



VILLAGE OF HYDE PARK

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of October 16, 2018

The duly warned regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on September 12, 2018 in the Town Community Room.

Trustees Present

Frederika French, Chair
Jack Anderson
Charlie Aronovici
Peter Gallo

Others Present:

Carol Robertson, General Manager
Susan Bartlett, Selectboard Chair (departed at 7:25 p.m.)
Roger Barry, Selectboard Member (departed at 7:25 p.m.)

The Chair called the meeting to order a 7:00 p.m. and opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

There was a review and discussion of the 2018 Work-In-Process schedule and projects, to include future coordination with the Town for bonded water and wastewater projects, the need to renovate the French Building, the future official municipal website offering live generation data from the HPE solar project, online viewing and bill payment, issues related to withdrawal from VPPSA power supply, new power supplier Energy New England, and other VPPSA issues which will cause Hyde Park Electric to end VPPSA membership in November 2019 unless VPPSA provides a new membership option. Since 2014, Hyde Park Electric encouraged VPPSA management to more accurately bill the cost of each service on its menu, which is the model for most competitive joint action agencies. HPE's encouragement was unanswered. VPPSA stated that its Moody's bond rating is now one step above "junk bonds". VPPSA membership fees include a portion of overhead for expensive projects that HPE provides for itself, including meeting our obligations for VT Renewable Energy Standards, cost-effective tracking Renewable Energy Credits and software necessary for net metering billing. HPE offered notice of withdrawal, effective November 2019. Subsequently, VPPSA offered Burlington Electric non-voting membership called "Strategic Membership", which allows BED and VPPSA to share staff and expenses. BED pays a significantly lower fee for "membership" and has no financial risk associated with membership. Then, Hyde Park Electric proposed a new "Subscriber" Membership option to allow HPE an opportunity to share expenses of joint services, while removing financial obligation and risk for projects that it does not participate in. The GM reported that she was not allowed to participate in the most recent VPPSA board's executive session and was informed that no such membership would be offered Hyde Park Electric. Following discussion of all these topics, Susan Bartlett and Roger Barry departed the meeting.

The agenda was reviewed and approved, with an addition offered by Jack Anderson regarding the installation of a street light on East Main Street. Warrants were approved and signed. Detailed delinquent accounts for all departments were reviewed.

Motion by Charlie Aronovici and second by Jack Anderson to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2018 meeting, as presented. The motion carried. The open Trustee seat was discussed.

A proposed Social Media Policy was presented and discussed at length. The Policy draft came from Vermont League of Cities and Towns for consideration to all Vermont municipals. Motion by Charlie Aronovici and second by Jack Anderson to adopt the Social Media Policy, as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Trustees individually signed Addendum A: Acknowledgement of Official Use by Municipal Officials.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to appoint Karen Wescom, Clerk / Treasurer, as the Alternative Authorized Representative to Vermont Water Infrastructure Financing Programs. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Charlie Aronovici to approve the General Manager's authorization of the Engineering Services Agreement with Dufresne Engineering for the Final Design Phase of Wastewater System Improvements. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Charlie Aronovici to approve and authorize signatures of the Allonge for Attachment to Note #5701002501 with Union Bank. The motion carried unanimously.

There was a review of the SEDC billing conversion process and schedule.

Following a discussion regarding the need for street lighting at a location of East Main Street, motion by Jack Anderson and Peter Gallo to install a street light. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, motion by Jack Anderson and second by Charlie Aronovici to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. The motion carried.

Riki French, Chair

Date