

FINAL

**CITY OF NORWALK
THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: Timothy Plunkett, Chair; David Brown; Paul Kokias

STAFF: George Leary, General Manager

OTHERS: Liz Lyons, Peter Murphy, James P. Murphy & Associates; Marc Goldsmith,
Ken Horne, ConnSmart Program

Mr. Plunkett called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present this evening.

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO TAKE THE AGENDA OUT OF ORDER
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

INSURANCE RENEWAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Murphy explained the insurance renewal proposal. Ms. Lyons explained the proposed coverage for public officials/employment practices liability. Mr. Brown asked why they would spend money on something that has never happened. Mr. Leary added that the chances of fraud on the pension plan are small. Mr. Plunkett said that he would rather see the District covered.

Mr. Murphy reviewed the proposed insurance for boiler & machinery coverage. He said that they will have a specific amounts for equipment breakdowns. He said that the policy will apply for mechanical failure.

Mr. Murphy said that the worker's compensation MOD rate is starting to come down for the District.

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO RENEW THE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE AS
PROPOSED, WITH JAMES P. MURPHY & ASSOCIATES FOR THE PERIOD OF 1/1/2010 –
1/1/2011
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

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- ** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO APPROVE THE CRIME POLICY WITH THE TRAVELERS AS PRESENTED IN THE ADDENDUM QUOTE EFFECTIVE 1/1/2010**
- ** MR. BROWN SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

CMEEC SMART METER PRESENTATION

Mr. Goldsmith reviewed his written presentation. He explained that there were 416 applications for the grant, and 100 were awarded. They asked for and received \$9.2 million. This project is the only one accepted in Connecticut. In addition this program was named as one of the top twenty.

The application is set up so that the Third Taxing District would have its own budget, program and results. The project allows the systems to proceed at their own rate, but it has to be completed within three years.

Mr. Goldsmith explained that their infrastructure handles the meters in the program. There will be sufficient infrastructure in place when they add the meters. Mr. Plunkett asked who would not benefit from this program. Mr. Goldsmith said that it would be someone who does not want change; who has basic service and does not want time of use rates.

Mr. Goldsmith explained the benefits of the program. Mr. Plunkett said that he was trying to find the value to the customer and justification as to why the District was spending this money. Mr. Goldsmith said that they do not know all of the benefits, but they are learning what they are. He said that they are at about a 4 ½ year payback. There is not an immediate gain.

Mr. Plunkett asked what would happen if the District declines. Mr. Goldsmith said that other utilities would get a chance to use the money. He said that the Smart Meter portion of the program is not a question of if; it is a question of when. He said that there are high advantages to the program. He said that the goal is customer empowerment.

Mr. Brown asked if the District could opt out. Mr. Goldsmith said that this is one of the last opt out points; they are at a point where they are asking the Commission for approval.

Mr. Plunkett said that they need to have cost and benefit information available.

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

**Third Taxing District of the City of Norwalk
Resolution Approving Grant Matching Costs for
DOE Smart Grid Funding Opportunity**

WHEREAS, The DOE issued a request for applications for a competitive, merit-based approach for providing funds to organizations for qualifying smart grid investment projects to advance smart grid functions; and

WHEREAS, CMEEC and the participating municipal utilities including the Third Taxing District of the City of Norwalk (TTD) were awarded \$9.2 million of Grant funding from the DOE's Smart Grid Investment Grant funding opportunity; and

WHEREAS, This Commission believes the proposed smart grid project will provide significant long-term benefits to our customers and is thus an appropriate use of ratepayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, TTD and the participating municipal utilities filed a grant application with the understanding that such filing did not obligate any applicant to commit to any proposed project until such time as the Commission authorizes the grant matching funds and the DOE approves a final contract; and

WHEREAS, TTD was awarded \$672,000;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Commission approves the TTD matching requirement for the DOE Grant award in an equal amount. The matching requirement will come from cash expenditures over the next three years except to the extent TTD can provide DOE-accepted in-kind services and property which will reduce the amount of matching cash expenditure required.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, That the Commission directs TTD management to seek DOE-acceptable alternative means for funding the aforementioned matching cash expenditure requirement which will provide the greatest economic benefit and the least adverse impact on the Smart Grid Investment Grant project and create the greatest benefit for TTD customers.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Commission desires the highest degree of collaboration with the other Connecticut Municipals that management deems appropriate.

**** MR. KOKIAS SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

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MINUTES OF MEETING – 11/12/2009

- ** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED**
- ** MR. KOKIAS SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. BROWN)**

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Leary said that he has been providing daily reports. He reviewed his written report.

- ** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:45 P.M. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

**NORDEN GENERATORS
FIREHOUSE LEASE
SUBSTATION SITE STUDY**

- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Present were: Mr. Plunkett, Mr. Brown, Mr. Kokias and Mr. Leary

Executive session ended at 9:07 PM

- ** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 9:10 P.M.**
- ** MR. KOKIAS SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services