

**CITY OF WINTER PARK
UTILITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

Regular Meeting
500 N. Virginia Ave
Public Safety Community Room

June 28, 2017
12:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Richard James (Chair)
Rick Baldocchi
Hugh James
Jennifer Lyons
Jack Miles
Lawrie Platt Hall

Absent: Paul Conway. Karim Arja

City of Winter Park Staff: Wes Hamil, Director of Finance
Troy Attaway, Director of Public Works
David Zusi, Director of Water and Wastewater Utility
Kris Stenger, Asst. Director Building & Permitting
Terry Hotard, Asst. Director Electric Utility
Dan D'Alessandro, Operations Manager Electric Utility
Mike Passarella, Engineer Electric Utility
Linda Antonion, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Richard James called the June 28, 2017 Utilities Advisory Board meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

New board members Jack Miles and Paul Conway (absent) along with new alternate Karim Aria (absent) were recognized and welcomed.

Chair called for the nomination of a Chair and Vice-Chair. Richard James was re-nominated as Chair by Lawrie Platt Hall and seconded by Hugh James. Rick Baldocchi was re-nominated as Vice-Chair by Lawrie Platt Hall and seconded by Hugh James. Both were elected by acclamation.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Chair requested the board to review the previous month's minutes. Changes were made, as discussed, to page 3 and the May 24, 2017 minutes, as amended, were approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Water/Wastewater Consumptive Use Report was deferred another month, until a more normal usage time. David Zusi responded to questions regarding “Smart” controllers that turn off irrigation when it is raining. The Water Department offers rebates on the installation of these controllers.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED

Kris Stenger provided more information regarding how the City of Sarasota plans to manage their goal of 100% renewables by 2050, and how OUC’s 13 megawatt solar array is proceeding, about which he will provide more information in August. He also answered questions regarding the possibilities of Winter Park obtaining solar power from OUC. Jack Miles asked if solar was being considered for the new library/event center. Kris stated that it was not a mandatory requirement but if have opportunity will push for solar.

Chair then requested the Board’s input on the Water/Wastewater fee schedule. David Zusi answered questions regarding how the fees were determined. Chair requested a motion to approve the fee schedule, Rick Baldocchi motioned and Hugh James seconded, all approved.

Chair moved to the next action item regarding clarification of the rights of the cable companies and their use of the utility poles. Troy Attaway responded that the attorneys were still looking into the matter. Rick Baldocchi requested that the existing agreement be sent to the Board members. Wes Hamil offered to send the agreement to the Secretary for distribution to the Board.

Chair then moved the discussion to the financial reports. Wes Hamil presented the reports for water and electric and responded to questions. Water/Wastewater sales are well ahead of forecast and the prior year. Debt service coverage was projected to be strong. Water/Sewer bottom line is projected to be \$2.5M. He predicted that Electric’s sales would be about 422M kWh for the year, which would have a negative impact on the year’s revenues by \$465K. The target goal for the fuel recovery balance was to break even at the end of the fiscal year. Debt service coverage would be fine even though the revenue goal will not be met. Wes stated that the FY 18 budget plans to add \$250,000 as cash reserve based on annual sales of 420M kWh. Discussions amongst City staff and the board regarding interest rates and cash balance continued for several minutes.

Chair asked if there was a Water/Wastewater report to which David Zusi responded no.

Chair next addressed Dan D’Alessandro, newly appointed Director of the Electric Utility. Dan asked for Board suggestions for any changes to the information reported each month to ensure he presents what the Board desires to know. Electric sales continued to decrease apparently due to mild weather and commercial users’ conservation. Lawrie Platt Hall asked what the rate of conversion was for streetlights to become LEDs. Dan responded that all new lights are LED and some of the replacements are being converted where feasible. The plan is to convert all streetlights to LEDs at some point in the future. Dan continued with an update regarding the status of the undergrounding projects, which are on target, as well as explaining how they are trying to maintain

and improve service in the other areas. Also discussed was the possibility of using the electric smart meters to alert them of outages. David Zusi explained how the water department makes use of the smart meter notifications. Dan then brought up the Duke/Fairbanks project status, hopefully to begin in January 2018. He then discussed problems that Winter Park Hospital had been having with power interruptions which was solved by feeding the hospital from the Winter Park substation directly.

Chair requested the Sustainability report next which was presented by Vanessa Balta Cook. She responded that they are participating in the Central Florida Battle of Buildings, a voluntary, regional competition between building owners to minimize their water and energy usage. The City of Winter Park is assisting them by setting up an Energy Star portfolio account that provides them their last 12 months of usage.

FURTHER ACTION: Send cable company pole-usage agreements to Board members. Kris Stenger to report on OUC solar farm status/pricing and “roll-out” plans

MEETING ADJOURNED:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

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