CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES
PUBLIC UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Regular meeting of the Public Utility Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to be held in the City Commission Chambers, 405 W. Third, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, on Monday, September 19, 2016 at 5:30 P.M.

INTRODUCTION:

PRESENT:
George Szigeti, Chairman
Jeff Dornbusch, Vice-Chairman
Ron Pacourek, Member
Gil Avelar, Member

ALSO PRESENT:
Traci Burnette, Grants Project Coordinator
Jesus Salayandia, Water/Wastewater Director
Bo Easley, Electric Division Director
Andy Alvarez, Sanitation Director
Christina Bruch, Electric Division Administrative Aide
Ruby Otero-Vallejos, Water/Wastewater Administrative Aide

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Member Pacourek moved approval of the agenda.

Vice Chairman Dornbusch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016:

Chairman Szigeti noted that the Pole Replacement Program is mentioned several times in the minutes, and asked that it be noted once, rather than several times.

Chairman Szigeti moved to approve the August 15, 2016 minutes with the said changes.
Vice Chairman Dornbusch seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Klaus Wittern asked why the City advertised for the vacancy of the Utility Board when there was already an application on file.

Deputy City Clerk Torres replied that it is a practice of the City to advertise when there is a vacancy on one of the City Boards.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion: Re-calculation of Electricity Pass-thru charge- George Szigeti, Chairman:

Chairman Szigeti noted that he wanted to change the name of the “pass through” to “energy cost adjustment” so that the public does not get confused. He read aloud his proposal as follows:

The purpose of the energy Cost Adjustment (pass-through charge) is to provide an adjustment to electric rates.

Energy Cost Adjustment, Preliminary Data, and Small Commercial:

New rate per month or part thereof:
Customer charge - For single phase $10.00
For three-phase - $12.00
All KWH, per KWH - $0.095

Large commercial:

New rate per month or part thereof:
Base Charges - If either the customer’s billing demand for the month exceeds 15 KW or its consumption is greater than 4,000 KWH.
Customer Charge - $23.25/month, single phase or $25.50/month three phase.
Demand Charge - All KW at $8.00/KW
Energy Charge - All KWH at $0.077/KWH

Residential:

New rate per month or part thereof for each service location:
Customer charge, per month - $8.00
Energy charge - $0.09/KWH

Municipal Service:
Municipal service, per KWH - $0.067
Municipal sewage plants, per KWH - $.067

Pass thru calculation current - $0.0414 per KWH

The Pass-Through Rate is calculated using the following formula:

\[
\text{Pass-Through Rate} = \frac{\text{KWh (Sierra)} \times (\text{Sierra KWh Rate} - \text{Hydro KWh Rate})}{\text{KWh Used (Sierra)}} + \text{KWh Used (Hydro)}.
\]

Last date pass-through was calculated: Approximately 2009.

Chairman Szigeti noted that it might not be until the next Fiscal Year before we make any decisions on this item.

Member Pacourek noted that he believes this item should be separated from the General Fund.

Chairman Szigeti would like this item to be added to next month’s agenda.

Discussion/Update: Electric Department – Bo Easley, Electric Division Director:

Boaz Easley, Electric Division Director reported that the new portion of the Veterans Center is almost ready for power, Primary underground Cable has been installed at Sierra Health Care Center, YESCO will be here Oct 17th to do various meter audit testing for water and electric. He thanked City Manager Fuentes for the new f50 Service Truck and 550 Bucket Truck. Mr. Easley also reported that Mud Mountain needs maintenance on the poles and they are working on locating funds for grants.

Discussion/Update: Water/Wastewater Department - Jesus Salayandia, Water/Wastewater Director:

Jesus Salayandia, Water/Wastewater Director gave an update regarding the construction at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Slabs were purchased last week for drying space, underground wiring, UV construction, and the 6inch gas line is being installed on the Water Department side. They are still down one pump on Cook Street. We are currently down one (1) employee in the Water Department and we are lacking one (1) employee in Waste Water Department. Mr. Salayandia introduced Ruby Otero-Vallejos. She is his new Administrative Aide. Mr. Salayandia noted that a “Class 3” is needed for both departments, and Marty Davis is the Interim Water Department Supervisor now that Isaac Fuentes left.

Traci Burnette noted that RMCI Construction and Smith Engineering will be here next month to give an update on Phase 1 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Discussion/Update: Solid Waste Department – Andy Alvarez, Sanitation Director:

Sanitation Director Alvarez reported that they are distributing Polly Carts to the Village of Williamsburg, the brush at the Truth or Consequences Golf Course has been removed. The Sanitation Department will be having a “yard sale” at the City Recycle Center and all proceeds will go to the “Recycle Fund”.
Mr. Alvarez also noted that he eventually wants each resident who receives city trash services, to be provided with three (3) Polly Carts; one for Trash, one for Recycling, and one for Green Waste.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Member Pacourek had questions regarding the Impact Fee Board. He also brought up the "Suggestion Program" to City Staff.

Chairman Szigeti would like the usage reports to be brought back onto the agenda on a quarterly basis.

COMMENTS FROM STAFF:

There were no comments from City Staff.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Public Utility Advisory Board, George Szigeti, Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVAL:

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17 day of October, 2016, on motion duly made by JEFF ZAMBUSCH, seconded by GIL AVELLA, and carried.

[Signature]
George Szigeti, Chairman
Public Utility Advisory Board