

The Owatonna Public Utilities Commission met in rescheduled session in the Commission Room. The meeting was rescheduled to allow General Manager Bruno to attend the MMUA summer meeting. Present were Commissioners Schreiner, Cosens, Stansberry, Ihrke and Simon. Also present were General Manager Bruno; Director, Engineering, Electric & Meter Services Johnson; Manager, Energy Management & External Relations Warehime; Manager, HR, Safety, Risk & Loss Control Madson; Executive/HR Assistant Schmoll; and Accountant Teresa Hottman.

Manager, External Relations & Energy Management Warehime led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

The revised Minutes of June 22, 2010 Commission meeting were presented to the Commission. Commissioner Stansberry moved to approve the Minutes as revised. Commissioner Ihrke seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion passed.

The Minutes from the July 27, 2010 Commission meeting were presented to the Commission. Commissioner Cosens moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Commissioner Simon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Commissioner Cosens reported the Finance Committee met, reviewed and approved Vouchers in the amount of \$4,124,443.18. There were not any work orders and all the financials are on track with the budget.

Personnel Committee – The Personnel Committee did not meet.

City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Busse was not in attendance.

Contributed Services

The Contributed Services report as of July 31, 2010 was presented to Commission. The Commission signed the report.

General Manager/ Staff Report

General Manager Bruno reported he attended the MMUA Summer meeting in Alexandria, Minnesota and gave an update of the meeting. He further reported he talked with several of the other SMMPA members and staff. Michael Dolan, MMUA's Washington Representative, gave an update on current political issues in the nation's capital and how they could potentially affect municipal utilities in Minnesota.

Manager, HR, Safety, Risk & Loss Control Madson updated the Commission on the status of the Director, Finance and Administration Services position currently open. She reported 24 applications were received and four applicants will be interviewed. Mrs. Madson further reported on the Gas Engineering Technician currently open. Six applications were received. The Substation Technician

position was posted internally, but there weren't any employees who applied. The next step will be to advertise externally.

Manager, Energy Management & External Relations Warehime distributed and discussed the bi-annual rate study. He noted every six months rate information for the previous 12 months is collected from other utilities in the area. OPU's goal is to remain competitive. Mr. Warehime discussed the graphs and OPU's position, both currently and historically.

Manager, Energy Manager & External Relations Warehime presented and discussed a draft policy for the Commission to consider adopting at the next meeting. The policy allows OPU to create a fund for financing energy conservation programs, through Conservation Investment Program (CIP) dollars, for qualifying commercial and industrial businesses. Mr. Warehime explained the program in detail. The Commission discussed details of the policy and asked staff to reconsider the issue of a zero interest rate and the restrictions on the size of businesses that qualify for the program. Staff will revisit these items and discuss with Commission at the next meeting.

Mr. Warehime reported OPU set our electrical peak for the year on August 12, 2010 with 70.26 MW. He further reported rebate pictures will be appearing in the newspaper over the next few weeks.

Commission Roundtable

Commissioner Ihrke – Thanks to Joe Green for helping the School District pull together utility information to be submitted on the grant application for the District's new boilers.

Commissioner Cosens – Thanks for all the work on the Partners in Energy Solutions program and all the work on obtaining applications for the open positions.

Commissioner Simon – Nothing.

Commissioner Stansberry – Thanks to OPU for their involvement in the Steele County Free Fair.

Commissioner Schreiner – Nothing.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Stansberry moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Simon seconded the motion. All Commissioners voting Aye, the meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Schmoll
Executive/HR Assistant