



## **Village of Hyde Park Board of Trustees Minutes of February 10, 2021**

The duly warned regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was electronically held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

Trustees Present: Chair Riki French, Jack Anderson, Peter Gallo and Dan Young

Staff: Carol Robertson, General Manager

Others: Mary Walz

Chair Riki French called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. There were no public comments. There were no additions to the agenda. The GM reported on the public records request received from Joel Page and Madeline Motta and plans to provide documents.

Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Dan Young to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2021 regular meeting. The motion carried.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to approve the minutes of January 28, 2021 special meeting. The motion carried.

The Chair asked the GM if letters of interest had been received in the office by the deadline for consideration of appointment to fill the unexpired three year term of Charlie Aronovici who resigned his position effective December 31, 2020. The GM reported that no additional letters of interest had been received. The Chair stated that she received a letter of interest from Adam Lory. Trustees recognized Mr. Lory's years of service on the Village Development Review Board and expressed appreciation for his impressive letter of interest. Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to appoint Adam Lory to the three-year term expiring May 4, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

There were no Development Review Board letters of interest in the two open alternate positions.

Following review and discussion of the proposed annual meeting schedule and COVID state of emergency guidelines, motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to duplicate the 2020 remote annual meeting and voting process, to warn a remote Public Hearing for Discussion at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 21 and to warn the remote Annual Meeting for 7 p.m.

on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 and conduct an Australian Ballot on that day. The motion carried unanimously.

Following review, motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to approve the 2021 schedule for planning commission and board meetings, with all meetings planned for the second Wednesday of each month, with the exceptions of the meetings planned for May 19 and August 18. The motion carried unanimously.

The GM presented a proposal for water department compliance testing and related services. Following discussion, motion by Peter Gallo and second by Jack Anderson to authorize the following compensation. Effective February 11, 2021, an employee who, at the direction of the Utilities Foreman (Working Line Foreman), performs necessary routine water infrastructure inspection and testing on Saturday, Sunday or holidays will be compensated as follows:

- 1 hour Overtime (time and one-half the hourly wage rate) on Saturday
- 1 hour Overtime (time and one-half the hourly wage rate) on Sunday
- 1 hour Double-Time (double the hourly wage rate) on Village of Hyde Park Holidays

The motion carried unanimously.

The GM gave an overview of utilities operation, provided access to the 2021 Resources Report, which is available at <https://www.villageofhydepark.com/utilities>. There was a review of incentives and related utility costs of Renewable Energy Standard Tier 3, with acknowledgement that Hyde Park Electric currently meets Tier 2 and Tier 3 compliance by the generation of Hyde Park Solar, Waterhouse Project. The GM reviewed four 2021 net-metering applications and HPE's Letter of Objection filed with the Public Utility Commission for each application. Net-metering produces excess power in summer months when more energy is put on the system than consumed by customers. HPE objects to the cost and negative system impacts of excess power plus above-market cost of the net-metering credits. In a report prepared by Energy New England ("ENE") for Hyde Park Electric ("HPE") to respond to the Public Service Department's information request, ENE detailed about \$56,000 in above-market costs in 2020. These added costs more greatly impact lower income HPE customers who pay a higher percentage of income for electricity. \$56,000 does not include administrative or billing costs, which are substantial added expenses.

There being no further business, motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 a.m. The motion carried.

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Riki French, Chair

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Date