Board Meeting May 20, 2025

The Milford Municipal Utilities Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 4:00 P.M. in the Community Center Board Room. In attendance were Board Trustees Todd Johnson, Kevin Wharton, and Kirb Walters; General Manager Brad Willemssen by phone; Utility Employees Lindsay Radunz and Wade Newcomer. Also in attendance were NIMECA CEO Greg Fritz; DGR Engineer Andy Koob; Bolton & Menk Engineer Josh Pope; City of Milford Administrator LeAnn Reinsbach, Jason Eygabroad from Beck Engineering. MMU Attorney Dan DeKoter attended by phone.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order.

Chairman Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance

Walters/Wharton made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Wharton/Walters made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously. The following bills were presented for payment:

4 Evergreen Landscape & Design	Subcontractor	429.80
Arnold Motor Supply	Supplies	8.97
Base	Cafeteria Monthly	30.00
Bolton & Menk, Inc.	Engineering	65,364.85
Bomgaars	Supplies	679.65
Border States Electric Supply	Inventory	10,848.69
Card Service Center	Education, Supplies, Distribution	1,092.43
City Laundering Company	Rugs	89.86
City of Milford	City Sewer, Storm Sewer, CC Fee	44,842.02
Cooperative Energy Company	Fuel	670.90
Cooperative Response Center, Inc.	On Call Phone Service	627.83
Core & Main LP	Water Meters for Bulk Water Sales	15,507.63
Dairyland Power Cooperative	Statement Printing	2,371.83
DeKoter, Thole, Dawson, Rockman & Krikke, P.L.C.	Legal	1,445.00
DGR and Associates Company	Engineering	11,962.80
Dickinson County News	Publishing	162.93
Hagedorn Construction LLC	Subcontractor	8,352.00
Hawkins, Inc.	Chemicals	1,790.75
Heller Enterprises, LLC	Backflow Testing	285.00
Ia Depart of Natural Res	Operator Certificate Renewal	120.00
Iowa One Call	Locates	821.70
John T. Jones Construction Co.	Payment Request #18 - WTP	922,965.79
KUOO	One Call Awareness Campaign Ad	415.80
Lakes News Shopper	Employment Ad	171.60
Linda Ruble	Travel Reimbursement	135.10
Milford Commercial Club	Annual Dues	100.00
Minger Construction Co., Inc.	Hwy 71 Raw Watermain Pmt Request #1	277,995.41
National Benefit Services, LLC	Employee Benefits	12.00
NEW Cooperative, Inc.	Fuel	254.34
Pitney Bowes	Postage Meter Lease	142.53
Power Line Supply	PPE FR Uniform	88.19
Professional Computer Solutions, LLC	Computer Hosting Fees	1,096.50
R & D Industries, Inc.	Computer Contract & Support	5,056.20
Rent-All Inc.	Equipment Rent	148.73
Sam Wedeking Excavating, Inc.	Subcontractor	7,075.80

SCOTT HASSEL	CREDIT REFUNDS	50.40
State Hygienic Laboratory	Lab Testing	166.00
Stuart C. Irby Co.	Inventory & Distribution	4,215.00
Sullivan Concrete	Subcontractor	4,000.00
Sunshine Foods	Supplies	117.97
Tantalus Systems Inc.	Cellular Router	1,413.08
Tiger Pride Lawn Care	Pest Control	180.00
Titan Machinery Inc.	Equipment Maintenance	16.76
True Value - Milford	Supplies	251.51
Van Wert Inc.	Water Meters for New Reading System	8,365.83
Wesco Distribution, Inc.	Substation Improvement Project Materials	83,438.60
Aflac	Employee Funded Benefit AFLAC	562.72
Aspire	Employee Funded Benefit	395.00
Aspire	Employee Funded Benefit	395.00
Aspire	Employee Funded Benefit	320.00
Base	FSA Claim	149.97
Black Hills Energy	Gas Service	616.16
Collection Services Center	Employee Withholding	184.61
Collection Services Center	Employee Withholding	184.61
Collection Services Center	Employee Withholding	184.61
Department of Energy	WAPA	30,385.35
Internal Revenue Service	Fica, Med, FWH 4.18.25	7,991.35
Internal Revenue Service	Fica, Med, FWH 5.2.25	7,686.04
Internal Revenue Service	Fica, Med, FWH 5.16.25	7,279.10
Iowa Department of Revenue	Monthly Sales & Use Tax	9,503.13
Iowa Department of Revenue	Monthly WET Tax	8,933.22
Iowa Department of Revenue	Monthly Withholding	1,831.00
IPERS	April 25 IPERS	10,104.17
MidAmerican Energy	Neal 4	19,000.00
Milford Communications	Phone	413.70
MMU	Utilities	5,377.85
MMU - Investment Fund	Mar 2025 EUSC Transfer	113,995.45
MMU-Medical Insurance Account	April 2025 FSA Transfer	764.76
NIMECA	Power Bill	87,108.16
NIMECA	Employee Benefits	299.23
Principal Life	Employee Benefit	522.82
Reliance Standard Life Insurance Company	Employee Benefit	366.77
United Community Bank	Loan Payment	7,883.11
United Community Bank	Water Meter Loan Payment	7,637.09
United Community Bank	Electric Distribution Loan Payment	31,938.41
Verizon Wireless	Phone Data - 3 Collector Boxes	75.10
Verizon Wireless	Phone, Ipad Purchase	1,758.65
Wellmark	Employee Benefit	15,626.40

Public Hearing on Electric Rates

Chairman Johnson opened the public hearing at 4:11 p.m. No comments were made during the public hearing and no comments were provided to the office prior to the hearing. Chairman Johnson closed the hearing at 4:12 p.m.

Milford Municipal Utilities Business

1. Consideration and possible approval of Resolution 2025-05-01 Approving Increase of Electric Rates

   Wharton/Walters made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-05-01 Adopting New Electric Utility Rates Applicable to Customers of Milford Municipal Utilities. Roll call vote: Ayes – Johnson, Wharton, Walters. Nays – None. Motion passed unanimously.

2. DGR CIP Presentation

   Andy Koob with DGR presented on possible future projects including the Safco Area Electric Distribution Improvements, Generation Addition Feasibility Study, the Electric System Study and Capital Improvements Plan Update. Greg Fritz with NIMECA also spoke about generation and how the generation plant benefits the town and NIMECA provides shared benefits between its members.

3. Consideration and possible approval of Task Order #11 Safco Area Electric Distribution Improvements

   Wharton/Walters made a motion to approve Task Order #11. Motion passed unanimously. This will include improvements to Safco's metering, distribution improvements for a circuit tie and a loop feed to the Casey's transformer.

4. Consideration and possible approval of Task Order #12 Generation Addition Feasibility Study

   Wharton/Johnson made a motion to approve Task Order #12. Motion passed unanimously. This study will examine viable options for adding diesel generation capacity to the system, potential locations, and review the impacts to MMU's power supply arrangement, along with cost implications at various levels of available generation.

5. Consideration and possible approval of Task Order #13 Electric System Study & Capital Improvements Plan Update

   Wharton/Walters made a motion to approve Task Order #13. Motion passed unanimously. The capital improvements plan was last updated in 2021. This study will ascertain its relevance and make appropriate adjustments.

6. Bolton & Menk CIP presentation

   Josh Pope with Bolton & Menk presented on the Water CIP. The plan considers water tower improvements, pump house improvements and water main improvements.

7. Consideration and possible approval of A34 innerduct payment

   The Board tabled the payment until DGR and Beck Engineering can both provide more information at a future meeting.

8. Consideration and possible approval of WTP Payment Request #18

   Johnson/Wharton made a motion to approve the WTP Payment Request #18 of $922,965.79. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Consideration and possible approval of Hwy 71 Raw Watermain Payment Request #1

   Wharton/Walters made a motion to approve the Hwy 71 Raw Watermain Payment Request #1 of $277,995.41. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Consideration and possible approval of transformer quote.

    Walters/Wharton made a motion to approve the RESCO transformer quote of $23,819.27. Motion passed unanimously. This transformer is for the new water treatment plant.

11. Consideration and possible approval of Public Notice to remove addition of Fluoride to the Drinking Water

    Wharton/Walters made a motion to approve giving public notice to remove the addition of fluoride to the drinking water. After the required 90 days of public notice, the board can then decide to remove fluoride from the treatment process based on comments or concerns. Fluoride levels are not directly regulated and there are natural levels coming from the lake water source.

12. Review of Arnolds Park Emergency Water Service Agreement

    The agreement has been reviewed by our attorney and there are no changes needed or required.

13. Review of Wahpeton Emergency Water Service Agreement

    The agreement has been reviewed by our attorney and there are no changes needed or required.

14. Review of Osceola County Rural Water System, Inc. Emergency Water Service Agreement

    The agreement has been reviewed by our attorney and there are no changes needed or required.

15. Consideration and possible approval of Closed Session as per Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(c) - To Discuss Necessary strategy with Legal Counsel in Matters that are Presently in Litigation or Where Litigation is Imminent, Where its Disclosure Would be Likely to Prejudice or Disadvantage the Position of the Milford Municipal Utilities.

    Walters/Wharton made a motion to go into closed session at 6:03 p.m. Motion passed unanimously. Wharton/Walters made a motion to come out of closed session at 6:18 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Items discussed in the Manager's Report:

1. For the WTP project, JTJ has been working in the area of the sedimentation tank and installing process piping in the area of the filters. JTJ started on the waste tank on the east side of the project.
2. The Hwy 71 Raw Watermain Project is complete.
3. The plans for the Okoboji CSD Elementary School have been reviewed by Bolton & Menk and MMU.
4. Doug Small has agreed to settle on $4,500.00 in exchange for an easement. The easement will be drafted and ready for Board approval at the June Meeting.
5. The fire hydrant at the old Milford Motors location had to be placed a little differently than anticipated. Willemssen talked with the property owner and the owner agreed to give MMU an easement if it's placed on private property. The property will be surveyed at the same time the Doug Small lot is surveyed for the utility easement.
6. Zach Nelson has been hired for the Lineman position. He will start on May 21st and will attend the June meeting to introduce himself.

The Board of Trustees adjourned the meeting at 6:21 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Milford Municipal Utilities Board of Trustees will be June 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

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Todd Johnson, Chairman

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Kevin Wharton, Board Secretary