



Danville Utility Commission

4:00 p.m. June 28, 2021 Meeting

Council Chambers, City Hall

Minutes

Commission Members Present: Paul Liepe, Sheila Williamson-Branch, Ken Larking, Vic Ingram, Helm Dobbins, Gary Miller

Commission Members Absent: Vanessa Cain, Bert Eades

Staff Present: Ryan Dodson, Jason Grey, Janet Davis, Jennifer Holley, Michael Adkins

Others Present:

Call to Order

Mr. Dodson called the meeting to order and attendance was recorded. As the chairman and vice chairman were both absent, Mr. Dodson held a special election for acting chairman of the commission. Ms. Kautzman nominated Mr. Liepe. All members voted in favor, except for Mr. Liepe, who abstained.

Discussion/Business Items

Minutes of May 24, 2021 Commission Meeting

Mr. Liepe asked for any corrections, deletions, or adjustments to the minutes from May 24, 2021.

Mr. Dobbins made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Kautzman seconded, all members voted in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

Review of Utilities' Financial Statements

Ms. Holley presented the April financial statements for each utility fund.

Mr. Liepe noted that this is the first time since he became a member of the commission that there has been an over recovery in the electric fund. Ms. Holley agreed that she could not recall an over recovery for a while.

Proposed Energy Efficiency rebate measures for FY22 and FY23

Maura McGowan, Program Manager from energy efficiency consultant Nexant presented the proposed new and modified energy efficiency measures for fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Changes for FY22 include raising the HVAC tune up rebate from \$55 to \$75, creating a new rebate for hybrid electric/natural gas HVAC, creating a new rebate for a natural gas furnace, and for FY2023, adding a rebate for electric vehicle chargers.

Dr. Miller mentioned that many people may have not wanted people in their homes in 2020 due to Covid-19 to have tune ups performed and this could have led to less tune up rebate applications. Ms. McGowan pointed out that this is true, but there is also increased costs for materials.

Mr. Dobbins made a motion to approve the changes as presented. Ms. Kautzman seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

West Fork Substation Property Acquisition-AEP 4th Delivery Point

Jason Grey described the property needed to add a fourth delivery point from AEP. Staff requested purchasing 42.85 acres adjacent to the substation for \$180,000 plus closing costs to allow for the substation expansion and new AEP transmission line and substation.

Mr. Liepe asked about the size of the acquisition. Mr. Grey commented that ideally Danville Utilities would like to purchase less land, but that the property owner wanted to sell the entire parcel only.

Mr. Larking made a motion to recommend to City Council purchasing 42.85 acres adjacent to West Fork substation for \$180,000 to expand the substation footprint to include a new delivery point from AEP. Ms. Williamson-Branch seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

AMP Scholarship Award Presentation

Harry Phillips, AMP's Director of Marketing and Member Relations, recognized Dylan Aron as one of five Richard H. Gorsuch Scholarship recipients. The Richard H. Gorsuch Scholarship is awarded to a student whose parent or guardian is an employee of an AMP member. Dylan is the son of Mark Aron, the City's Multimedia Manager.

Dr. Miller and Mr. Larking congratulated Dylan on his scholarship award.

Department Discussions

There was no comment from City staff.

Dr. Miller expressed concerns from the community about the cost of utility deposits to establish service and requested staff investigate possibly discounting deposits for veterans.

Mr. Liepe said that many people don't realize that customers can bring a reference letter from their previous utility to avoid deposit costs.

Mr. Dobbins said that not all customers have the ability to get this information from their previous provider. Dr. Miller added that this would not help someone who was previously homeless.

Mr. Dobbins requested that this be studied and addressed at a future meeting.

Mr. Liepe asked about the status of the battery storage project. Mr. Grey replied that it will be ready in Summer 2022 as a peak shaving resource.

There was no comment from the public.

Mr. Grey noted that the service area will be under peaking conditions for this week and probably next week and asked customers to conserve energy during those peaking times.

He also mentioned that information had been distributed regarding legislative^{ion} for Prairie State earlier, but that legislative^{ion} has been tabled.

Mr. Dobbins asked what amount of debt Danville Utilities carries with Prairie State?

Mr. Grey responded that there is about \$220 million in debt that exists until 2047. He also said that there is a lot of opportunity for replacement with other renewables to curtail any cost increases to customers. This would not occur until the next 10-12 years.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Kautzman and seconded by Mr. Larking to adjourn. All commissioners voted in favor of the motion. There being no further business, Mr. Liepe adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by Janet C. Davis
Secretary to the DUC

August 23, 2021

Date Approved



Chairman

Danville Utility Commission