Water operating income was \$481,700 or \$93,500 above budget on higher revenues and lower operating expenses. Sewer operating income was \$234,300 or \$78,700 above budget on higher revenues and lower maintenance expenses.

Mike Peters, CEO of Wisconsin Public Power Inc (WPPI), presented “The Power of Great Places”, focusing on what this means for Waupun as a member-owner of WPPI Energy. WPPI Energy is Waupun’s power provider, and in addition offers diverse and competitive power supply, shared services and technology, and advocacy to promote and protect energy policy interests.

Discussion held on the history of water property tax equivalent paid to the City of Waupun, and projected increases due to water infrastructure replacement project costs. The request to lower the property tax equivalent will provide relief to the water utility ensuring water rates continue to be adequate to meet operation and maintenance needs and continue to replace aging water infrastructure. Motion made by Kaczmariski, that the Utilities Commission support and recommend the Resolution Authorizing Lower Water Property Tax Equivalent to the Common Council for adoption as presented. Motion carried, with a vote of five votes aye, and one vote nay.

Discussion held on the water utility long-term capital improvement plan funding options. In 2021, the cash requirements for planned capital projects will result in significant cash deficit that would impair the financial health of the water utility and will persist through 2026. An option to refund the 2014 and 2016 revenue bonds and extend the debt service by an additional five years would provide adequate cash to maintain the existing capital infrastructure replacement plan.

Management will work with Ehlers on the refunding proposal and bring it forward in September for review and approval.

On motion by Homan, seconded by Westphal and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The next commission meeting is scheduled on September 9, 2019, at 4:00 p.m.

Nancy Oosterhouse  
Mapping/Admin Coordinator