

FINAL

THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
of the City of Norwalk
Commission Meeting
February 24, 2020

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Johnnie Mae Weldon, Chair; Pam Parkington;
Michele Sweeney; Read Auerbach, Treasurer

STAFF: Kevin Barber, General Manager

OTHERS: Peter Johnson, CMEEC Ratepayer Representative

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Weldon called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public was in attendance to comment.

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA AND
MOVE AGENDA ITEM #2 COMMERCIAL INSURANCE POLICY RENEWAL
DISCUSSION, AFTER #6 OR UNTIL MR. PETER MURPHY ARRIVES.**

**** COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 27, 2020 Regular Meeting

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF
JANUARY 27, 2020 REGULAR MEETING.**

**** COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS/KEY PERFORMANCE
INDICATORS**

Mr. Barber reviewed the Financial Highlights with the Commission for January 2020. Total Income is \$5,538,209 versus \$5,941,785 for last year, a difference of (6.79%). Total Expense is

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\$5,528,032 versus \$5,903,178 for last year, a difference of (6.35%). Year-to-Date Net Income is \$410,312 versus \$445,547 for last year, a difference of (8%).

Total cash balance on hand is \$5,838,534. Current outstanding principal balance with CMEEC is \$3,363,512. Current Fiscal Year Capital Additions to date is \$690,615.

The P&L for the Operating account is in good shape. Mr. Barber reviewed the figures with the Commission, pointing out that TTD is over-budget on Total Revenue for the month, which is approximately \$52,000 more than what was budgeted. For the Year-to-Date, TTD is under-budget by approximately \$300,000. Expenses for the month are under budget by approximately \$38,000 and for Year-to-Date are also under budget by approximately \$316,000.

The P&L for the District account is on target. Mr. Barber pointed out that the East Norwalk Improvement Association (Library) is over-budget by almost \$8,000, but that is due to the library having a larger matching fund during the 2nd quarter which will even out over the remainder of the fiscal year.

KPI's: Mr. Barber reviewed the KPI's with the Commission and they remain in good shape.

PCA: The current balance of the RSF (Rate Stabilization Fund) is \$3,929,448 and continues in an upward trend. This is due to CMEEC procuring power at lower rates than in the past, and in turn, TTD pays less for power, which causes the RSF balance to go in the wrong direction. Mr. Barber does have a phone call scheduled with UFS (Utility Financial Services) to discuss TTD's rate analysis. One of the topics will be the RSF balance.

ANNUAL MEETING PACKET REVIEW

Mr. Barber reviewed the Agenda and the packet with the Commission and walked them through the events of the evening that normally should take place. He stated that the set-up for this year's meeting will be done differently and that there will be no head table for the Commission. They will be seated in the first row of the audience. This will alleviate the need for two projectors and two screens and make it easier for all to view.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Renaming of Cemetery Street Update

Mr. Barber reviewed with the Commission the events that took place since he was contacted by Paul Sotnik, Senior Civil Engineer with the City of Norwalk, Department of Public Works. The Public Works Committee had an item on their February 4th meeting agenda to schedule a public hearing for the renaming of Cemetery Street to Mill Pond Place. TTD was advised of this because TTD is a joint property owner (East Norwalk Historical Cemetery). Mr. Barber was then advised that this was tabled to a future meeting.

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Mr. Barber spoke to Mr. Sotnik on February 19, 2020 and was advised that the request to rename Cemetery Street to Mill Pond Place has been withdrawn by the owner. It is expected that the request may resurface in the future.

Walk Bridge

The Walk Bridge project, or at least portions of it, are starting to move. TTD has been receiving some notification from the State regarding some of the preliminary work starting on Goldstein Place, Osborne Avenue and East Avenue.

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE POLICY RENEWAL DISCUSSION

In Mr. Murphy's absence, Mr. Barber provided the Commission with some information that he knows and understands about the insurance policy renewal and what is taking place. Mr. Barber informed the Commission that TTD did receive their renewals for the commercial insurance policies and the rates had increased dramatically which were not expected. The rate increase was approximately 130% higher than what was paid in the previous year.

Mr. Barber and staff are working with Mr. Peter Murphy who is from March & McLennan Agency. Mr. Murphy has been the company's insurance agent for 20+ years. He totally understands the electric industry and what TTD does as a District. He, too, is very surprised by this extremely large premium increase.

At the suggestion of Mr. Murphy, TTD is in the process of reviewing TTD's insurance needs with another insurance company to determine if the new insurance premiums are reasonable or if TTD should switch to a different insurance provider. Mr. Murphy is also looking at options for TTD's insurance needs to help lower the premiums.

Should another carrier meet TTD's needs with a much better premium, TTD has the ability to switch carriers at the end of any quarter of the year.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Rowan Street Building: The building is 98% complete and TTD is waiting for the CO (Certificate of Occupancy). There will be a few items that will need to be done in the spring, i.e., landscaping.

State Bridge Projects: Preliminary work is beginning.

Small Cell Antenna (AT&T): Additional clarifications and comments have come through from AT&T on the agreement.

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ADJOURNMENT

- ** COMMISSIONER SWEENEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Tenney
Executive Assistant
Third Taxing District