

NEWBERRY WATER & LIGHT BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2021

Electronic Public Meeting – Due to COVID-19 Virus

***NOTE – All votes were done by Roll Call Vote**

Present: Board members: Wendt, Hendrickson, Schnorr, Stokes, Vincent. All members called in from Newberry, MI.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager – Watkins, W&L Supt. – Kucinkas, Clerk –Schummer - via Zoom – All called in from Newberry, MI. One person from public, identified by Zoom with last 4 digits of phone number, as 5185.

Call to Order: Chairperson Wendt called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m., using Zoom audio teleconferencing, permitted by Executive Order 2020-15, which temporarily authorizes remote participation in public meetings and hearings. Meeting was delayed 11 minutes due to connection issue with one Board member.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Stokes, support by Schnorr, **CARRIED**, to approve agenda with one addition: Add to New Business #7 – Review of EA amount for January to June 2021. Ayes: Wendt, Hendrickson, Schnorr, Stokes, Vincent.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Schnorr, **CARRIED**, to approve the minutes for the December 8, 2020 W&L meeting as presented. Ayes: Wendt, Hendrickson, Schnorr, Stokes, Vincent.

Water and Light Chairperson Announcements: None.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.

Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:

A.) **Water & Light – Monthly Bills – December 5 to January 8:** - Motion by Vincent, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, recommend Village Council pay the December 5, 2020 to January 8, 2021, Electric Fund bill in the amount of \$198,629.06. Discussion followed. Ayes: Wendt, Hendrickson, Schnorr, Stokes, Vincent. Motion by Vincent, support by Schnorr, **CARRIED**, to recommend Village Council pay the December 5, 2020 to January 8, 2021 Water Fund bill in the amount of \$31,250.37. Ayes: Wendt, Hendrickson, Schnorr, Stokes, Vincent.

B.) **Christmas Light Fund** – Fund balance as of 12/31/2020 - \$15,387.94.

Petitions and Communications: None.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions: None.

Reports of Village Management:

- 1.) **Superintendent of Water and Light:** W&L Superintendent Dan Kucinkas gave a verbal and well as submitted a written report and charts. Discussion followed.
- 2.) **Village Manager:** Watkins gave a verbal report. Discussion followed

Unfinished Business:

- 1.) **MI Clean Water Grant Update:** Grant submitted was included in packet for review. Discussion followed.
- 2.) **Fairbanks Generator Update:** Supt. Kucinkas updated Board on the Fairbanks Generator.
- 3.) **Schedule W&L Fee Committee Meeting:** Watkins requested a meeting be held. Discussion followed. It was decided the Fee and Policy Committee would be the same committee and would work with the Village Ordinance Committee. Schnorr and Wendt will be the representatives from the W&L Board on the Fee/Policy Committee.
- 4.) **Discontinuation of past due utility fees amount carry over set for March 1:**

New Business:

- 1.) **New Water Operator In Charge:** Landon Burton is now the new water operator in charge, as he passed his test.
- 2.) **Amendment to Ordinance A – non-electors as chairperson:** Moved by Vincent, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to recommend to Council to approve the amendment to Ordinance A as presented. Ayes: Wendt, Hendrickson, Stokes, Vincent. Nays: Schnorr.
- 3.) **Payment Due Date Enforcement – 15th of the month:** Watkins explained that the Village is enforcing a policy that is written. Discussion followed.
- 4.) **Clarification on W&L cash payments taken at the Village of Newberry office:** Watkins advised W&L bills can be paid in cash at any of the three financial institutions in town, however cash is not accepted at the VON office.
- 5.) **Bond Amortization Schedules:** Reviewed.
- 6.) **Request for re-establishment of W&L Policy Committee:** Discussed during #3 of Unfinished Business.
- 7.) **EA Amount for January to July 2021:** For review. EA amount is set at .010674 for Jan – July 2021.

Public Comment: None.

Comments By Board Members: None

Adjourn Meeting: Motion by Schnorr, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, to adjourn meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Ayes: Wendt, Hendrickson, Schnorr, Stokes, Vincent.

These minutes are unapproved until voted on at the next meeting.

Terese Schummer, Clerk

Kirby Wendt, Chairperson