

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado, July 9, 2009.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the **UTILITIES COMMITTEE** of the Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado. Meeting held in the Town Hall in said Town of Estes Park on the 9th day of July, 2009.

Committee: Chairman Homeier, Trustees Blackhurst and Ericson

Attending: All

Also Attending: Town Administrator Halburnt, Deputy Town Administrator Richardson, Utilities Dir. Goehring, Asst. Utilities Dir. Mangelsen, Recording Secretary Petrie

Absent: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENT.
None.

LIGHT & POWER DEPARTMENT

Christmas Display Installation and Maintenance for 2009 & 2010 – Request Approval to Accept Proposal

Light and Power budgeted \$58,500/year for the annual installation and maintenance of the Christmas lights and displays. The low bid for 2009 is a reduction of \$3,108 from last year’s contract amount of \$44,000.

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Budget</u>
T.A. Enterprises	\$42,000	\$44,000	\$58,500
M. Atkins, Inc	\$40,892	\$42,937	

Last year energy efficient string lights (LED) were placed in the trees of Rams Island as a test pilot area for leaving the lights on throughout the year. Dir. Goehring stated that the longer the light strings are left on the trees the more damage they cause due to high winter winds creating stress on the branches. Installation of the light strings, rebar tress, and displays will begin October 15th and will be completed by November 25th. Removal dates are by January 15th, 2010 for the displays and rebar trees, and by February 25th, 2010 for the stringed lights.

Staff recommends contracting with M. Atkins, Inc. The Town has worked successfully with this contractor on past lighting. **The Committee recommends contracting with M. Atkins, Inc. for the installation and maintenance of the Christmas display for \$40,892/2009 as budgeted and \$42,937/2010 pending budget approval and contractor performance from #502-6501-560-26-15.**

Chairman Homeier left the meeting at approximately 8:15 a.m.

LIGHT AND POWER REPORTS.

1. **History of Town of Estes Park Utilities Rate Increases** – Dir. Goehring stated that from 1994 to 2000 there was no increase in residential electric rates in Estes Park. Rates increased modestly from 2000 to the present, with a 2.5% per year increase anticipated from 2010 to 2013. Water rates have steadily increased since 1994, with dramatic increases in the last few years due to a substantial rise in costs for water treatment chemicals and supplies. Water rate increases have

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increased water accountability by 15% (from 72% to 87%), and have provided funding for the following Water Department projects since 1994:

- Mary's Lake Water Treatment Plant, initial construction and recent upgrades
 - Three substantial Glacier Creek Water Treatment Plant improvements
 - Addition of one raw water pump station to Mary's Lake Treatment Plant
 - Installation of one 300,000 gallon storage tank
 - Installation of one 1 million gallon storage tank
 - Replacement of 20 miles of galvanized steel pipe with ductile iron pipe
 - Installation of 346 new fire hydrants
2. **Solar Rebate Program Final Report** – Asst. Utilities Director Mangelsen stated that in November 2008, the State of Colorado awarded the Town \$25,000 in matching funds to participate in the Governor's Energy Office rebate program to install photovoltaic (PV) generation systems on private residences in Estes Park. Thirty lottery submissions were received from interested parties, and in February 2009 five people were selected to receive full rebate awards of up to \$9,000 each. As of June 30th, 2009 rebate checks had been issued to all five final participants, and the Utility Department had received matching funds of \$250 in administration costs and \$4,500 for one installation. A final request for payment from the GEO was submitted on June 29th in the amount of \$18,820 for the four remaining installations and the balance of the administrative costs allowed under the program.
3. **Distribution System Improvements Report** – Light & Power has completed the Mary's Lake Substation upgrades, which was phase one of the distribution system improvements. Approximately \$1.75 million of the \$6,180,000 in bond money remains in account #502-7001-580.33-30 for the second phase of improvements: upgrading the Substation's Beaver Point, Peakview, and Fish Creek feeder tie circuits. This would allow the entire system to be fed from either the Estes Substation or the Mary's Lake Substation in the event of a substation failure or for substation maintenance.

WATER REPORTS.

1. **Update on Mary's Lake Water Treatment Plant** – Superintendent Boles provided an update on the status of the Mary's Lake Water Treatment Plant expansion. The temporary water treatment units are scheduled to be removed after the peak water usage time, which historically is around July 4th. The overall project is 70% complete and construction is approximately 90% complete. The filter membranes are scheduled to arrive July 20th and the commissioning schedule targets production of water in mid-September. Water Department staff will receive 2 weeks of classroom and operational training on the new system.

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

Sandra J. Petrie, Recording Secretary