



Legislation Text

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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A \$3,857,531 GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER UTILITY REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2022A, AND PROVIDING FOR ITS PAYMENT.

CITY PROPOSAL:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the city council of the city of Duluth, Minnesota (the "City"), as follows:

Section 1. Note Purpose and Authorization.

1.01 Under and pursuant to the provisions of Section 55 of the City Charter, Minnesota Statutes, Section 444.075 and Chapter 475, and other pertinent provisions of said Charter and statutes, the City is authorized to issue its general obligation bonds or notes to provide funds for the payment of costs of improvements to the municipal water utility, which bonds or notes shall be a specific lien upon the water utility and are payable primarily from net revenues to be derived from the operation of the municipal water utility and pledged for their payment. The City has applied for and received a commitment from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (the "PFA") for a loan for the Project, as hereinafter defined.

1.02 The city council has, by Ordinance No. 10782 adopted December 6, 2021 (the "Ordinance"), ordered the issuance, sale and delivery of a general obligation water utility revenue note, in one or more series, in the amount of \$3,857,531 of the City, for the payment of improvements to the water utility system, consisting of rehabilitation of the Middle Booster Station including replacement and upgrades to existing pumps, motors and piping (the "Project").

1.03 The general obligation water utility revenue note to be issued under the Ordinance shall be issued in the principal amount of \$3,857,531 (the "Note") to pay the costs of the Project.

1.04 The City hereby authorizes the issuance and sale of the Note for the Project to the PFA, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, pursuant to a Minnesota Public Facilities Authority Bond Purchase and Project Loan Agreement dated November 5, 2021, between the PFA and the City, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B (the "Loan Agreement"), which is hereby authorized and approved.

Section 2. Execution and Delivery of Note and Loan Agreement.

2.01 The Note to be issued hereunder shall be dated as of the date of delivery to PFA, shall be issued in the principal amount of \$3,857,531, in fully registered form and lettered and numbered R -1. Interest on the Note shall be at the rate of 1.003% per annum. Principal and interest payments shall be made in the respective years and amounts set forth on Exhibit A to the Note, subject to adjustment as provided in the Loan Agreement. If the principal and interest payments are paid by

check and mailed to the registered holder of the Note, such payment shall be mailed by the City at least five business days prior to the payment date.

2.02 The Note shall be prepared for execution in accordance with the approved form and shall be signed by the manual signature of the mayor and attested by the manual signature of the clerk. In case any officer whose signature shall appear on the Note shall cease to be an officer before delivery of the Note, such signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes, the same as if such officer had remained in office until delivery. The Loan Agreement shall be prepared for execution in accordance with the approved form and shall be signed by the manual or electronic signature of the mayor and attested by the manual or electronic signature of the clerk in accordance with the approved form. All actions of the officers of the City regarding the Loan Agreement are ratified, confirmed and approved as of the date of the Loan Agreement.

2.03. The City will cause to be kept at its offices a register in which, subject to such reasonable regulations as the City may prescribe, the City shall provide for the registration of transfers of ownership of the Note. The Note shall be initially registered in the name of the PFA and shall be transferable upon the register by the PFA in person or by its agent duly authorized in writing, upon surrender of the Note, together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the clerk, duly executed by the PFA or its duly authorized agent.

2.04. Delivery of the Note shall be made at a place mutually satisfactory to the City and the PFA. The Note shall be furnished by the City without cost to the PFA. The Note, when prepared in accordance with this Resolution and executed, shall be delivered to the PFA by and under the direction of the finance director. Disbursement of the proceeds of the Note shall be made pursuant to the Loan Agreement.

2.05. In the event of an inconsistency between a provision of this Resolution and a provision of the Loan Agreement, the provision of the Loan Agreement shall govern.

Section 3. Revenues, Accounts and Covenants.

3.01 The city council covenants and agrees with the PFA and with its taxpayers that it will impose and collect just and equitable charges for all use and for the availability of all facilities of the municipal water utility at the times and in the amounts required to pay the normal, reasonable and current expenses of operating and maintaining such facilities, and also to produce net revenues at least adequate at all times to pay the principal and interest due on the Note and on all other bonds and notes heretofore or hereafter issued and made payable from said net revenues, and will operate the utility and segregate and account for the revenues thereof as provided in this section.

The City will place all such charges, when collected, and all money received from the sale of any facilities or equipment of the municipal water utility in a separate Water Utility Operating Account within the Public Utility Water Fund maintained under Section 54 of the City Charter. Except as provided in this section, this account shall be used only to pay claims duly approved and allowed for payment of expenses which, under generally accepted accounting principles, constitute normal, reasonable and current expenses of operating and maintaining the municipal water utility, and to maintain such reasonable reserves for such expenses as the proper City official shall determine to be necessary from time to time in accordance with policies established by the city council. Sums from time to time on hand in this account, in excess of sums required to make such payments and

maintain such reserves, constitute the net revenues which are herein pledged and appropriated first to pay the principal of and interest on all water utility bonds or notes when due.

3.02 The City hereby creates a separate construction account (the "Construction Account") within the Public Utility Water Fund to which there shall be credited the proceeds of the Note as received, together with investment income thereon and any additional funds which may be available and are appropriated for improvements to the Project. This account shall be used only to pay expenses duly approved and allowed which, under generally accepted accounting principles, constitute capital expenditures for the completion of the Project and costs of the issuance of the Note.

3.03 Until the Note issued hereunder is fully paid or duly called for redemption, or otherwise discharged, the City will also maintain a separate debt service account (the "Water Debt Service Fund") in the Public Utility Water Fund to be used solely for the payment of the principal and interest, as such principal and interest become due and payable, on the Note and on any other bonds or notes which have been or may be issued and made payable from said net revenues of the water utility. All investment income on funds in the Water Debt Service Fund are pledged to payment of the Note and other bonds and notes payable from the Water Debt Service Fund. The finance director shall transfer from the Water Utility Operating Account to the Water Debt Service Fund amounts of the net revenues sufficient for the payment of all interest and principal then due on the Note and other bonds and notes payable from the Water Debt Service Fund. Such transfers shall be made at the times and in the amounts determined by the finance director, in accordance with policies established by resolutions of the city council.

3.04 Surplus utility revenues from time to time received in the Water Utility Operating Account, in excess of payments due from and reserves required to be maintained in the Water Utility Operating Account and in the Water Debt Service Fund, may be used for necessary capital expenditures for the improvement of the municipal water utility, for the prepayment and redemption of bonds or notes constituting a lien on the municipal water utility, and for any other proper municipal purpose consistent with policies established by resolutions of the city council.

3.05 A. In the event the monies and payments appropriated to the Water Debt Service Fund are insufficient to pay principal of and interest on the Note and the bonds and notes payable from such fund as the same become due, the City is required by law and by contract with the holders of the Note and such bonds and notes and hereby obligates itself to levy and cause to be extended, assessed and collected any additional taxes found necessary for full payment of the principal of and interest on the Note.

B. The full faith and credit and taxing powers of the City are irrevocably pledged for the prompt and full payment of the principal of and interest on the Note, as such principal and interest respectively become due. However, the net revenues of the water utility appropriated to the Water Debt Service Fund are estimated to be not less than five percent in excess of the principal of and interest on the Note and the other bonds and notes payable from such fund, and accordingly, no tax is levied at this time.

3.06 Monies on deposit in the Construction Account and the Water Debt Service Fund may, at the discretion of the City, be invested in securities permitted by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 118A; provided, that any such investments shall mature at such times and in such amounts as will permit

payment of the Project costs and/or the principal and interest on the Note and bonds or notes payable from the Water Debt Service Fund when due, as applicable.

Section 4. Tax Covenants; Miscellaneous.

4.01 The city council covenants and agrees with the holders of the Note that the City will (i) take all action on its part necessary to cause the interest on the Note to be exempt from federal income taxes including, without limitation, restricting, to the extent necessary, the yield on investments made with the proceeds of the Note and investment earnings thereon, making required payments to the federal government, if any, and maintaining books and records in a specified manner, where appropriate, and (ii) refrain from taking any action which would cause interest on the Note to be subject to federal income taxes, including, without limitation, refraining from spending the proceeds of the Note and investment earnings thereon on certain specified purposes.

4.02 A. No portion of the proceeds of the Note shall be used directly or indirectly to acquire higher yielding investments or to replace funds which were used directly or indirectly to acquire higher yielding investments, except (i) for a reasonable temporary period until such proceeds are needed for the purpose for which the Note was issued, and (ii) in addition to the above, in an amount not greater than the lesser of five percent of the proceeds of the Note or \$100,000. To this effect, any proceeds of the Note and any sums from time to time held in the Water Debt Service Fund (or any other City account which will be used to pay principal and interest to become due on the Note) in excess of amounts which under the applicable federal arbitrage regulations may be invested without regard as to yield shall not be invested at a yield in excess of the applicable yield restrictions imposed by the arbitrage regulations on such investments after taking into account any applicable temporary periods or minor portion made available under the federal arbitrage regulations.

B. In addition, the proceeds of the Note and money in the Water Debt Service Fund shall not be invested in obligations or deposits issued by, guaranteed by or insured by the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof if and to the extent that such investment would cause the Note to be federally guaranteed within the meaning of Section 149(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1996, as amended (the "Code").

C. The City hereby covenants not to use the proceeds of the Note, or to cause or permit them to be used, in such a manner as to cause the Note to be a "private activity bond" within the meaning of Sections 103 and 141 through 150 of the Code.

4.03 A. Pursuant to Section 1.148-7(d) of the Treasury Regulations, relating to exception from rebate, the City hereby reasonably expects that with respect to the gross proceeds of the Note, the following schedule will be met: (i) at least 15% of the gross proceeds of the Note will be allocated to expenditures for the governmental purpose of the Note within six months of the date of issue of the Note; (ii) at least 60% of such proceeds will be allocated for such purposes within the one-year period of such date; and (iii) 100% of such proceeds will be allocated for such purposes within the 18-month period beginning on such date; subject to an exception for reasonable retainage of five percent of the available proceeds of the Note, and that 100% of the available proceeds of the Note will be allocated within 30 months from the date of issue of the Note.

B. The City shall use its best efforts to comply with any federal procedural requirements which may apply in order to effectuate the designation made by this section.

Section 5. Certificate of Proceedings.

5.01 The clerk is directed to file with the county auditor a certified copy of this resolution and such other information as the county auditor may require, and to obtain from the county auditor a certificate stating that the Note herein authorized has been duly entered on his register.

5.02 The officers of the City are authorized and directed to prepare and furnish to the purchaser and to bond counsel certified copies of all proceedings and records of the City relating to the authorization and issuance of the Note and other affidavits and certificates as may reasonably be requested to show the facts relating to the legality and marketability of the Note as such facts appear from the official books and records of the officers' custody or otherwise known to them. All of such certified copies, certificates and affidavits, including any heretofore furnished, constitute representations of the City as to the correctness of facts recited therein and the actions stated therein to have been taken.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution establishes the terms and form of the \$3,857,531 General Obligation Water Utility Revenue Note, Series 2022A, to be issued to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (the "Authority"). The interest rate on the Note is 1.003%. The proceeds of the Note will be used for improvements to the water utility system, consisting of rehabilitation of the Middle Booster Station including replacement and upgrades to existing pumps, motors and piping.