

**CITY OF WINTER PARK  
UTILITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**Regular Meeting**  
**500 N. Virginia Ave**  
**Public Safety Community Room**

**February 22, 2017**  
**12:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

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**Present:** Richard James (Chair)  
Hugh James  
Lawrie Platt Hall  
Tara Tedrow  
Rick Baldocchi

**Absent:** Jennifer Lyons, 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  
Terry Hotard, Asst. Director Electric Utility  
Dan D' Alessandro, Operations Manager Electric Utility  
Linda Antonion, Recording Secretary

**GUESTS:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Richard James called the January 25, 2017 Utilities Advisory Board meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

Chair called for the approval of the minutes from the January 25, 2017 regular meeting. Motion was made, seconded and approved, unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Chair began the meeting by addressing the actions items from the last meeting and asked if there was a report on the reliability of the outside Electric companies. Troy responded that the data may not be available. The topic evolved into whether or not there were any other reliable methods of obtaining the data other than through the Electric companies.

The next action item brought up was the Feasibility of the Green programs. Hugh James requested that a serious green power alternative be researched; especially the idea of developing a solar farm such as that owned by FPL. The program to possibly install solar panels on city facilities was

discussed once more, which eventually brought up the question of whether or not the City of Winter Park should become a power generator rather than just a supplier. Various possibilities of buying from solar suppliers, partnering with solar suppliers, contracting with the electric customers, requiring commercial developers to install solar roof panels; were discussed. Rick Baldocchi added that he would like to see a long term feasibility study done first. The questions of the long term costs, whether or not the Winter Park Electric consumers would pay extra for solar, whether the cost of solar power would become less than cost of current methods of electric supply; were also considered. Chair requested that a forward view into this topic be supplied at a future date. Troy agreed to investigate and advise when it could be supplied. He mentioned looking into the switch from supplying to generating power and the ramifications involved.

Chair moved the discussion to the financial reports. Wes outlined the water and sewer figures as looking good. Next was the electric figures, usage was about 2.7% behind but being watched. Fuel cost under recovered, investment earnings not impacted as much on the electric side and undergrounding running behind pace. Hugh James asked at this point if the Staff had a comment regarding the pace. Dan D'Alessandro stated he would prefer to increase the pace towards the end of the year. He also outlined that some quarter points could cost more than the ones that were already done. Dan also mentioned that capital work has been taking up more resources than expected. Rick Baldocchi, Hugh James and others present, encouraged ramping up the pace of the undergrounding to meet the goals set for the year. The discussion returned to the financial report. Wes continued with the fuel costs having been under recovered but that it should be moving closer to the target as the year progressed, which concluded the report.

Chair shifted focus to David Zusi. He displayed several slides with graphs that showed water usage dropping when rainfall increased but was otherwise remaining constant for the past few years. Rebates for low volume toilets is slightly lower and the rebates for H.E. washing machines is down. He detailed other rebates that might become available, especially if funds from the St. John's Water Authority could be obtained. Lawrie Platt Hall asked if there was a way to determine a leak in irrigation systems and David Zusi replied that there are flags set in the water meters' software that they used to alert customers to possible leaks.

Troy Attaway was next with slides showing the electric sales versus the budget. The HDD/CDD graphs showed their trend line moving down which correlates with lower kilowatt hours being used by customers. This was discussed as the cause of the budget underrun of 2.7% in sales as shown in the Financial Statements. In response to a Board question concerning annual wholesale price increases included in the electric supplier contracts, Troy stated that these increases are not factored into the base rates charged customers. Hugh James raised the concern that the price increases being absorbed over five years cause a significant rate increase at the end of the contract and likely would upset the customers. David Zusi asked why a CPI, as used for water, couldn't be applied to electric as well. Troy Attaway and Wes Hamil stated that the Commission hadn't wanted to go that route at this time.

Electric Operations was addressed by Dan D'Alessandro. Undergrounding Project E, the Glenridge area, was projected to be done by the end of May. Staff is conducting a design competition on Projects F and G. The I-4 ramp cut was returned to the original plan. Duke's Fairbanks project status and the potential costs involved were discussed. Generally, the electric operations are doing well.

Chair requested Abby Gulden's Sustainability Report next. She highlighted the arrangements for Earth Day (April 9) and a proposed electric vehicle incentive plan. The qualifications of two new part time employees were outlined.

**OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED:** None

**FURTHER ACTION:** For future date – Solar generation feasibility

**MEETING ADJOURNED:**

The Chair reminded the Board of the date for the next meeting (March 22, 2017) and adjourned the meeting at 01:37 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. H. James, PhD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".