

Bagley Public Utilities
Commissioners Meeting
December 14, 2022

Chairman Thomas Lillegaard called to order the regular meeting of the Bagley Public Utilities Commission on December 14, 2022 at 10:00am. Present were Commissioners Dennis Merschman and Stuart Lien, managers Bill Masterson and Vicky Fletcher, and joining via zoom were Dan Hendrickson and Dan Wilson with IBEW #294.

Hendrickson and Wilson attended the meeting to discuss renewal of the union contract. Hendrickson explained the items for discussion emailed to Board prior to the meeting. Lien reviewed the items acknowledging those the Commission agreed to. Lien stated the Board would take into consideration two remaining items, (1) the increase in longevity pay and (2) the contract terms for annual wage increase and length of contract. Commission also raised issue of Brian Gunderson not taking over the natural gas department, therefore not fulfilling obligations assigned when promoted to licensed utility worker. After discussion, Hendrickson and Wilson left the meeting. BPU will respond via email with counter proposal.

Board continued discussion regarding Gunderson and current employee position, as well as related duties and responsibilities. The Board requested results from the wage study to look closer at job descriptions, assigned duties, and pay levels. Commission tabled issue.

Merschman made a motion to approve the minutes as written for the regular board meeting held November 16, 2022. Lien seconded, motion carried.

Lien moved to approve the list of November 2022 expenditures. Motion was seconded by Merschman and carried.

Board reviewed bills presented for payment in December 2022. Lien made a motion to authorize payment of the BPU bills and recommend Bagley City Council approve payment of Reierson Construction Pay Request #2. Merschman seconded and the motion carried.

Masterson provided project updates:

- The new water filter has been installed and put back into operation. City water should clear up once filtered water replaces the water already out in the system.
- Reierson hired Sub Surface to line portion of sewer main in State #92 to repair the offset fernco. Lining has been done and fulfills Reierson's obligations to finish project. MNDOT has closed the project and transferred funds to Bagley as agreed upon to satisfy the issue with sags in sewer main line. Bagley needs to contact Widseth, Smith, and Nolting to finalize engineering fees and proceed to close out the MN PFA loan.

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- Grants are available to help municipals upgrade electrical systems, such as replacing overhead power lines with underground. Masterson stated cities must have an overview design of their system by licensed electrical engineer in order to apply for funds. Masterson intends to contact an engineer in Grand Forks that Clearwater Polk Electric Coop works with on regular basis, Randy Vetter.

Commission briefly discussed financial reports.

Being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Merschman, seconded by Lien, and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Thomas Lillegaard, Chairman

Attest:

Vicky Fletcher, Business Manager