

**CITY OF WINTER PARK  
UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD**

**Regular Meeting  
Welcome Center**

**October 22, 2008  
12:00 p m**

**MINUTES**

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**Present:** Mike Whiting, Greg Seidel, John Reker, Patricia Elwood, Lee Upton, Linda Lindsey, Dan Swanson

**City of Winter Park Staff:** Jerry Warren Electric Utility Director; David Zusi, Water and Wastewater Utility, Terry Hotard, Asst Electric Director; Mark Brown, Electric Eng. Analyst; Clarissa Howard, Communications Director; Delsia Margraf, Utility Manager; Gary Heller, Water and Wastewater Treatment Chief; Debbie Wilkerson, Recording Secretary.

**Absent:** Joe Hostetler, Don Doyle

**Others present:** Denise Eskola, ENCO

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chm Whiting called the regular meeting of the Utility Advisory Board to order at 12:05 p.m.

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**A. Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Seidel moved to approve the September 24, 2008, minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Whiting, motion carried unanimously.

**B. New Business:**

**C. Action Items:**

**Strategic Plan Meeting**

Mr. Reker updated the Board on the progress of the Strategic Planning Committee. Work is continuing on the first part of the strategy plan with final 2008 financial data to be available in a few weeks.

**II. REPORTS:**

**Communications:**

Ms. Howard reported that the Avenue Times conducted an interview with ENCO staff. The article will appear in the next issue. Electric glow in the dark magnets with power outages phone numbers were sent out. She provided copies of city publications for the Board information.

**Utility Billing**

Ms. Margraf reported that the payment kiosk was installed in the lobby of city hall and is available to take payments. She announced that a convenience fee to use credit cards for payments is on the Commission agenda. Discussion ensued regarding what payments would be charged, explanation why the increased fee and what credit cards would be assessed the fee.

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**MINUTE**

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**Electric Utility**

Mr. Warren reported that he and Mr. Hotard had attended the Park Grove neighborhood meeting to provide a “state of the utility” presentation. He reviewed some display boards that were used at the presentation to show the improvements in number of residential outages. Graphs will be published to show improvements in outages and the rate comparison among municipality.

Mr. Warren reviewed handouts showing Progress Energy’s proposed rate increases. Mr. Swanson questions the nuclear component of Progress Energy rate. Mr. Warren responded that we agreed to track their rate level, not their costs. If the City were to decouple from Progress Energy, the city’s rates could reflect the elimination of nuclear component but discussion ensued regarding other city’s options to utilize those funds. After a discussion on rates Mr. Warren offered to provide a conceptual rate proposal at the November meeting for discussion.

Mr. Warrant reviewed and discussed a fuel recovery graph distributed to board members. He talked about the unexpected reduction in fuel recovery costs.

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Mr. Whiting requested that each Board member go to the City’s website and perform both energy audits and report back at the November meeting. The Board agreed.

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Mr. Warren reported on the current status of the City’s request to have Bright House underground their lines. The City Attorney is very close to a pole agreement with Bright House which he would like to have in place first so that Bright House can start paying for pole attachments. Discussion is still on going regarding underground their lines. Options to Bright House service were discussed.

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**Water and Wastewater Utility**

Mr. Zusi introduced Gary Heller, Water and Wastewater Treatment Chief, who was very involved with the transition from the old treatment process into ozone world and developing the water conservation program. Mr. Zusi reviewed an informational water conservation package that he compiled that covered a variety on topics, events and conservation publications. He discussed the impact of these activities on rate. He updated the board on future capital projects.

Mr. Zusi responded to a question regarding the funds received from the sale of the water plant on Aloma stating that the funds went in to the general fund which is normal practice.

Mr. Reker indicated that he would like to see a future usage projection and the impact of each conservation program. Mr. Zusi indicated that some of that information was available and he will provide that information to the Board.

**III. Customer Feedback:**

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Mr. Hotard brought to the board for their information the lack of resident participation in United Way's 211 program, which provides emergency payment assistance for residents. Ms. Howard reported on several items that the City will be doing to encourage participation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chm. Whiting adjourned the meeting at 1:34 pm. Next meeting date – November 18, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Wilkerson CPS/CAP  
Senior Staff Assistant

*Approved 11/18/08*