

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the joint meeting of the Park Board and Public Utilities Commission was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Park Board Chair Miller.

Upon roll call, the following Park Board members were noted present: Sandy, Schaefer, and Miller. Public Utilities Commissioners noted as present were Erickson, Johnson, Matten, and O'Day.

Also noted as present, Public Works Director/City Engineer Dehn, Interim Public Utilities Director Wussow, Public Utilities Operations Manager Hawkinson, Finance Manager Loch, and Electrical Distribution Manager Lachelt, and Administrator Broyles.

Board President Miller opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MATTEN AND MEMBER SCHAEFER, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

Presentations

Peter Nelson, Past President of Rotary Club, gave a history of the Rotary Park and presented their proposal for solar energy at Rotary Park on top of the pavilion. The Brainerd Rotary Club has set aside \$5,000 and requested \$5,000 from the regional Rotary Club. Rebates are available at about \$11,000. There is a funding gap of \$16,000.

Commissioner O'Day asked who the owner of the project would be. He stated that previously BPU was going to install the project and no money would need to be contributed by the City.

Interim Public Utilities Director Wussow stated that two solar projects have been installed since the previous presentation.

Commissioner Matten asked how much power would be generated, whether the scope of the work has changed, whether the solar rebates would be paid back to the City. She is most concerned with size, location, and safety. There is vandalism running rampant in the parks. She stated that the Public Utilities would like to see the site plans.

David Winkelman, Consultant and Rotary Member, stated that 9.36 KWH could be produced. The location is on the roof of the pavilion, none of the hardware would be below the roof line.

John Forrest, Rotary Club, stated that Rotary has discussed security cameras have been considered, but electricity is needed to do that.

Member Sandy stated that funds would need to follow the procurement policy. The cash flow summary does not project the end of the lifespan of the panels what the cost to replace the panels would be. He asked what the cost of the panels would be to replace.

Peter Nelson stated that Rotary Club does have a similar policy regarding bids. The City would need to go out for official bids.

David Winkelman stated that the warranty is 30 years. The actual lifespan is unknown and the cost to replace may increase.

Commissioner Johnson stated that he is on board with the BPU Commission funding the solar panels. It is a ton of leg work. He would like Rotary to work with staff to determine the feasibility and he would like BPU staff to work with the City to determine the ownership of the solar panels. There would be more opportunities for funding.

Operations Manager Hawkinson stated that he has not seen the latest version of the plan. He has had dialect back and forth and there are some issues to address prior to approving. It would cost roughly \$12,000 to extend utilities to Rotary Park.

Commissioner Johnson stated that BPU staff should work to get all in cost to help this project progress and bring it to the Public Utilities Commission at the earliest possible.

Member O'Day asked whether the recs would be able to be sold to AEP.

Operations Manager Hawkinson stated that they could be.

Commissioner Johnson asked staff to get the ball rolling on amending the purchase power agreement.

Adjourn

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER O'DAY AND MEMBER SANDY, DULY CARRIED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

Chair Miller adjourned the Special Meeting at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Toni Gage, Administrative Specialist