

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

3:30 p.m.

Monday, February 23, 2026

Present: James FitzGerald
Ron Bautch
Sylvia LeBlanc
Larry Carter
Michelle Ketola

Lana Fralich, City Administrator
Jason Roswold, Public Utilities Superintendent

Member FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Agenda – Motion by Bautch, second LeBlanc to approve the Agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes – Motion by Carter, second Bautch to approve the minutes of January 22, 2026 Regular Meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Communications –

Public Comments- None at this time.

Department Head Update – Roswold reports the Department of Health is requiring cities submit an Acrylamide and Epichlorohydrin annual report to monitor high amounts. Silver Bay has submitted the report and results show low amounts.

Hydrants- Multiple defects have been found during installation of the 50 Mueller hydrants purchased by the city from DSG in 2025. Mueller and DSG representatives have inspected remaining uninstalled hydrants and determined 18 hydrants pass inspection, 24 hydrants have been sent back to company for warranty repairs. Discussion followed regarding declaring Mueller hydrants as surplus and place on MNBid to recoup expense, purchasing Waterous hydrants, number of hydrants needed by the city during Citywide Street and Utility projects, potential loss and costs involved, and legal options due to being sold defective hydrants. Motion by Carter, second LeBlanc to recommend Council declare 18 Mueller hydrants as surplus to sell on MNBid and continue to use Waterous hydrants in the city. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Old Business –

Boathouse Bay Utilities- Nothing at this time.

Citywide Street Project- Water Superintendent Roswold, Street Superintendent Cook, and Bolton & Menk engineers will be meeting next week to review the project before the city begins the bidding process for the project. Administrator Fralich noted that engineers sought additional PFA funding to add the water line portion of the project to the water treatment facility project to access additional grant/loan funds, which PFA has confirmed. This will provide a slight increase in the loan amount but will add additional grant dollars resulting in a large savings for the Citywide Street & Utility project. It appears the city will see a loan amount of approximately \$10.5M, but the WIF grant would increase from under \$5M to \$8.5M-\$10M. The additional grant dollars do not alleviate assessment responsibility on property owners but will help in getting the timeframe of future. It was also noted the City will be attending Capital Days March 17-19th requesting funding for PRV replacement and potential slip lining of high-pressure water main. The PUC thanked the City engineer for his work in seeking the additional grant funding.

New Business –

MDH Turbidity Violation Notice-The City has been advised by the MN Department of Health that the City did not meet its monitoring requirement in March 2025 and requires the city to place a Notice of Violation-Failure to Comply with Turbidity Monitory Requirements in the paper. Roswold explained the city has not changed the way they have monitored for turbidity in all the past years, but recent staffing changes with MDH resulted in a different viewpoint for compliance. The issue is that our old filters do not have automated data reporting which requires to be monitored every 4 hours, and staff do not work 24hrs. The new water treatment project will address this and will have data monitoring included. Per the letter from MDH, the notice requires specific language to be published on the safety of the water from March 2025 for the failure to monitor; however, it should be noted at no time MDH required the city to shut down the water, issue a boil order, or any other requirement due to the safety of the water. Public notice is required within one year of violation, which will be published in the March 6th Northshore Journal. Motion by Ketola, second LeBlanc to recommend to Council publication of the Notice of Violation relating to the turbidity monitoring violation from March 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Ketola, second Bautch to adjourn at 4:32 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lisa Christenson