

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado, January 13, 2005.

Minutes of a Regular meeting of the **UTILITIES COMMITTEE** of the Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado. Meeting held in the Municipal Building in said Town of Estes Park on the 13th day of January 2005.

Committee: Chairman Jeffrey-Clark, Trustees Newsom and Pinkham

Attending: All

Also Attending: Town Administrator Repola, Public Works Director Linnane, Senior Electrical Engineer Matzke, Assistant to the Senior Electrical Engineer Mangelsen, and Deputy Clerk Williamson

Absent: None

Chairman Jeffrey-Clark called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

LIGHT AND POWER DEPARTMENT

Platte River Power Authority (PRPA) Medicine Bow Wind Farm – Request Authorization to Participate in New Wind Turbine.

In December 1999, the Town Board approved a twenty-year commitment to purchase one-quarter of the output of one wind turbine at Platte River's Medicine Bow Plant. This commitment was expected to equal approximately 40,000 kWh per month at \$0.024 per kWh or \$11,520 annually. In July 2000, the Town Board agreed to purchase 100 blocks (one block equals 100 kWh per month) of the Town's total wind energy purchased for use by the Municipal Building. In March 2003, the Municipal Building was placed on the Town's wind energy surcharge with 100% of the electrical use from wind energy and has since requested a short-term energy purchase of an additional 41,000 kWh per month over and above the original 40,000 kWh per month. The Town's current request for short-term energy expires March 31, 2005.

John Bleem, Platte River Power Authority, reported that a new wind turbine (Clipper) is being installed at the Medicine Bow Plant to serve additional wind energy requirements. The Clipper wind turbine will produce more power at the lower wind speeds than the current turbines. The turbine will be owned and operated by Clipper and all electrical output will be purchased by PRPA.

All PRPA members have been offered the opportunity to participate, and Fort Collins is prepared to purchase the total output of the turbine. This opportunity would allow Estes Park to transition the current short-term wind energy purchased to a long-term 10 year commitment in the Clipper Project at the same price of \$0.024 per kWh above wholesale as the current short-term rate.

The Committee recommends participating in the new Clipper wind turbine with a ten year contract effective April 1, 2005 to purchase 41,000. kWh per month, replacing the current short-term purchases.

Finance Department Copier Replacement – Request Authorization to Solicit Bids

The Finance Department's current copier is obsolete, and as of December 2004 maintenance support is no longer available. The 2005 budget includes \$15,000 for this purchase. Administrator Repola reviewed the benefits of purchasing a copier rather than leasing.

The Committee recommends Finance Staff to be authorized to solicit bids for a new copier. Bids including staff's recommendation will be emailed to all committee members for review and if within budget the bid will be approved.

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Reports

- The Committee reviewed financial reports for the Light & Power and Water departments for the month of December.
- Audio visual consultant, EBD is scheduled to start the repair process for the Board Room A/V equipment. The Channel 39 audio problem is an issue with Charter Communications cable and is not related to the Town's A/V equipment. Staff has given Charter the week of January 17, 2005 to fix the problem.
- The current broadcasting audio is an issue with Charter Communications cable.
- The electric rate increase will be reflected on customer's February 1st statements.
- The fiber optics installation is complete. A meeting was held last week with Mike Dahl of ICG to discuss potential market base. ICG would have to invest capital in infrastructure.
- The MacGregor Mountain water tank construction has been shut down through August at the request of the Colorado Division of Wildlife.
- The small hydro plant project at the foot of the dam will begin the end of 2005.

There being no further business, Chairman Jeffrey-Clark adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Jackie Williamson, Deputy Town Clerk