

NEWBERRY WATER & LIGHT BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2019

Present: Chairperson Lawrence Vincent, Sharon Brown, Harold Dishaw, Charles Medelis.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Clerk -Schummer, Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement - Watkins, Village President -Lori Stokes, Bruce Lane.

Call to Order: Chairperson Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Village of Newberry Offices, 302 East McMillan Avenue, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Medelis, support by Dishaw, **CARRIED**, to approve agenda with one addition as follows: Under New Business, #5 - Advertise the vacancy on the Water & Light Board. Ayes: All.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Brown, support by Medelis, **CARRIED**, to approve minutes from the December 11, 2018 W&L meeting as presented. Ayes: All.

Water and Light Chairperson Announcements: Chairperson Vincent announced that Eric Feldhusen had resigned from the Board due to moving out of the customer area. Moved by Medelis, support by Dishaw, **CARRIED**, to accept the resignation of Eric Feldhusen with regrets and a letter of recognition. Ayes: All.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.

Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:

A.) **Water & Light – Monthly Bills – December 2018** - Motion by Brown, support by Dishaw, **CARRIED**, recommend Village Council pay the December 2018 Electric Fund bill in the amount of \$185,596.40. Discussion followed. Ayes: All. Motion by Medelis, support by Brown, **CARRIED**, recommend Village Council pay the December 2018 Water Fund bill in the amount of \$12,666.86. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.

B.) **Christmas Light Fund** is currently at \$14,516.08.

Petitions and Communications: None.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions: None.

Reports of Village Management:

- 1.) Superintendent of Water and Light: Joe Lively, working foreman, submitted a written report.
- 2.) Assistant Village Manager: Vallad gave a verbal report along with submitting charts for review. Vallad stated that the boom was damaged on the large bucket-truck. He did get an insurance claim number but does not know how much, if any, will be covered. Moved by Medelis, support by Brown, **CARRIED**, to approve taking the electric departments bucket truck to Grand Rapids to have the boom repaired. Ayes: All. Dishaw discussed concerns regarding lighting and safety at the school where kids cross the road to the gas station.
- 3.) Village Manager: James-Mesloh gave a verbal report. She presented spreadsheets on the current bonds, which included: bond summary, payment amounts, interest rates, balances, start dates, end dates. This spreadsheet will be posted online. James-Mesloh stated they have tried to pursue some sort of grant forgiveness with no success. Discussion followed.

Reports of Committees:

- 1.) Save the Bells: Schummer gave a verbal report.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- 1.) Comparison of Billing Formats (postcard version vs. Full-page) - Reviewed and discussed.
- 2.) Utility Security & Account Security. Vincent stated that power grid is mechanical and run by computer so it cannot be hacked into. He also stated that the company that does the Village billing sent a letter discussing how they make sure customers accounts are secure.
- 3.) Energy Adjustment Rate: January 2019 – Moved by Brown, support by Medelis, **CARRIED**, to approve the Energy Adjustment rate of 0.016061. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- 4.) 2018 Budget Amendments: Moved by Dishaw, support by Medelis, **CARRIED**, to approve the 2018 Electric Budget Amendments. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- 5.) Advertise Vacancy of W&L Board: Moved by Brown, support by Medelis, **CARRIED**, to advertise the Water & Light Board vacancy. Discussion followed. It was decided the get clarification from the Village Attorney as to whether the new Board member has to be a person outside the village and a utility user or can it be a representative of a business that is outside the Village and a utility user. Ayes: All.

Comments by Board Members: None.

Adjourn Meeting: Motion by Medelis, support by Dishaw, **CARRIED**, to adjourn meeting at 6:51 p.m.
Ayes: All.

These minutes are unapproved until voted on at the next meeting.

Terese Schummer, Clerk

Lawrence Vincent, Chairperson