

FINAL

THIRD TAXING DISTRICT
of the City of Norwalk
Commission Meeting
March 27, 2023

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

STAFF: Kevin Barber, General Manager;
Ron Scofield, Assistant General Manager/District Clerk

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.

ENNA REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY EVENT

Mr. Barber informed the Commission that Ms. Diane Cece of the East Norwalk Neighborhood Association is once again asking for permission to use the parking lot at the East Norwalk Library for their annual shredding event. The event will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Ms. Cece has been in touch with the library and has received their permission to use the parking lot dependent on the Commission's approval. Ms. Cece will be providing a COI (Certificate of Insurance) from the vendor to Third Taxing District once the event details have been finalized.

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE EAST NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION'S REQUEST TO USE THE LIBRARY PROPERTY AT 51 VAN ZANT STREET ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023 FOR THEIR SHREDDING EVENT.**

**** COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FINAL

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 30, 2023 Special Meeting

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 30, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING.
**COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

February 21, 2023 Special Meeting

**** COMMISSIONER SWEENEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING.
**COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS/KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Mr. Barber reviewed the Financial Highlights with the Commission for February 2023. Total Income is \$7,589,309 versus \$6,634,423 for last year, a difference of 14.39%. Total Expense is \$8,251,372 versus \$6,733,810 for last year, a difference of 22.54%. Net Income before Rate Stabilization is (\$17,522) versus (\$121,265) from last year or a difference of 86%. Net Income after Rate Stabilization is \$85,588 versus \$(313,670) for last year, a difference of 127%.

Total cash balance on hand is \$8,383,488. Of this, the Capital Improvement Fund is \$2,437,079. The current outstanding principal balance with CMEEC is \$2,680,904. Current Fiscal Year Capital additions to date is \$250,511.

Mr. Barber reviewed the P&L for the Electric Department. Income for the month of February 2023 is \$985,237.79. Purchased Power (555-00) for the month of February 2023 is \$510,274.97 and Purchased Power for Cervalis is \$53,345.62. Operating Expenses for the month is \$334,836.08.

The P&L for the District continues to be in good shape. Parks Maintenance is over budget due to timing issues of invoices submitted by the landscaper and the repair to the seawall in Edgewater Park.

KPI's: They remain in good shape.

RSF: The current balance of the RSF (Rate Stabilization Fund) is \$3,606,794. The RSF has been staying above target and continues to be monitored.

FINAL

Accounts Receivable: Overall, TTD is doing very well. The greater than 90 days open balance is \$40,313 which is 11.7% of the overall balance. Mr. Barber noted that the moratorium will be ending on May 1, 2023 which could affect the Accounts Receivable.

PENSION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Pension Committee met with Hooker & Holcombe on February 7, 2023. Messrs. Meisner and Herskowitz reviewed various reports and gave a status update. The next meeting will be held on April 11, 2023.

EAST NORWALK FIREHOUSE PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Barber reminded the Commission that at the Annual Meeting the ratepayers approved \$400,000 for the East Norwalk Firehouse Station 3 to replace the apparatus floor to support the new firetruck that was ordered for the station. After a recent meeting with Asst. Chief Mark Conte about how the project would be handled, Mr. Barber was informed that the City of Norwalk's Purchasing Policy will not allow the City to oversee a project to a building that they do not own. They indicated it is the responsibility of the Third Taxing District to handle the project as they are the owners of the building and should be responsible for any work needed for the building.

Third Taxing District believes the City should be receiving the funds as a grant to the City of Norwalk for upgrading the apparatus floor of Station 3. After a discussion on how to handle the situation, the Commission has instructed Mr. Barber to contact or meet with Ms. Laoise King, Chief of Staff for the City of Norwalk to see if there is anything that can be done about the situation. Mr. Barber will report back to the Commission after he speaks with her.

EAST NORWALK CEMETERY STONE WALL DAMAGE

Mr. Barber informed the Commission that the office was notified of damage to the East Norwalk Historical Cemetery stone wall. Staff discovered approximately a 30-foot section of the wall was damaged as a result of a vehicle striking the wall at the intersection of East Avenue and Van Zant Street.

Staff has diligently been working to determine when the accident occurred and who the responsible party was. Mr. Barber informed the Commission that they have finally received Police and Fire Department reports. The accident took place on Sunday, February 26, 2023 at approximately 2:30 a.m.

TTD staff will be filing a claim with the listed insurance company of the vehicle. In addition, staff is working to obtain quotes to repair the stone wall. Mr. Barber will report back to the Commission when he has further information on the matter.

FINAL

GENERAL MANAGER'S EPORT

Norden Generators Update

TTD staff has been working with Mike Rall at CMEEC to decommission the Norden generators. To date, TTD's capacity supply obligation has been shed for the months of March and April, thereby avoiding any penalties from the ISO-NE. Currently, TTD has obligations in the market through 2026. Mr. Barber and CMEEC do not anticipate any issues with this the process of shedding the obligations.

Staff has reached out to two vendors who have shown interest in purchasing the three units. In the meantime, staff is working on plans to get the units disconnected.

The next step would be to contact Atty. Studer to discuss a strategy before contacting the current landlord where the units are located that the generators will be retired and removed. Mr. Barber will keep the Commission updated on the status of the generators.

Roger Ludlow Park Project Update

Messrs. Barber and Scofield and Commissioner Parkington met with Alan Broadbent to discuss the next steps for the Ludlow Park redesign. Mr. Broadbent is working on a more formal design plan before sending it out to bid.

Mr. Barber has also reached out to the City of Norwalk's tree warden to find out when TTD can remove the 60-foot blue spruce in the park. Mr. Barber also informed the tree warden of two other trees that will be removed from the park, but also indicated that new trees will be planted in their place.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Tenney
Executive Assistant
Third Taxing District

Third Taxing District
of the City of Norwalk
March 27, 2023