

600 South Fourth Street P.O. Box 383 Stoughton, WI 53589-0383

Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886

News Release Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 17, 2017 Contact: Robert P. Kardasz, P.E., Stoughton Utilities (608) 877-7423

STOUGHTON UTILITIES CELEBRATES PUBLIC POWER WEEK

Each year, Stoughton Utilities holds an annual Public Power Week event that highlights the benefits that "public power" brings to the utility, its customers, and the City of Stoughton.

This year, staff at Stoughton Utilities celebrated Public Power Week with a customer appreciation day on October 5. Over 100 customers visiting the utility office were given a free LED light bulb, cookies, ice cream, and the chance to win a new energy efficient freezer. The winner of the freezer giveaway was Mr. Mike Harvey of Stoughton.

Public power refers to the fact that the City of Stoughton owns and operates the not-for-profit utility to provide reliable electricity to homes and businesses. Local employees provide quick responses when issues arise and assistance with identifying energy-saving improvements. Public power utilities like Stoughton Utilities are supported by customer revenues, not taxes, and provide substantial payments in lieu of taxes to local governments to help keep local economies strong.

"Because we are owned by our customers rather than shareholders, we can focus on local priorities such as helping to sponsor economic development efforts, support high school scholarships, and participate in local events," said Stoughton Utilities Director Robert Kardasz. "In honor of Public Power Week, we like to give back to all of our customers with a special event." Public Power Week is celebrated across the country every year during the first full week of October. The event honors the over 2,000 communities served by a locally owned not-for-profit public power utility. For more information about the event, call the Stoughton Utilities office at (608) 873-3379, or visit https://www.stoughtonutilities.com.



Mike Harvey, winner of the Customer Appreciation Day grand prize, is shown next to his new energy efficient freezer.

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What Makes Public Power Utilities Unique?

Most public power utilities are owned by a city or town, ranging from small villages to large metropolitan cities. They are governed by either a city council or independently elected/appointed board. Above all, they are accountable to the people they serve. Community citizens have a direct and powerful voice in utility decisions and policies. Public power utilities are not-for-profit, locally-owned and operated, and usually lower cost than private utilities.

About Stoughton Utilities

Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area; and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.