

FINAL

**CITY OF NORWALK  
THIRD TAXING DISTRICT  
MARCH 2, 2009**

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

STAFF: George Leary, General Manager; Ron Scofield, Assistant General Manager/District Clerk

OTHERS: Darek Shapiro; Maurice Scully, CMEEC (by phone)

Mr. Plunkett called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public present this evening.

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

- **February 2, 2009**
  - \*\* **MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2009 AS SUBMITTED**
  - \*\* **MR. KOKIAS SECONDED**
  - \*\* **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- **February 18, 2009**

The following correction was made to page one: correct spelling of Mr. Plunkett's name.

- \*\* **MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2009 AS CORRECTED**
- \*\* **MR. KOKIAS SECONDED**
- \*\* **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Leary reviewed his written report.

Conservation:

Mr. Leary noted that a commercial customer located at 66 Fort Point Street is interested in installing a solar PV on their roof. The Commissioners requested that Mr. Leary ask Dr. Libre how much electricity he has been generating since he installed the solar PV.

FINAL

Norden Generators:

Mr. Leary said that the Norden generators are on line and were tested on Thursday and today. He said that as a result of the generators being on line, the District will be getting \$81,000 a month.

For the next meeting, Mr. Plunkett asked Mr. Leary to provide a spread sheet showing anticipated expenses and income and the point at which they need to make a decision.

Local Facilities:

The Commissioners held a lengthy discussion on this item. CMEC, SNEW, TTD and Jewitt City are going to be negotiating with CL&P to come up with a settlement.

Annual Meeting:

Mr. Leary reported that the materials are on the website.

Worker's Compensation:

Mr. Leary reported that the District received a rebate based on the 2008 audit.

East Avenue Reconstruction:

Mr. Leary said that the date has changed. Mr. Brown described the project and said that he is not in favor of it. Mr. Kokias added that this project does not benefit anyone's property value. Mr. Plunkett said that he believed this project was tied into the reconfiguration of the entrance and exit ramps at exit 16.

Mr. Leary reviewed the financials. He noted that prior to the installation of the Norden generators they may have been headed for higher rates sooner than they did. In response to Mr. Kokias' question, he said that the District's rates are 10 – 12% lower than CL&P.

Mr. Plunkett asked where they would be if they did not have the generators. Mr. Leary said that would have had less money in the rate stabilization fund. Mr. Plunkett said that it was a gutsy idea to install the generators and noted the Commissioners who moved this forward, Mr. Feinstein, Mr. Brown and Mr. Coggin.

### **OFFICE RENOVATIONS**

Mr. Shapiro distributed copies of the revised proposal with amendments as designed and said that they were not working drawings. He said that he was looking for a go ahead to complete the drawings.

Mr. Brown expressed concern about the perception of moving forward with the plan. Mr. Shapiro pointed out the energy savings that would result in the renovations. Mr. Kokias said that this is something that eventually has to be done and then it will be at a greater cost. This is an opportune time to do it. Mr. Brown said that he agreed and said that they

Third Taxing District

March 2, 2009

Page 2 of 4

FINAL

should start selling this to the Community. They will get the best value for their money if they do the project now.

Mr. Plunkett said that he has no problem with moving forward with this project. This is a municipality and is not going anywhere; the building has served its purpose and the use has outgrown the building.

Mr. Shapiro said that for an additional; \$75,000 he can make the second floor usable. Mr. Plunkett suggested adding that as an alternate to the bid. The Commission directed Mr. Shapiro to move forward with the plans as presented in A2B.

**\*\* MR. BROWN MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA**  
**\*\* MR. PLUNKETT SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **CMEEC LOAN**

Mr. Leary explained that CMEEC was asking for a 90 day loan for \$3 million. Mr. Plunkett said that he was disturbed with the speed with which they were being asked to move on a \$3 million loan. Mr. Plunkett said that he did not know how the money was going to be invested; he said that he needs to know what it is going to earn and how it is going to be earned. Mr. Leary noted that the gas market precipitated this request.

Mr. Plunkett said that he was not going to vote on something that he has not read. He added that he feels like they are being asked to act under duress. Mr. Plunkett said that he could not believe this was not anticipated so that an agreement could be presented to the Commission.

Mr. Scully joined the meeting by phone. He said that the financial agreement is the letter that says the money would be paid back in 90 days. Mr. Plunkett pointed out to Mr. Sculley that the paragraph reads that the District would earn 5% on the \$3 million for the 90 days. Mr. Sculley said that it should read 5% annualized.

Mr. Sculley said that they saw a big drop in the price of gas during the month of February. Between now and April they want to be sure they have adequate liquidity to cover a similar drop. They also want to be able to show the rating agencies that they have liquidity in place.

Mr. Kokias explained to Mr. Sculley that they were afraid of being in a position of loosing \$3 million for the rate payers of East Norwalk. Mr. Sculley offered to develop a promissory note. Mr. Plunkett directed Mr. Sculley to draft a promissory note and forward that note to Mr. Leary for distribution to the Commissioners. Mr. Kokias said that he was shocked and disappointed that CMEEC tried to pass a paragraph as a viable agreement. Mr. Plunkett said that he was bothered by the casualness with which it was approached.

FINAL

**ANNUAL MEETING**

There was nothing further to report.

**NEWSLETTER POLICY**

- \*\* MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO TABLE THIS ITEM TO THE NEXT MEETING
- \*\* MR. BROWN SECONDED
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**FIREHOUSE LEASE**

- \*\* MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO TABLE THIS ITEM TO THE NEXT MEETING
- \*\* MR. BROWN SECONDED
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**PAYMENT DELINQUENCY**

Mr. Plunkett said that this is the worst economic time he has ever seen. He said that he wants to be sure that people who are delinquent with paying their bills, through no fault of their own, are treated with compassion. He stressed that it is important to go the extra mile in these extraordinary times.

**ADJOURN**

- \*\* MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ADJOURN
- \*\* MR. KOKIAS SECONDED
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi  
Telesco Secretarial Services