

**CITY OF WINTER PARK
UTILITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

Regular Meeting
500 N. Virginia Ave
Public Safety Community Room

January 25, 2017
12:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Richard James (Chair)
Hugh James
Jennifer Lyons
Lawrie Platt-Hall
Tara Tedrow

Absent: Rick Baldocchi, Cheryl Forney, David Gevorgyan

City of Winter Park Staff: Troy Attaway, Director of Public Works
Abby Gulden, Sustainability Coordinator
Wes Hamil, Director of Finance
David Zusi, Director of Water & Wastewater Utility
Linda Antonion, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Richard James called the January 25, 2017 Advisory Board meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

The approval of the minutes from the December 7, 2016 regular meeting was raised. Motion was made, seconded and approved, unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair began the meeting with the discussion of the action item from the last meeting: to quantify the number of Winter Park residents who are not serviced by the City Electric Department. Abby Gulden clarified the information contained in the reports she supplied (showing the numbers of residents) as questions were asked. Troy Attaway explained the reasons why some Winter Park residents were not also Winter Park Electric customers. He also iterated what it would take to acquire those customers provided their current electric suppliers were willing to sell them. Wes Hamil offered the example of Ravaudage and that the electric suppliers would have to be given an incentive to release the accounts – usually a financial one. Chair and Board agreed that it did not make economic sense to go after these customers at this time. Troy added that considering anything regarding them should not be done until after the undergrounding of the Winter Park system is

completed; then, perhaps underground them but allow them to remain with OUC or Duke. Hugh James reminded the Board and Staff that it could become an issue of these residents not having the same advantages as residents served by the City Electric Utility. The subject of suggesting an ordinance that all residential electric distribution in the City would have to be undergrounded is was raised but the Board decided this may not be feasible and would need legal review first. Laurie Platt-Hall offered that it may be wise to monitor these residents' quality of services (QoS) to ensure it is comparable to Winter Park's QoS. Staff agreed to investigate how to obtain this QoS data. Chair recapped that the Board did not feel that it was fiscally feasible at this time to pursue acquiring the electric service areas of those residents not being supplied by the Winter Park system. However, the other utility providers should be approached to learn if they plan to underground these areas and to find a way to monitor the quality of service being received by the non-Winter Park electric residents. The Board also recommended that future City communications regarding electric system outages and restorations should be qualified to indicate that these announcements only applied to those residents who are City of Winter Park Electric's customers.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED:

Wes Hamil presented the financials reports. He stated that for the first quarter, Water and Sewer revenues were good and expenses were in line with the 2017 forecast. For Electric, sales of kilowatt hours were under budget by 2.7% but that during the warmer summer months should recover. Revenues are in the same range as 2016's. Fuel rates are becoming more in line with where they need to be.

David Zusi presented the Water/Wastewater Report. Staff are looking at the possibility of putting solar arrays on the flat roofs of the ground storage tanks at the water plants in order to generate power to operate the plant. Currently, power for the water plants is provided by Duke, not WP Electric. In the future, if solar is installed, the City may be able to offer solar power to customers at a solar rate. There is also warehouse roofs that could be used for a solar array as well as the possibility of a parking structure's roof. David also mentioned the possibility of the collection of food grade oils from residential customers was being investigated. Hugh James requested an action item regarding the feasibility of a green rate for solar produced power and how to accomplish it. Troy Attaway offered that he and Abby Gulden will respond with information on a green rate.

Troy Attaway provided an update on the November and December electric fuel rate. The goal is to bring down the balance collected to below \$1.6 million. Current rate structure appears to be lowering the balance toward the goal. He showed the comparison of Duke's utility rate to Winter Park's rate with WP's being lower. Undergrounding was reported as proceeding as planned.

Abby Gulden presented that audits collected show that customer satisfaction is still high. Rebates are good. The idea of copying City of Orlando's benchmarking and disclosure ordinance is being considered by the Sustainability Staff. She reminded the Board and Staff that Earth Day is April 9th and they are preparing information on Winter Park's conservation efforts.

FURTHER ACTION: Troy Attaway will investigate if there is data available on reliability regarding the electric services being supplied to Winter Park residents not being served by the WP Electric Utility. Troy Attaway and Abby Gulden will supply information on the feasibility of green rate programs.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

The Chair reminded the Board of the date for the next meeting (February 22nd) and adjourned the meeting at 01:08 p.m.

R. D. James, PhD