



HURRICANE CITY

UTAH

Mayor
Nanette Billings

City Manager
Kaden C. DeMille

Power Board
Mac J. Hall, Chair
Jerry Brisk
Pam Humphries
Dave Imlay
Joseph Prete
Charles Reeve

The Hurricane City Power Board met on March 23, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. for a Special Meeting at the Clifton Wilson Substation on 526 W 600 N.

In attendance were Chairman Mac Hall, Jerry Brisk, Pam Humphries, Dave Imlay, Joseph Prete, Charles Reeve, Scott Hughes, Brian Anderson, Michael Ramirez, Jared Ross, and Crystal Wright.

Mac Hall welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked a question about when we anticipate presenting the fee proposal to City Council.

Dave Imlay opened the meeting by stating that he mentioned initially it may be difficult getting some of these approved, however, he has backed off that opinion. Revenue can only come one of two ways, through fees or rate increases. This solution puts the burden on the people causing extra work. City Council can choose which way they would like to protect operating revenue.

Mike Ramirez welcomed the board and explained that the Power Department is tasked to provide reliable, affordable power to all citizens. The responsibility is to manage the funds that are coming in. We are a public entity; however, we must manage as a regular business would. We are looking to protect the interest of the whole group with these revenues. The fees we will discuss are for things that are above and beyond our normal mode of operations. Our goal with this direction is to keep costs with the group that is causing the extra work. Dave Imlay mentioned it has always been hard to find the line as a municipal-owned power company between what we should be providing as a service to the community and where fees should come into play.

Discussion ensued regarding residential and commercial application design and review fees. Question about what the connection fee entails that is already charged. Discussion about various items that potentially are included. Mac Hall wanted to make sure we are not charging twice for anything. Scott Hughes clarified that we are discussing design and review outside the current connection fee. Dave Imlay suggested to investigate finding out details of connection fee and possibly increase that fee instead. Additional discussion about making the fee more equitable by charging per lot instead of in groups. Question about how to handle large subdivisions coming and about them paying an equitable share. Possible solution to charge per phase instead of as whole project or just charge per lot.

Mac Hall provided some explanation that historically City Councils have been very conscientious of the residential customers. Advised to make sure that we keep that protection in place. Joseph Prete agreed that systems are in place throughout the city to support that statement.

Jerry Brisk asked questions about the meter tamper fee. Discussion about what the intent with that fee means and when it would be applicable.



Mac Hall wanted to discuss the process for re-reviews. Mike Ramirez explained how the review process works. Clarification regarding the fees would be for initial design and again for each additional review. Scott Hughes explained the intent is to help people bringing in plans to spend time on the front end getting it right the first time. Joseph Prete asked if we have had any kickback for re-review fees. Discussion about being transparent and clear up front with what is required and what the potential fees are.

Discussion regarding the reviews per lots and phases. We will continue to work on this section to clarify it, make it equitable and consider ease of administration. Joseph Prete's suggestion was to charge per lot. Most in the room agreed that it was equitable to apply the fee that way.

Brian Anderson discussed line extensions and how those would be charged outside of subdivisions. Scott Hughes reminded him those fees would be charged as estimates. This will be charged as an hourly rate. Discussion about how that hourly rate would be determined.

Mike Ramirez discussed power for special events. We don't have data since those pedestals are not metered. Discussed metering those to gather data. Dave Imlay mentioned that adding meters would also help with losses. The fee proposed would be a starting point while we gathered data. Joseph Prete suggested the fee be charged as standard. Discussion about where the bills would go for those meters.

Reviewed the utility fee proposals. Current utility fees have been in existence since 2009. Crystal Wright explained the process for a utility turn on that happens after hours. Discussed non-payment reconnect fees both during regular hours and after hours. Dave Imlay mentioned there may be some push back on the doubling of the normal hours fee. His concern with the after-hours fee is if there is an emergency that there is the potential to have the ability to waive that fee if necessary. He suggested to make sure there is language in the ordinance or resolution that upon extenuating circumstances that the after-hours fee can be waived at the discretion of the utility department.

Dave Imlay suggested to also look at updating our fees that we have set up for general work that is done. The increased cost of commodities is going to mean that we should look at updating those fees to consider the updated cost of materials. We need to research what the process is for approving the updates for those fees. Mike Ramirez said he will investigate getting those fees updated and how the approval for those fees work.

The Power Board adjourned at 5:45 p.m. The next Power Board Meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.
