

STOUGHTON UTILITIES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 16, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

Stoughton, WI

Page No. 1

Location: Online Attendance: GoToMeeting ID 583-145-413.

Members Present: Citizen Member David Erdman (Chair), Alderperson Ben Heili (Vice-Chair), Alderperson Regina Hirsch, Alderperson Greg Jenson, Citizen Member John Kallas, Mayor Tim Swadley, Citizen Member Dustin Thoren

Excused: None

Absent: None

Others Present: Stoughton Director of Finance & Comptroller Jamin Friedl, Stoughton Utilities Assistant Director Brian Hoops, Stoughton Utilities and WPPI Energy Services Manager Amy Wanek, Stoughton Utilities Director Jill Weiss

Call to Order: Utilities Committee Chairperson David Erdman called the regular Stoughton Utilities Committee Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Utilities Committee Consent Agenda: Stoughton Utilities staff presented and discussed the Stoughton Utilities Committee consent agenda items.

Motion by Jenson, the motion seconded by Kallas, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

- a. Draft Minutes of the October 19, 2020 Regular Utilities Committee Meeting
- b. Stoughton Utilities October Payments Due List Report
- c. Stoughton Utilities September Financial Summary
- d. Stoughton Utilities September Statistical Report
- e. Stoughton Utilities October Activities Report
- f. Communications

The motion carried unanimously 7 to 0.

Status of the Utilities Committee recommendation(s) to the Stoughton Common Council: Stoughton Utilities staff presented and discussed the following items from the Stoughton Utilities Committee that were approved and/or placed on file by the Stoughton Common Council:

Consent Agenda:

1. Draft Minutes of the August 17, 2020 Regular Utilities Committee Meeting
2. Stoughton Utilities August Payments Due List Report
3. Stoughton Utilities September Payments Due List Report
4. Stoughton Utilities July Financial Summary
5. Stoughton Utilities August Financial Summary
6. Stoughton Utilities July Statistical Report
7. Stoughton Utilities August Statistical Report

STOUGHTON UTILITIES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 16, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

Stoughton, WI

Page No. 2

Business:

1. Authorizing Stoughton Utilities to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Private Lead Service Line (LSL) Replacement Program Funding Grant
2. Stoughton Utilities Proposed 2021 Budget and Five Year (2021 – 2025) Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Plan
3. Ordinance to Amend Sections 74-15(a) and 74-15(b) and Create Sections 74-15 (c) through (e) of the City of Stoughton Code of Ordinances, Relating to the Placement of Water Metering Facilities and the Replacement of Inaccessible Metering Facilities
4. Ordinance to Amend Sections 74-2(a) and 74-2(b) and Create Sections 74-2 (g) through (h) of the City of Stoughton Code of Ordinances, Relating to the Replacement of Indirect Service Lateral Connections

Discussion followed.

Wastewater treatment facility and sanitary sewer collection system 2019 Compliance Maintenance

Annual Report (CMAR) – DNR Responses: Stoughton Utilities staff presented an update to our annual CMAR filing, which was approved by the Utilities Committee and Common Council in August. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has received and approved our filing, providing favorable comments, and no further action is needed until the 2020 CMAR filing to occur in June 2021. Discussion followed.

2020 Public Power Week Community Outreach Event Summary: Stoughton Utilities staff presented and discussed our recent Public Power Week scavenger hunt customer outreach program. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during the week, SU published clues directing participants to a secret Stoughton location where customers could photograph themselves next to the location and submit the photos to SU. On Tuesday and Thursday, we offered a trivia question where customers can call or email with the correct answer. Staff provided the committee with the daily clues and their answers, and a sampling of participant photos and customer feedback. Discussion followed.

Lead Service Line Replacement Program Status Update: Stoughton Utilities staff presented and discussed efforts that have occurred in the past year since the utility was notified of the lead action exceedance. Many efforts have been completed or are currently underway as staff proceeds with the planned program to replace lead service lines throughout the City of Stoughton. Staff presented and discussed the continuation of our public education program to the community on lead service lines.

Discussion followed, including a discussion on possible replacement options if the DNR grant is not received. Several members of the committee expressed support for proceeding with the planning for a one-year replacement program to be funded through special assessments if grant funding is not received.

Status Update: Customer Collections: Stoughton Utilities staff presented and discussed an update on the current status of customer collections as a result of the COVID-19 public health crisis, and the status of current customer delinquencies. Staff informed the committee that SU has not completed any residential electric service disconnections since October 2019 and has not completed any water service disconnections since February 2020. Staff further informed the committee that the Wisconsin Public Service Commission has extended their restriction on residential service disconnections through April 15, 2021. Discussion followed.

STOUGHTON UTILITIES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 16, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

Stoughton, WI

Page No. 3

Stoughton Utilities Environmental Sustainability: Stoughton Utilities staff presented and discussed an August 4, 2020 memo from Stoughton Utilities and WPPI Energy to the City of Stoughton Community Affairs and Council Policy (CACP) Committee that provided follow-up information on renewable energy targets in response to questions raised at their July meeting. Staff also presented and discussed information regarding regulatory requirements faced by Stoughton Utilities that would prohibit the utility from offering services to the City of Stoughton as a customer that are not offered to all customers, including private solar design assistance, financial analysis, or recommendations on customer goals and philosophy. Discussion followed.

Stoughton Utilities and WPPI Energy Services Manager Amy Wanek introduced herself to the committee and discussed current Stoughton efforts that she has begun working on, including reviewing the Wisconsin Public Service Commission's Energy Innovation Grant Program. Discussion followed.

Scheduling of the Utilities Committee Regular Meeting in December: Stoughton Utilities staff informed the committee that there are currently no items scheduled for the December 2020 meeting of the Utilities Committee meetings, and requested the committee cancel the meeting unless urgent new business items arise that require a special meeting to be called. Discussion followed, and staff was directed to not schedule a December meeting unless necessary.

Motion by Jenson, the motion seconded by Kallas, to direct staff to not schedule a December meeting unless a need arises for a meeting to be called. The motion carried unanimously 7 to 0.

Utilities Committee Future Agenda Items: Staff informed the committee that upcoming meeting topics include the lead service line replacement program status update, ongoing updates to the status of SU's Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) grant application, a proposed ordinance related to the replacement of indirect sanitary sewer service connections, and updates on the Energy Innovation Grant Program application. Discussion followed.

Adjournment: Being no further business before the committee, the Chair adjourned the regular Stoughton Utilities Committee Meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Brian R. Hoops
Stoughton Utilities Assistant Director