

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JEFFERSON UTILITIES COMMISSION, HELD MAY 8, 2023

On call of the roll, commissioners present were: Adams, Ganser, Pieters, Neils, Oppermann, Bristol and Schroeder. Also present were: Office Manager Hinze, Billing Clerk, Emily Hein; Meter Technician Jackie Tucker, Line Forman Nick Baumann. The meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

Public Participation: Comm. Bristol wished to inform the Commission that as part of tonight's agenda there is an agenda item regarding a Generator Interconnection Application. He stated that this is the company that he is employed with and that his intention will be to recuse himself during all discussions and actions related to this application. He stated that if the Commission wished for him to resign from the Commission, he was willing to do so. Oppermann and Adams indicated that this would not be necessary and stated that he simply will recuse himself during any discussions and actions related to this topic.

Minutes

Motion by Comm. Neils and seconded by Comm. Pieters to approve the open session minutes of the April 10, 2023 meeting. On voice call, motion carried.

Approval of April 2023 Expenditures

Motion by Comm. Pieters and seconded by Comm. Bristol to approve the April 2023 expenditures as presented. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Adams-Aye; Oppermann – Aye; Pieters – Aye, Bristol – Aye; Ganser – Aye; Schroeder – Aye; Neils - Aye).

Closed Session

Motion by Comm. Bristol and seconded by Comm. Ganser to convene in Closed Session. Before voting on the motion, Comm. Adams announced to all present that the Commission may convene in closed session one or more times during this meeting, upon a motion duly made and carried, the Commission may convene in closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), Wis Stats., for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, specifically to discuss the refilling of a vacant Customer Accounts Clerk position. This meeting is closed pursuant to section 19.85 (1)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Adams-Aye; Oppermann – Aye; Pieters – Aye, Bristol – Aye; Ganser – Aye; Neils – Aye; Schroeder – Aye). The Commission convened into open session at 5:35 pm.

Open Session

Motion by Comm. Oppermann and seconded by Comm. Bristol to re-convene in open session. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Adams-Aye; Oppermann – Aye; Pieters – Aye, Bristol – Aye; Ganser – Aye; Neils – Aye; Schroeder – Aye). The Commission convened at 6:00 pm.

Discussion and Possible Action –Approval to Hire Customer Accounts Clerk

Hinze indicated that at the last meeting the Commission held off on the approval to re-fill one of the full time positions. She indicated that she would like to make a conditional offer to candidate Angela Ripley and that she would like the ability to negotiate a starting wage up to \$20.24 per hour. Motion by Comm. Pieters to approve the hiring of this candidate. Seconded by Comm. Bristol. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Adams-Aye; Oppermann – Aye; Pieters – Aye; Bristol – Aye; Ganser – Aye; Neils – Aye; Schroeder – Aye).

Discussion and Possible Action – Planned Maintenance Agreement Renewal with Total Energy Systems

Hinze explained a quote received from Total Energy Systems for maintenance on the generator. Motion by Comm. Oppermann to approve the agreement for the same term length that has previously been approved in years past. Seconded by Comm. Pieters. On call of the roll, motion carried. (Adams-Aye; Oppermann – Aye; Pieters – Aye; Bristol – Aye; Ganser – Aye; Neils – Aye; Schroeder – Aye).

Discussion and Possible Action – WPPI Request for the Utility to Sign FERC Application for PURPA Waiver

Hinze stated that an explanation email from Tom Hanrahan, General Counsel for WPPI regarding this agenda item was included in the packet. Comm. Bristol explained the history regarding the need for this waiver and stated that he was fully in support. Motion by Comm. Bristol to approve the request from WPPI to sign the FERC Application for PURPA Waiver as presented. Seconded by Comm. Neils. (Adams-Aye; Oppermann – Aye; Pieters – Aye, Bristol – Aye; Ganser – Aye; Schroeder – Aye; Neils - Aye).

Comm. Bristol stepped out of the meeting.

Discussion and Possible Action – Distributed Generation Application Form Submission

Hinze explained that the Utility received an application from Cordelio regarding distributed generation. She stated that at this time the form was being reviewed by Forster Engineering and WPPI and that the next step would be for Forster Engineering to conduct an engineering study. She stated that the City had been made aware of the application as well. Hinze stated that she will keep the Commission informed as this works its way through the necessary channels.

Comm. Bristol returned to the meeting.

Discussion and Approval of Community Contribution Requests

Hinze presented a request from Goat Fest, however stated that the application was not received in time for this meeting. As a result, the Commission took no action on this request.

Update-Joint Utilities, Police Department and Courts

Baumann gave an update on the status of the joint utilities with the Police Department and Courts. At this time, it is believed that the Courts are not billed for the utilities they use, however, there is not a way to determine how much they consume. The Commission asked that Hinze reach out to the City Administrator to about this.

Update-Rate Case

Hinze stated that WPPI is working on the paperwork needed to submit to the PSC and that they are tentatively looking to present to the Commission at the next meeting.

Update-Appearance of Mike Peters, CEO of WPPI at the June Commission Meeting

Hinze indicated that Mr. Peters will be at the June 12th Commission meeting to update the Commission about WPPI and answer any questions they may have.

Future Agenda Items

1. Load Bearing information.
2. Joint Utilities follow up from the City.

It was moved by Comm. Pieters and seconded by Comm. Neils to adjourn. Motion carried on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.