

65 Cadillac Square, Suite 2900 Detroit, Michigan 48226 313-324-8290 phone 313-638-2805 fax pladetroit.org

## PUBLIC LIGHTING AUTHORITY OF DETROIT

Regular Meeting
June 19, 2013
Committee of the Whole
Coleman A. Young Municipal Center
5:00 pm

#### **MINUTES**

# **Board Members Present:**

Maureen Stapleton Marvin Beatty Cedric Dargin John Davis Mike Einheuser

## **Others in Attendance:**

Ron Lipscomb (Allen Law Group) Peter Van Dyke (Berg Muirhead & Associates)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Public Lighting Authority was held on June 19, 2013 in the Committee of the Whole of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center. Maureen Stapleton welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

### **ROLL CALL**

Roll call was conducted by Michael Einheuser, board secretary and members in attendance included: Maureen Stapleton, Marvin Beatty, John Davis (via cell phone: 5:20-5:45 pm), Cedric Dargin (not present) and Michael Einheuser.

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes from the previous meeting were laid on the table until the next meeting

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Accounting RFQ (Discussion and Decision)

John Davis stated that on Sunday, June 16, 2013, he distributed (4) Proposals, via-email and emailed approximately 10 to 12 RFQs to any and all interested parties, as well as, those individuals and/or firms requested by the Board. The following four accounting firms responded:

- Gregory Terrell and Company
- K C Consultants
- Lane CPA
- Charles H. Brown

John Davis recommended to the Board interviewing Gregory Terrell & Company and K C Consultants. Michael Einheuser moved to inviting those two companies to the Public Meeting at Greater Grace on Friday, June 28th for an interview.

## B. Trust Agreement Approval

Ron Lipscombe previously distributed a straight-forward escrow-type Draft Trust Agreement; and that is designed to capture the money coming from DTE before it flows through any City account due to unforseen issues. If in fact a bankruptcy is filed, and it's in compliance with the Order of the Emergency Manager, directing DTE to deposit certain amounts into a trust, this would be just the document that legally creates the Trust. It would be a three-party agreement between the City, The Authority, and whichever entity you, in fact, decide collectively with the City to be the Trustee.

C. Community Meetings

Peter Van Dyke, reported that there will be a meeting tomorrow at 10:30 at the



Office of Berg Muirhead with the future Executive Director of the Public Lighting Authority and their staff just to do introductions.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Michael Einheuser moved to approve the Employment Agreement between Odis Jones as Executive Director and the Public Lighting Authority as presented by legal counsel.

John Davis seconded

The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

## **Budget Hearing**

Ron Lipscombe informed the Board that the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, which The Authority is subject to as a public body, requires The Authority to adopt a budget prior to the beginning of the physical year which begins on July 1st.

He also reminded the Board of a supplemental statute called the Local Government Budget Hearings Act, which The Authority's also subject to, that requires a Public Hearing on the budget and to provide a public notice to be published in a newspaper of general circulation at least 6 days prior to beginning. We have arranged for that Notice to be published tomorrow in The Detroit Free Press and we have set next Wednesday as the Budget Hearing, which will be at your Special Meeting, the Community-based Meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Maureen Stapleton asked if there was anyone present to wishes to make comment and statements to The Authority. Having called for Public Comment three (3) times, have some legal matters to attend to that we would like to do in public session; and so I would ask at this time that a Board Member make a motion to go into private session.

Josh Elliott, Jefferson-East Business Association and East Jefferson Corridor Collaborative. Several months ago Beau Taylor from the Mayor's Office mentioned that they had a company putting up a free trial solar-powered street light. National LED Solutions and invited everyone present out to JAZZ'N ON JEFFERSON the following week to observe the lighting.

Ken Shapiro of Consultant Engineering Associates stated that DTE has very little experience in street lighting in the City of Detroit. Mr. Shapiro also stated, that it was not a foregone conclusion that DTE is going to provide the power for the street lights. But power could be purchased from Ontario Hydro, if you want; and it could be bought from anyone who's on the grid. So that's where a potential conflict of interest might be.

Richard Tenney of the Public Lighting Department City of Detroit shared with the Board that the Public Lighting Department:

- Was kind of in a limbo-like situation; because it's quite possible that the lights they want installed are outside of where the PLA plan is;
- as a result, they were holding off on doing things;
- trying to fix all the existing lights, but not looking at putting new lights out until your plan is officially approved and in place.
- on any given day we have roughly nine crews working.
- We had no vehicles on the road for the re-lamping- in the second week of May all of the trucks went down pretty much in three days, and it took three-and-a-half weeks to get the trucks back on the road.
- He was not aware of any parts that were unavailable for any of the lighting fixtures

# **CLOSED SESSION**

Cedric Dargin moved to go into Closed Session.

Marvin Beatty seconded

Motion carried

The regular meeting adjourned @ 6:30 to go into Closed Session.



## **RECONVENE**

The Regular Meeting of the Public Lighting Authority was reconvened and called back to order by Maureen Stapleton at 7:14pm.

Michael Einheuser moved to ratify the Agreement with the understanding that's it's going to be amended to include an Arbitration Clause.

Marvin Beatty seconded

Motion carried to ratify the Agreement with the understanding that's it's going to be amended to include an Arbitration Clause.

# **ADJOURMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the Regular Meeting was adjourned @7:18pm.