

FINAL

**CITY OF NORWALK
THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: Timothy Plunkett, Chair; David Brown; Paul Kokias
STAFF: George Leary, General Manager; Ron Scofield, Assistant General
Manager
OTHERS: Connie DiScala, Treasurer; Joe Cristino; Chris LaRose;
Mike Adams

Mr. Plunkett called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Chris LaRose, Liberty Square was before the Commission to ask for permission to place a sign on TTD property identifying Liberty Square. Mr. LaRose agreed to go to Planning and Zoning to get a survey of the site to determine who owns the property and will submit that information to Mr. Leary.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

APRIL 6, 2009

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 3 - \$54,000 should read \$5,400

Page 4 – fifteen should read fifty

Page 6, Fort Pointe should read Fort Point and under pension report, down should read done.

**** MR. KOKIAS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

APRIL 14, 2009

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

FINAL

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO TAKE THE AGENDA OUT OF ORDER
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

SUBSTATION TRANSFORMER REPLACEMENT

Mr. Leary said that they need the approval to rent the transformer as early as possible in order to accommodate the summer load. The Commissioners held a lengthy discussion regarding the rental of and subsequent purchase of a transformer. Mr. Plunkett said that he will not make a motion until he has the final numbers. Mr. Kokias said that he would like a better understanding of what is happening beyond the next six months.

Mr. Cristino said that he will have the information tomorrow. A special meeting was schedule for Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Third Taxing District office. Mr. Leary said that Mr. Scully requested a special meeting for May 14, 2009 where they could act on the purchase of a new transformer.

Mr. Kokias requested copies of the bids in order for the Commissioners to review them prior to the special meeting.

Mr. Brown asked Mr. Leary to find the FOI (Freedom of Information) legislation regarding meeting notices.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Leary highlighted his written report.

Norden Generator: Mr. Leary reported that Mr. Sculley hired an attorney on behalf of the TTD. Mr. Plunkett asked why the attorney was hired without input from the Commission. Mr. Leary said that he knows the players.

Mr. Kokias said that since none of the Commissioners were able to attend the April 20th meeting with two DPU Commissioners, he believes that an e-mail providing an overview of the meeting would have been considerate. Mr. Brown agreed. Mr. Leary said that he believes that he did send something and offered to give the Commissioners all the time they would let him.

Mr. Brown said that the complexity of what is happening in electricity and this District are very different than before. He suggested posting information on the District's website.

Shut Off Moratorium Extension: Mr. Leary explained that the shut off moratorium has been extended to June 1st. He said that they will work with the customers. Mr. Plunkett stressed very strongly that because of the economy it is important that all of the rate

FINAL

payers are spoken to in a kind and gentle fashion and that they are treated with respect. He said that it is a time to be gentle.

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

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ADD UTILITY POLES TO THE AGENDA
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

UTILITY POLES

Mr. Leary explained that the utility poles would be used for the replacement of existing utility poles.

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER
TO PURCHASE UTILITY POLES FROM MCFARLAND CASCADE AT
A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$9,978.00
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

OFFICE RENOVATIONS

There was no discussion this evening.

CONTRACTOR REVIEW

Mr. Leary explained that the information has been provided to the Commissioners. Mr. Plunkett asked why the cost for building maintenance had increased almost 50%. Mr. Scofield explained and an additional day of cleaning had been added. Mr. Plunkett said that was a lot of money to clean an office that is occupied by seven people.

REQUEST FOR BANNER AT FITCH PARK

Mr. Leary explained the item.

**** MR. BROWN MOVED TO ALLOW A BANNER TO BE PLACED AT
FITCH PARK ON JUNE 12, 2009 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
DURING EMCOR GROUP'S ONE DAY LANDSCAPE AND
BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT AT LUDLOW COMMONS SENIOR
CITIZEN HOUSING FACILITY
** MR. PLUNKETT SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPLACEMENT OF METER READING HAND HELD

Mr. Leary explained the item. He said that the existing hand helds can not be fixed if they break. Mr. Plunkett asked why they were being asked to buy new equipment if they are not broken. Mr. Leary said that they were refurbished a few years ago. The computer equipment depreciates quickly. Mr. Plunkett said that they are in a position without significant information.

No action was taken.

BIG BUCKET TRUCK MAINTENANCE

Mr. Leary explained that there are issues with the truck and believes all of the repairs can be made for \$6,000. The truck is 16 years old and it is not unreasonable for it to run for 20 years. Mr. Adams said that the truck is slow, and jerky in the air; the bucket is undersized and does not reach as far as a newer truck.

In response to Mr. Plunkett's question, Mr. Adams said that there were not situations where they do not use this truck because of its issues. Mr. Plunkett recommended getting the truck inspected following the repairs.

ON-SITE FUEL TANKS

Mr. Brown said that they should remove the pumps, only if diesel fuel is readily available. Mr. Plunkett noted that once the tanks are removed, it is difficult to put them back in.

There was no action taken on this item.

CEMETERY DOG ISSUE

Mr. Leary reported that a sign has been posted at the Cemetery.

SICK PAY PROCEDURE

Mr. Leary explained that an employee is running out of sick time and two co-workers have come forward to offer their days so this employee will not be without a paycheck.

The Commissioners held a lengthy discussion and addressed concerns with setting a precedent. The Commissioners agreed that they needed counsel for both union and management to ensure that if this request is approved that it is not a binding agreement going forward.

FINAL

Mr. Plunkett said that if Mr. Wallace agrees that this request to transfer sick days will not be used as a rule, he will have no problem approving it as a one time situation. He asked that Mr. Wallace provide an e-mail giving Union approval and acknowledging that this is a one time situation.

FIREHOUSE LEASE

Mr. Plunkett said that he did not have anything to report. The Lease has to be reviewed by an attorney.

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

**** MR. BROWN MOVED TO ADD MEMORIAL DAY PARADE TO THE
AGENDA
** MR. PLUNKETT SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Mr. Brown asked the Commissioners if they would be willing to create a float for the Memorial Day parade. He said that he will provide the Commissioners with ideas.

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

**** MR. PLUNKETT MOVED TO ADD PATRIOT BANK TO THE AGENDA
** MR. BROWN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

PATRIOT BANK

Mr. Plunkett said that the Commission should look at other options, because Patriot Bank is in deep financial trouble. Mr. Plunkett noted that he is friends with two members of the Board of Directors at Fairfield County Savings Bank and with an employee of the Bank. Mr. Plunkett recommended inviting representatives from Webster Bank and Fairfield County Savings Bank to provide proposals to the Commission. Mr. Leary said that they have gotten very good service from Patriot Bank.

FINAL

ADJOURN

**** MR. BROWN MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MR. PLUNKETT SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services