

**Village of Hamilton  
Municipal Utilities Commission  
4:30pm  
Regular Meeting of June 5, 2012**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** President John Basher; Commissioners: Larry Baker, Bob Holcomb, and Rob Gustafson; Village Administrator Sean Graham; Treasurer Mary Ann Henderson; Trustee Russ Lura; Line Foreman David Rhyde; Mayor Margaret Miller.

**PUBLIC:** Frank Radigan, Hudson River Energy Group

President Basher called meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to approve the agenda as presented. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Gustafson and carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Regular Meeting of May 1, 2012:** A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to approve the May 1, 2012, minutes as presented. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Gustafson and carried.

**PERSONNEL:** Summer employees have started and all is going well. The Colgate student that is working with the GPS is doing very well. The Colgate intern working on our carbon footprint has also started and is doing well. Interviews to fill Robin Maciag's vacant position will begin June 14.

**ELECTRIC**

***New Business***

**Line Foreman's Report:** Line Foreman Rhyde reported on a lightning strike that hit a transformer on Lebanon Street on May 4. Line Foreman Rhyde has been in contact with Phil Peterson about the need for a sprinkler system at the Powerhouse and to have it installed in the fall of 2012. The substation is in need of repairs and Line Foreman Rhyde will be requesting funds to complete those repairs. A weld broke on one of the transformers and the parts have been ordered. On May 27 a fire hydrant

was replaced at 69 Hamilton Street which caused another valve to break at 73 Hamilton Street.

**Status of Delinquent Accounts:** The Commissioners questioned the balance of 60 Utica Street, 1940 Preston Hill and 16 Milford Street.

**CNY DSO Penalty:** This group home on Lebanon Street is asking for relief of a late charge on their account. It was suggested that the penalty be waived this one time as a gratuity, but to inform them that it will only be this one time. A **motion** was made by Trustee Lura to waive the penalty this one time for the CNY DSO house. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

**TCC's:** The check for the 25% of the TCC's is being mailed. The 75% balance will be mailed in October 2012.

**22 Utica Street:** The owner would like to install a heat pump heating system. The Village wanted an electric back up system. CEO McGinnis has investigated and has found nothing with regards to electric resistive heat. They are being allowed to go ahead with the installation.

**NYS International Building Code:** All the insulation requirements regardless of type of heating system will now have one standard code. A home on 5 Trees is requesting to convert to electric heat. They now have an oil fired system. A discussion regarding a moratorium on electric heat will be on next month's agenda.

Administrator Graham stated Joanie Mahoney has been appointed to the Power Authority. He is very concerned with all the changes at the PA and will keep a close eye on them.

### ***Old Business***

**Natural Gas Agreement:** Administrator Graham reported an email of the draft agreement with the consulting team, scope of services, cost schedules, and press releases will be sent out on June 6, to all the Commissioners. Emkey is in the process of purchasing Norse and is interested in supplying the Village with gas.

**Rate Case:** Frank Radigan stated we are ready to file the rate case. He distributed a summary of the electric rate case. He needs the go ahead from the Commission. He explained the process, the data needed for the PSC, the rate of return, the normalizing adjustments and how they are determined, how the PPAC is factored in. Administrator Graham wants to schedule a conference call with David Hale at Colgate. The rates are expected to increase by 6-8% effective October 1, 2012. It is recommended that action like this be taken every three years.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to recommend to the Board of Trustees to move forward with the rate increase as proposed by Frank Radigan. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Gustafson and carried.

## **WATER**

### ***New Business***

Line Foreman Rhyde reported the tap for the water and sewer have been made for the Airport hangar.

Commissioner Holcomb stated that he recently filled his pool and was surprised to find out he will be charged sewer on the water going to the pool. He would like relief of this charge. His request was denied. It is the policy of the MUC to charge the sewer rate when pools are filled. Commissioner Holcomb would like this policy to be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

### ***Old Business***

## **SEWER**

### ***New Business***

Line Foreman Rhyde has contact Ken Mullen from the IEEP, they need new lights at the WWTP, they currently have T-12's that are no longer made. Administrator Graham and Line Foreman Rhyde had a conference call with IEEP. It appears that not all the money has been used to insulate attics. The Village stated to the IEEP that we still have attics that qualify and would like to use that money. Administrator Graham stated to Bill Berry from the IEEP that we are interested in CFA money (solar, wind systems). CFA money may be difficult to obtain. However, the Power Authority is looking for new projects for the Spring of 2013.

### ***Old Business***

**Blue Heron:** Still not settled. Waiting on revised paperwork.

**MRB Draft Report/Chesapeake Bay Limits:** Administrator Graham emailed Jimmy Joe Carl to get an update. The EPA is upset with the DEC because paperwork has not been filed. Administrator Graham stated he is concerned that the coalition is not doing enough. Trustee Lura wants the State Senators involved.

**CLAIMS:** Commissioner Gustafson reviewed the claims and made a **motion** to pay them. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Holcomb and carried.

**Financial Statements:** The electric fund revenue is at 91%, expenses are

at 78%. The water fund revenue is at 90%, expenses are at 102%. The sewer fund revenue is at 99%, expenses are at 75%. A resolution will be presented at the Trustees meeting for the WWTP regarding a payment received by EIP for the pilot program. Commissioner Baker stated he really likes the budget packets, but would like a current organizational chart with names and titles and Boards and Commissions list.

The next meeting will be **July 3, 2012** at 4:30pm, at the Village Office.

**ADJOURNMENT**: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Trustee Lura made a **motion** to adjourn. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.

Submitted by,  
Kim Taranto