

**REGULAR MEETING, MUNICIPAL BOARD
MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

Present

Commissioners: Blackler, Dolmatch, Hall and Moffa, and DMO Lotkowitz.

Others Present: James Lanning of 12 Hannum St., Skaneateles

Minutes:

Comm. Moffa requested that the 7/25/11 meeting minutes be edited to reflect a statement he made in the section: *CHA Report on YMCA's impact on Village power:*

Comm. Moffa asked that CHA provide information as to what they suggest if the YMCA decided to scale back their power needs. **DMO Lotkowitz said that CHA had provided him with "what if" info and he would pass it on to the board members.**

Motion: Comm. Hall made a motion to approve the minutes pending addition of the above. Comm. Blackler seconded the motion and they were approved 4-0

OLD BUSINESS

Cryptosporidium-UV Project Status

One VSD & One Pump, Grant Availability- DMO Lotkowitz stated that he has asked Arcadis to request from NYSERDA how the grant would be affected, if only one pump and one VSD are used, given that the total savings would be the same. He restated that it's a fixed, competitive grant, for \$52,272. The single pump and single VSD save 78,550 Kwh; this cost falls below the \$2,000/10ml BTU threshold. He's hoping to show that a second set of each is redundant and not necessary, thus decreasing the costs used in calculating the grant. He is hoping for a reply by August 19, 2011

UV Chlorination Back-up. Comm. Hall asked for an update on the project as a whole. DMO Lotkowitz said construction started that day, Monday, August 15, 2011 at the tank site, with the installation of two lines. One line measures pressure and the other line samples chlorine residuals. The minimum requirement set by the DOH, (Dept. of Health), for chlorine residuals is .2 ppm. This minimum has to be maintained at all times in the event the City of Syracuse's system fails. There is no way around this, even though the City of Syracuse may be installing a UV system also.

Comm. Dolmatch requested that the Project Budget Sheet be updated every meeting even if the only change is the date, as it needs to be monitored. DMO Lotkowitz stated that he would comply. Comm. Dolmatch also stated that he didn't receive copies of the 7/14/11 pre-construction meeting's minutes. It was understood that GHD was preparing those minutes and things can get "foggy". **DMO Lotkowitz said he would check on that and make sure the minutes are distributed.**

Insulation/Energy Conservation Program Update

Appliance Rebate program/CFL program- DMO Lotkowitz stated that \$250.00 in rebates for the appliances has been given out. There was no activity on CFL's, (Carbon Fluorescent Light bulbs).

Insulation Program/ -DMO Lotkowitz's recent review of the program's documentation has him struggling with whether to initiate it now. The NYPA (New York Power Authority) would require a 10% administrative fee, after the loan plan is signed on for. He recommended that we do not proceed with the program. Discussion continued on how many electrically heated homes in the area may qualify. Comm. Moffa said this program is an easy fix and the most effective way of reducing demand. Comm. Hall recommends proceeding with the project, as 90 cents on the dollar is better than nothing. He suggested protesting the administrative fee. **Comm. Dolmatch suggested the Village Building Code requirements for attic insulation in new construction be compared to what was installed in these homes before moving ahead.** (Heather Woods Court and Heritage Woods homes are assumed to be electrically heated.) **He also recommends that Chuck Williams and Trustee Angelillo comment on the program, as they live there and may qualify.**

Comm. Moffa asked if there are any preemptions prohibiting the Village from implementing this program; any requirements that should have been followed and weren't in these homes.

IEEP Program List/Money Utilizations-DMO Lotkowitz asked for feedback from the Municipal Board. Comm. Moffa asked what the incentives are for the Village to get involved with more programs. DMO Lotkowitz said the incentive is to give Village ratepayers the chance to obtain rebates. Municipalities such as ours are excluded from the NYSEERDA rebates other ratepayers benefit from due to the fact they pay a "system benefit charge" on their bills from National Grid, New York State Electric & Gas, etc. Comm. Dolmatch suggested that each member refer to the matrix DMO Lotkowitz passed out at the July 25, 2011 meeting. **He asked that they choose five of the programs they feel have merit and would like to see implemented; and rate them using a scale of 1-5 with 1 being the most appealing program and 5 being the least appealing program. Comm. Dolmatch asked DMO Lotkowitz if he would find out what the Villages of Solvay and Fairport have implemented, obtain some feedback and email the Board members the information.**

Amount Village is obligated to spend annually-DMO Lotkowitz wasn't given a reply when he asked the question. He knows the money has to be used; we can't keep building the fund without using it.

CNY Climate Change Innovation Program

Status on Inventory Intern-DMO Lotkowitz asked that this topic be removed until the November meeting's agenda, when the Village's carbon footprint inventory will begin.

Comprehensive Plan consultation assistance.-Comm. Dolmatch received the informative email from DMO Lotkowitz offering 55 hrs. of assistance by the CNY Planning Agency. Comm. Dolmatch stated that the Village Comprehensive Plan, dealing with sustainability, is in its draft form and isn't the same Comprehensive Plan, that this Innovation Plan Grant (reducing our carbon footprint) is offering assistance on. This topic can be removed from future agendas.

Solar Carport-DMO Lotkowitz passed out a solar carport-pictorial that he used to give a presentation recently; at the Blues Eco Fest in Syracuse. **DMO Lotkowitz announced that the Planning Board recommended the old Fire House parking lot on Fennell St. as the most beneficial site for the solar carport.** Comm. Dolmatch would like it to be in the Municipal Lot, he proceeded to say that the Fire Station location is an object of desire for many organizations; it's not the kind of place you "give away". He wasn't aware that the Planning Board had already recommended a location and asked what the criteria are for determining it. DMO Lotkowitz replied that the location needs to be in an open-to-the-public municipal area, highly visible, as well as a destination spot. There was discussion of the benefits to a private organization (Tops) having the carport in their lot, which isn't conducive for this situation. Comm. Dolmatch would like to attend the next Planning Board scheduled for September 1, 2011, but will be unavailable, so he will write something up. **He would like dimensions and specifics on the car port plans, program and agreement proposed, in order to present an accurate statement in favor of the Municipal Parking Lot, his more favored location.** Comm. Moffa will attend with DMO Lotkowitz, who will ask the Planning Board Clerk, Elaine DuBois, soon that they be placed on the next Agenda.

AMR

AMR expenditure sheet-DMO Lotkowitz passed out an updated sheet with figures reflective of the recent purchase of the remaining three district meters. Comm. Dolmatch asked how the progress of installing meters is going. DMO Lotkowitz said that due to a personnel situation, meter installations were minimal, but the situation will be figured out soon.

Billing Interface- DMO Lotkowitz explained that Sensus is working on the .1 multiplier that has been in their system from the get go. Comm. Moffa stated that he thought we had the flexibility to alleviate these multiplier problems. DMO Lotkowitz said that we do, but Sensus is working this out and things should be okay afterwards.

Rate Calculation for Electric billing to residents

Wilson Rate Study-DMO Lotkowitz said that there will be a draft on the study completed by the end of the week, (August 19, 2011). He provided Curt with the remaining up-to-date information that he required.

CHA Infrastructure Study-DMO Lotkowitz said more work on the underground study will continue this coming Thursday or Friday (August 18th or 19th) depending on the availability of our electric dept. Comm. Dolmatch would like to see an illustrated, outlined report consolidating our data: poles, wires, transformers, the condition, the year installed, etc. He requested that the finished product be usable for capital projections. Comm. Moffa asked if a copy of the illustrated proposal is available; the one they presented prior to being hired to perform the study. **DMO Lotkowitz will try to get a copy of their outline, the illustrated proposal.** Comm. Moffa wants it to be user friendly so that we can use it on our own, without further consultation expenses.

Rate Re-structuring- Comm. Dolmatch explained that he and Comm. Blackwell met prior to the July 25th meeting. They compiled some useful information to be used in researching our possible rate structure and a possible increase. Comm. Moffa would like it verified that Endicott and Booneville's rate increase requests were approved and use their submissions as a guide. DMO Lotkowitz suggested this could be checked on the PSC's (Public Service Commission's) website. DMO Lotkowitz reiterated Comm. Blackler's comment and asked Comm. Dolmatch what his approach would be to discourage ratepayers' excessive consumption. Comm. Dolmatch suggested as an example (hypothetically): reducing our current price from 3.4 cents/kwh for the first 200 Kwh to 2.4 cents, then boost it up to 5.0 cents/Kwh for the next 200 Kwh, and then 10.0 cents/Kwh for the next 200 Kwh. The Demand could be spread out accordingly. Comm. Dolmatch said this may not change behaviors, but it will reward low consumption and penalize excessive consumption. Comm. Blackler repeated the second goal of raising more money for capital expenses, too. Comm. Moffa said the willingness of the PSC to accept a change/increase has to meld with reasonable rationale from our end to pass muster and satisfy the public. He feels the committee is on its way to doing that. It is agreed that the Village Board will incorporate the Municipal Board's suggestions and build from there.

Hydro-Power/Allocation Increase Request

YMCA Application- DMO Lotkowitz said that he will be asking the Village Board to accept the YMCA's proposal at the next Village Board meeting and make sure that it gets submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:**Proposed NYPA Rate Increase**

DMO Lotkowitz said the MEUA consultants are reviewing NYPA's proposal for a rate increase of up to 30%. They will be responding on its impact to the Electric Municipalities. It's agreed that any rate or tier changes desired be swiftly laid out so that it can be proposed in one request to the PSC. **CHA will need to complete our Infrastructure study**, so that this Board and the Village Board can evaluate it soon.

MEUA Delegate Declaration

DMO Lotkowitz will be attending the annual MEUA conference this fall in Saratoga for a couple of days. He requested that he be declared the MEUA delegate for the Village of Skaneateles by the Municipal Board.

Motion: On the motion of Comm. Dolmatch, seconded by Comm. Moffa, all in attendance were in favor of declaring DMO Lotkowitz as the MEUA delegate for 2011 by a vote of 4-0.

Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 19, 2011.

Adjournment

The meeting was moved to adjournment at 8:35 p.m.



Audrey C. Clark
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer