MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023, 4:00 P.M., CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS.

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

Others present: Javier Cisneros, Director of Utilities; Daniel Retherford, Chief Operating Officer; Barbara Mika, Chief Financial Officer; Bo Hutchinson, Director of Water/Wastewater Systems, Craig Crawford, Director of Electric & Gas Systems, and Caroline A. Valentin, General Counsel to FPUA Board.

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

Opening Prayer was by DeVoshay Johnson, City of Fort Pierce.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The roll was called and a quorum declared.

ITEM A: SET THE AGENDA

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

ITEM B: COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

ITEM C: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Fee, and unanimously carried to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 17, 2023.

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: REGULAR AGENDA

1. Barbara Mika presented the second reading for Resolutions No. UA 2023-10 Water and UA 2023-11 Wastewater.

Mrs. Cortes read into record RESOLUTION NUMBER UA 2023-10, A RESOLUTION AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND RESCINDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2022-08, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII; PROVIDING FOR A 7.07% INCREASE IN THE CUSTOMER AND VOLUME CHARGES, BASED ON THE 2023 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL PRICE INDEX; AND PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL INDEXING PROVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, REPEAL, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mrs. Cortes read into record RESOLUTION NUMBER UA 2023-11, A RESOLUTION AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND RESCINDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR WASTEWATER SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2022-09, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII; PROVIDING FOR A 7.07% INCREASE IN THE CUSTOMER AND USAGE CHARGES, BASED ON THE 2023 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL PRICE INDEX; AND PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL INDEXING PROVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION, SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, REPEAL, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion was made by Mr. Fee, seconded by Mrs. Gibbons, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution UA 2023-10 Water Rates and Resolution UA 2023-11 Wastewater Rates.

2. Eric Meyer presented Resolution UA 2023-15 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act Standards (PURPA) for consideration.

Mrs. Cortes read into record RESOLUTION NUMBER UA 2023-15, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF THE FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, MAKING A WRITTEN DETERMINATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PURPA STANDARDS CONTAINED IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE

INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT OF 2021; MAKING A DETERMINATION ON THE REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Fee, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution UA 2023-15 to NOT ADOPT the PURPA Standards.

3. Rachel Tennant presented Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for Relocating the Wastewater Treatment Plant off of the Indian River Lagoon, in the amount of $5,000,000.

A motion was made by Mayor Hudson, seconded by Mr. Lammers, and unanimously carried to approve the Grant Agreement with the FDEP for the Relocation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant off the Indian River Lagoon in the amount of $5,000,000.

4. Caroline Valentin presented the Social Media Update – For Information Only.

ITEM F: DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Mr. Cisneros provided update was provided on natural gas rates, locked-in prices for 2025 and 2026, upcoming FMPA meetings, Best Places to Work award, and cancellation of the January 2nd Board meeting.

ITEM H: BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Gibbons requested a holiday schedule for 2024.

Madam Chair Bennett commented on the increase in grants.

ITEM M: ADJOURN

There being no further business, Madam Chair Bennett adjourned the meeting at 5:03 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.