

**CITY OF WINTER PARK
UTILITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

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

**January 24, 2018
12:00 pm**

MINUTES

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

Absent: Karim Arja

City of Winter Park Staff: Troy Attaway, Director of Public Works
Wes Hamil, Director of Finance
David Zusi, Director of Water & Wastewater Utility
Kris Stenger, Assistant Director Building and Permitting
Mike Passarella, Electric Utility
Vanessa Balta-Cook
Noemi Guzman, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: Lee Zell, Regional Area Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Richard James called the January 24, 2018 Advisory Board meeting to order at 12:00pm

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

The approval of the minutes from both the September 27, 2017 and November 8, 2017 regular meetings is raised. Motion to approve both sets of minutes was made, seconded and approved, unanimously. There were no citizen comments.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Richard James began a presentation outlining suggested changes to agenda for the monthly meetings. The subjects included streamlining the reports provided by the departments with more detailed reporting on a bimonthly and quarterly basis. Considerable discussion ensued.

Finance offered to provide the monthly report to the board by the end of the week prior to the Utilities Advisory Board meeting. Any questions the board members have regarding the report could then be discussed at the meeting. The departments' "Executive Summary" would be reviewed at the monthly meeting.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED:

The financial report was presented by Wes Hamil/Finance Director next; including how tax reform has affected the City's debt and what changes ensued as a result. He also provided information that was requested by Commissioner Weldon regarding revenue generation and the rates used by OUC and Duke Energy, especially the fuel adjustment rates, to present the possibility of an increase for the Commission's consideration. An increase in revenue might accelerate the undergrounding projects. The Board was concerned that another increase might affect the Electric Utility's reputation if it causes a financial hardship amongst some of Winter Park's residents. The Board also questioned how much acceleration of the undergrounding could actually be accomplished and that the rate increase would provide no benefit to the 50% who have already been undergrounded. The board would like to consider whether or not there are other methods to increase the undergrounding without raising rates and their position was to proceed cautiously until more information can be obtained.

Chair next requested the report from David Zusi/Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities. The RFP to install solar panels on the tank tops at a water treatment plant is being prepared for release. The energy supplied will be used by the facility to minimize the power bought from Duke. There will also be a release of information that may cause some alarm amongst the water customers due to a mistake in the regular water sampling of Bromide. Mr. Zusi also distributed a brochure on a warranty program being offered by the National League of Cities for consumer's water and or sewer lines. The board requested to see a contract regarding the coverage and asked questions regarding the service. Mr. Lee Zell, NLC Regional Area Manager, answered several Board questions concerning this program.

Chair addressed Mike Passarella/Engineer for the Electric Utility, who presented a report on the F.M.P.A. solar project that Jerry Warren, a City consultant, recommended. The solar project could supply some of the electrical power for the City. The board discussed the subject and asked questions, especially about the terms.

A motion was made by the Board as follows "The Board recommends that the City should formally express its' interest in participating in this project and recommends the Electric Department to enter into discussions with the F.M.P.A.. A binding contractual commitment would require further consideration by the Commission". The motion was passed.

The Chair requested a matrix showing the current power purchasing agreements.

Jack Miles asked if a separate surcharge could be put on the electric utility bills for undergrounding that would expire once the undergrounding is complete.

FURTHER ACTION:

Orientations by the departments were requested for the board members.

Sustainability to schedule a joint meeting between the KWPB and the UAB.

Board to advise David Zusi if they will endorse the NLC Service Line Warranty Program.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.