MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023, 2:00 P.M., CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

Members Present: Vice Chair Barbara Bennett; Secretary Larry Lammers; Deputy Secretary Frank H. Fee, IV; and Mayor Linda Hudson.

Member Absent: Chairman Kristina Gibbons

Others present: Javier Cisneros, Director of Utilities; Barbara Mika, Director of Finance and Administrative Services; Daniel Retherford, Director of Utility Support Services; Bo Hutchinson, Director of Water/Wastewater Systems, Craig Crawford, Director of Electric & Gas Systems, and Jody Finklea, Special Counsel to FPUA Board.

The meeting was called to order by Madam Vice Chair Barbara Bennett.

Opening Prayer was by Jason Mittler, Manager FPUA.net.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called and a quorum declared.

ITEM A: SET THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Fee, seconded by Mr. Lammers, and unanimously carried to approve the set agenda.

ITEM B: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Lammers, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 6, 2022.

ITEM C: COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

ITEM D: CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Fee, seconded by Mayor Hudson, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEM E: RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

ITEM F: OLD BUSINESS

ITEM G: NEW BUSINESS

1. Eric Meyer and Dwayne Struble reported on the 2022 NERC Annual Review – For Information Only

Mayor Hudson asked if your work with FMIT because they have cybersecurity coverage now. Mr. Cisneros said we typically work with FMPA, they have cybersecurity specialist. Mr. Struble said he would look into FMIT and get back to Mr. Cisneros. Mr. Lammers asked what kind of recommendations did the consultant give us on ways to improve.
---

2. Eric Meyer presented RFQu No. 20-10A – Authorize staff to negotiate contracts for Continuing Professional Engineering and/or Design-Build Services related to Electric and Gas Systems with selected firms for a five-year term, with unlimited five-year renewal options.

A motion was made by Mr. Fee, seconded by Mr. Lammers and unanimously carried to authorize staff to negotiate contracts for Continuing Professional Engineering and/or Design-Build Services related to Electric and Gas Systems.
---

3. Fred Gaddis reported on the Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Fund Update – November 2022 – For Information Only

---

4. Jason Mittler presented Smart Neighborhood Initiative – Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Inc. (AFM), of Palm Harbor, Florida, The City of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, and FPUA for the Smart Neighborhood Initiative to provide high speed connectivity in the Lincoln Park Community of Fort Pierce. FPUA's contribution to this project is not expected to exceed $600,000.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Lammers, and unanimously carried to approve the MOU between AFM, City of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County, and FPUA for the Smart Neighborhood Initiative.
---

5. Daniel Retherford presented POA 15-11 – Approve the single source purchase of Neptune Meters and Registers from Sunstate Meter Supply, Inc. in an amount not to exceed $1,028,576.72, for the final phase of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project.

A motion was made by Mr. Lammers, seconded by Mayor Hudson, and unanimously carried to approve the single source purchase of Neptune Meters and Registers from Sunstate in an amount not to exceed $1,028,576.72.

---

6. Barbara Mika presented on the CDARS Investments – For Information Only

Mayor Hudson asked if CDARS is something new. Mrs. Mika said we have used it before.

---

7. Barbara Mika presented on the Status Report on Electric Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for November 2022.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Fee, to increase the PCA by $8.00 for 1000 Kw hours from $35 to $43 effective February 1, 2023. Those voting yes were Mr. Fee, and Mayor Hudson. Mr. Lammers and Mrs. Bennett voted no. Motion rejected.
A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Lammers, to increase the PCA by $4.00 for 1000 kw hours from $35 to $39 effective February 1, 2023. Those voting yes were Mr. Lammers; Yes; Mayor Hudson, Yes; Mrs. Bennett, Yes. Mr. Fee voted no, and the motion was approved.

ITEM H: AWARD OF BID

ITEM I: RESOLUTIONS

1. Barbara Mika presented Resolution No. UA 2023-01 – Approve Resolution of the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, adopting the 2023 Official Investment Policy.

Mrs. Cortes read Resolution of the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, Fort Pierce, Florida, Providing for a Local Government Policy relative to the deposit and investment of Authority Funds. Adopting the attached investment policy consisting of 17 pages, designating the Director of Financial Administration responsible for execution of this policy, providing that a copy of said Utilities Investment Policy be on file in the offices of the Director of Financial Administration and the Director of Utilities, repealing all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict herewith and providing for an effective date hereof.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Lammers, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. UA 2023-01 of the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, adopting the 2023 Official Investment Policy.

ITEM J: DIRECTOR

Mr. Cisneros said I have a couple of updates. We have finalized a resolution for Mr. Koblegard's 27 years of service, it will likely come before the Board at the first meeting in February. The latest version of the job description for the FPUA Attorney/General Counsel was provided at the beginning of this meeting. Pending any additional changes, staff will have this on the agenda for approval and discussion on how we develop a short list and the interview process. The new mainland water reclamation facility groundbreaking will be on February 3rd, and official invitations were provided at the beginning of the meeting. On December 16th, FPUA submitted a grant proposal requesting $8.3 million of Federal funds for Electric Grid Resiliency. On December 21st, we provided a Wastewater Plant Relocation Tour to two State Representatives and Two Federal Senate Representatives with Mayor Hudson and Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson. For clarity, Mayor Hudson and Commissioner Johnson were at different locations at different times. This week we are submitting two State Appropriation Request. One for $900,000 toward sewer lining and one multi-million-dollar request for the wastewater plant, amount still to be determined. Presenting to the St. Lucie County Delegation and our local policy makers about these projects and expect to hear some results for two of our larger wastewater plant grant requests this month. Last item, I have provided the Board Members with my performance memo for you review. Today is officially my one-year anniversary in this role. One-year evaluation and recommendation for cost of living adjustment will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

ITEM K: ATTORNEY

Mr. Finklea said I represented the Utility Authority in a collection matter before a judge in St. Lucie County and we are going to continue to prosecute that. There have been some security concerns involving substations, so I expect to see increased regulatory review of those types of thing.

ITEM L: COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Lammer said I thought staff's recommendation on the $8 cost adjustment was, in many ways a good one. I am a little bit sensitive to how much we raise the PCA right now having gone through what we went through. Definitely want to look at it next month and reevaluate.

Mayor Hudson asked what about the increases for Florida Power and Light. Mr. Cisneros said there have been a couple of articles online. They do have an increase that went into effect in January, one potentially in April, and then potentially another one in October. They also have one preapproved for January of 2024. They are trying to recover not only the cost of fuel, the PCA for the last year, they're also trying to prepare for the 2023 estimated cost for purchase power.

They're also trying to recover costs for Hurricane Ian. Mr. Finklea said they will have at least three rate increases this year.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Fee, and unanimously carried to excuse Mrs. Kristina Gibbons.

Madam Vice Chair Bennett Gibbons asked if she had a motion to adjourn this meeting? Thank you.

ITEM M: ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59 pm.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN

Note: These minutes are not verbatim, only important issues and motions are reproduced in writing for the benefit of the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority and Board Members. The recording itself is the official record for the meeting.