

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado, May 18, 2006.

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 18th day of May, 2006.

Committee: Chairman Homeier, Trustees Newsom and Pinkham

Attending: All

Also Attending: Town Administrator Repola, Utilities Superintendent Goehring, Finance Director McFarland, Deputy Town Clerk Schares

Absent: None

Chairman Homeier called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

LIGHT & POWER DEPARTMENT

Santa Card Shop Christmas Display - Request Approval to Solicit Bid.

Staff recommends approval to solicit a bid from Signs of Life to replace the existing Santa Card Shop display. Signs for Life refurbished the Santa Claus display last year and is the sole source in Estes Park for the type of refinish that was done.

Following discussion, **the Committee directed staff to solicit at least one other bid and return to Committee for approval. Staff estimates it could take approximately two months to gather the additional.**

Habitat for Humanity Water Tap Fee Waiver - Request Approval.

Supt. Goehring explained Habitat for Humanity is requesting a waiver of the single-family residential water tap fee for 671 Halbach Lane. Town contribution for the construction of the home is substantial in making the homes affordable. The tap market value is estimated at \$7,600.

The Town has waived tap fees for non-profit groups in the past. Habitat for Humanity has agreed to reimburse the water tap fee if the home is sold on the open market within the next 10 years.

The Committee recommends approval of the Habitat for Humanity water tap fee waiver for 671 Halbach Lane as requested.

Charter Communications Cable Agreement – Transfer of Ownership - Request Approval.

Town Administrator Repola stated an existing franchise agreement with Charter Communications is set to expire in 2008. Charter Communications intends to sell its local cable operation to Orange Broadband. Orange Broadband is requesting a three-year extension of the existing permit. For consideration of the extension, staff has requested that Orange Broadband provide coverage of the regular Town Board meetings, as well as Planning Commission should we elect to televise the meetings. Staff has also requested Orange Broadband provide customer service metrics that will show their ability to respond to customer inquiries and concerns.

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Carol Thompson, Charter Communications, stated the term of the extension that Orange Broadband is requesting is three years from the closing, expiring in 2009.

Town Administrator Repola explained Town Attorney White is reviewing the terms of the agreement and will report the findings at the May 23, 2006 Town Board meeting.

Staff recommends approval of the cable television franchise agreement transfer.

The Committee recommends approval of the Cable Television Franchise Agreement transfer of ownership from Charter Communications to Orange Broadband.

Reports

1. Light and Power Dept. Financial Report – Dir. McFarland reviewed the report.
2. Water Dept. Financial Report – Dir. McFarland reviewed the report.

Supt. Goehring stated Platte River is possibly lowering the wind energy rates. Staff will review the affect on customer rates. Town Administrator Repola stated the Light and Power account types are being reviewed to see if the number of account types can be decreased.

There being no further business, Chairman Homeier adjourned the meeting at 8:47 a.m.

Suzy Schares, Deputy Town Clerk