



**Stoughton Utilities**

600 South Fourth Street  
P.O. Box 383  
Stoughton, WI53589-0383

*Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886*

# News Release

## Stoughton Utilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2016

Contact: Robert P. Kardasz, P.E., Utilities Director

### **Brian Hoops, Stoughton Utilities Assistant Director, Receives Shining Star Award**

GREEN LAKE, Wis. – Brian Hoops, Assistant Director of Stoughton Utilities (SU), received the WPPI Energy Shining Star awards at the organization’s annual meeting September 15. The award, which was given for the first time this year, recognizes utility managers and employees (both new and tenured) who have shown notable growth and leadership over the past year. These people go above and beyond the call of duty, and demonstrate leadership and dedication to strategic initiatives within the utility.

Hoops was selected to receive the award for the progressive leadership he’s shown throughout his 16-year career at the utility. Starting as a meter reader, he quickly advanced to his current role as assistant director, and has led Stoughton’s technical efforts in cyber and physical security; electric, water, and wastewater SCADA; website development; public relations; GIS; and other areas.

Hoops learned several programming languages so he could create software solutions to streamline SU’s account, customer service, metering and management operations to allow staff to quickly and easily accomplish their tasks.

“Brian’s attitude has always been that with technology, anything is possible; if there is a need, a system can be found or created to accomplish it,” said Bob Kardasz, utilities director.

Kardasz was also impressed by Brian’s ability to meet challenges. “Brian has shown the ability to understand and direct challenging issues, and to lead through difficult times.”

Hoops displays the true spirit of the award, which was created to recognize utility managers and employees at various stages in their career who display excellence in the workplace and community.



**Photo:** Brian Hoops (center), Stoughton Utilities Assistant Director, received the WPPI Energy Shining Star award at the WPPI Energy annual meeting September 15. He's pictured here with awards presenter Jim Stawicki (left), general manager of Sturgeon Bay Utilities, and WPPI Energy president and CEO Mike Peters (right).

###

### ***About Stoughton Utilities***

*Stoughton Utilities is the city's locally owned, not-for-profit electric, water and wastewater utility. Utility staff strive to provide their 8,500+ customers with low-cost, reliable electric service; clean, high-quality water that meets or exceeds all state and federal standards; and state-of-the-art wastewater treatment services. The utility is directed by a utility committee comprised of local residents, and citizens always have the opportunity to have a voice in utility decisions and programs.*

*This year marks the city's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Public Power Community.*

### ***About WPPI Energy***

*WPPI Energy is the member-owned, not-for-profit wholesale power supplier to SU and 50 other like-minded utilities in Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, and Iowa.*