

NEWBERRY WATER & LIGHT BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 2018

Present: Chairperson Medelis, Brown, Feldhusen, Vincent.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager – James-Mesloh, Assistant Village Manager – Vallad, Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement - Watkins, Clerk -Schummer, Steve Stiffler, Bruce Lane, Lori Stokes, Rebecca Handa, Robert Stevens.

Call to Order: Chairman Medelis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Village of Newberry Offices, 302 East McMillan Avenue, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Vincent, support by Brown, **CARRIED**, to approve agenda as submitted. Ayes: All.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Brown, support by Vincent, **CARRIED**, to approve minutes from the June 12, 2018 W&L meeting as presented. Ayes: All.

Water and Light Chairperson Announcements: None.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: Comments heard from: Lori Stokes – 301 W. John Street.

Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:

- A.) Water & Light Monthly Bills – Motion by Vincent, support by Feldhusen, **CARRIED**, recommend Village Council pay the June 2018 Electric Fund bill in the amount of \$111,341.15. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- B.) Motion by Brown, support by Feldhusen, **CARRIED**, recommend Village Council pay the June 2018 Water Fund bill in the amount of \$4,866.33. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- C.) Christmas Light Fund is currently at \$15,169.68.
- D.) Water & Light – Cash Balance – May 2018, was reviewed.

Petitions and Communications: None.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions: None.

Reports of Village Management:

- 1.) Superintendent of Water and Light: Perry submitted a written report.
- 2.) Assistant Village Manager: Vallad gave a verbal report. He stated that the planned outage for maintenance went well. Vallad also discussed the Consumer Confidence Report, Energy Adjustment information sheet, lawn repair from the water project, the new federal and state lead and copper pipe mandate. Discussion followed.
- 3.) Village Manager: James-Mesloh gave a verbal report. She met with Jason Allen who is the State Director for USDA RD who discussed grants and programs that are available to rural areas. She also met with the Ministerial Association about putting information, regarding payment help with utility bills, on shutoff tags.

Reports of Committees: Save the Bells: James-Mesloh gave a verbal report regarding the circus fundraiser.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- 1.) Payment of Delinquent Utility Accounts: Motion by Brown, support by Vincent, **CARRIED**, recommend Village Council discharge outstanding balances from 2015 and prior, in the amount of \$81,654.39 and to submit the outstanding accounts from 2016 and 2017 for collection. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- 2.) Utility Payment Methods: President Medelis requested a motion be made that the Village again take cash payments for utilities at the Village offices. Request died for lack of action.

Comments by Board Members: Vincent stated the reason he did not make a motion to take cash payments was because he would have to have more information on controls. Feldhusen asked whether or not you could pay by cash or check at the local banks that take utility payments. Medelis read a quote that had been posted on social media saying: “Charles Medelis is the chair of the W&L Board and made a motion to gouge the citizens to pay for their financial irresponsibility”. He responded by saying that he believes the Village is supposed to pay their bills, he doesn’t want the Village to go into default.

Adjournment: Motion by Vincent, support by Brown, **CARRIED**, to adjourn meeting at 6:14 p.m. Ayes: All. These minutes are unapproved until voted on at the next meeting.