MALDEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
COMMUNITY CENTER – 607 N DOUGLAS

Board President Clark Duckett called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT
Board President Duckett	X	
Board Member Bennett	X	
Board Member Coleman		
Board Member Trinkler	X	
Members Present		3

OTHERS ATTENDING: Mayor Denton Kooyman, City Administrator/Utility Director Jeff Mitchell, City Council Liaison Phil Santie, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Krepps, Electric Distribution Supervisor Jeremy Holloway, Power Plant Superintendent Drew Miller, Board Secretary Cathy Merritt

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: By Board Member Bennett to Approve the Regular Session Minutes of August 25, 2026.
SECOND: By Board Member Trinkler.
MOTION PASSED

FINANCIAL REPORTS

There were no questions on the financial reports.

Board Member Bennett informed the Board estimated capital needs are $3-3.5M (electric), $20M (water, per engineer estimate/not fully feasible), $40-45M (sewer) which totals far exceeds current reserves and ask how are these issues are going to get taken care of.

Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board the plan is to tackle projects incrementally and a $5M capacity sale will help fund water/electric work. Board Member Trinkler informed the Board water and sewer funds need to reach solvency to qualify for state/federal grant funding and we are not there yet though we are improving.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Electric Department
Mr. Holloway informed the Board the crews were doing normal maintenance routines. Mr. Holloway informed the Board they have replaced ten utility poles in the Barry Addition. Mr. Holloway informed the Board a lot of poles that were installed after the 2009 ice storm are rotting at the base and will need ongoing replacement.

Power Plant
Mr. Miller informed the Board unit #5 trouble shooting is ongoing, likely an air intake/muffler issue dating to original 1956 equipment, report and quotes are pending. Mr. Miller informed the Board the SCADA replacement is expected to start mid-October and the fuel depot/key fob replacement is delayed; still waiting on parts.

Mr. Miller informed the Board on October 14 & 15 the plant generated power during price spikes, netting $9400.00 in credits via SPP/Evergy.

Mr. Miller informed the Board he is preparing for winter especially with predictions for our area being a wet winter. Mr. Miller informed the Board he along with others have been reviewing the mutual aid policies through MPUA; going over protocols needed if something were to happen and had to seek assistance.

Mr. Krepps informed the Board the price of salt has gone up from $4.75 to $16 a bag and he will have to order more for the winter.

Water/Wastewater Department

Mr. Krepps informed the Board well 6 detention loop got done today (1,500 ft of 12" pipe installed); flushing and disinfecting is planned for Monday. Mr. Krepps informed the Board repairs of vents at the water tower by power plant have stalled due to a radio antenna having been welded to the spot where the dome is and will be hitting it due to being bigger than the previous but options of relocating it are being explored. Mr. Krepps informed the Board DNR is aware of the problem.

Mr. Krepps informed the Board three new chlorine gas system buildings are in progress and concrete pours are starting soon at well 5 and Davis sites. Mr. Krepps informed the Board he is waiting to hear back on the delivery date of the pump for Davis.

Mr. Krepps informed the Board he declined a request from Dunklin County Sewer District on locating leaks. Mayor Kooyman informed the Board DCSD has a billing dispute about being billed 308 customers, their count is 268 but those are active house counts. Mayor Kooyman informed the Board, City Attorney Chidister has the paperwork and is reviewing it.

Office Reports

Mrs. Merritt informed the Board there were 69 electric meters disconnected for non-payment today. Mrs. Merritt informed the Board her office has been auditing customer accounts after billing-code discrepancies surfaced in the new software migration especially business tax-exemption status. Mrs. Merritt informed the Board they are reviewing inside/outside city limits billing classifications as well and will be sending out renewal tax exemption letters.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board a contract was signed with Koffman & Co on an hourly, as needed basis for financial questions.

Utility Director Mitchell discussed exploring the sale of the BPW building & Quonset hut property to a prospective buyer Joe Pulliam and the Board leaned toward selling and awaiting a formal offer/price discussion.

The Board discussed creating a non-union coordinator management role verses keeping a union senior/lead lineman position seeing as a management role would bar the person from union fieldwork/call outs and the Board sees that as a drawback.

The Board discussed union hiring rules, internal posting requirements, seniority and succession planning as Mr. Miller nears retirement.

The Board decided not to replace Mr. Jenkin's position this fiscal year opting instead to hire an apprentice at the start of next fiscal year to save cost and build toward replacing retiring linemen over time.

The Board sent well wishes to Board Member Coleman's family.

With nothing further to discuss a motion to Adjourn the Regular Session Meeting of September 29, 2026 was entertained.

MOTION: By Board Member Bennett to Adjourn the Regular BPW Session Meeting of September 29, 2026 @ 5:52P.M.
SECOND: By Board Member Trinkler.
MOTION PASSED

Adjourned Regular Session at 5:52P.M. on September 29, 2026.

ATTEST:

BOARD SECRETARY

BOARD PRESIDENT