

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Seth Speiser

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Lisa Meehling
Mike Blaies
Tom Carpenter
Dana Miller
Robert Kaiser

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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ELECTRIC COMMITTEE MEETING
(Blaies/Carpenter/Kaiser/Meehling)
Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
Matt Trout

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
John Tolan

POLICE CHIEF
Michael J. Schutzenhofer

ESDA COORDINATOR
Eugene Kramer

VILLAGE ENGINEER
Tim Pruett, P.E.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weiltrauener Keck Brown, P.C.

The meeting of the Electric Committee was called to order at 5:31 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 by Chairperson Mike Blaies. Committee members present were Chairperson Mike Blaies, Trustee Tom Carpenter, Trustee Bob Kaiser, Trustee Lisa Meehling, Mayor Seth Speiser, Village Clerk Jerry Menard (absent), Trustee Ray Matchett, Trustee Dana Miller, Public Works Director John Tolan, Police Chief Mike Schutzenhofer, Head Lineman Shane Krauss, Village Attorney Fred Keck, Village Administrator Matt Trout, Village Engineer Tim Pruett, Office Manager Mary Downen. Guest present: Janet Baechle. There were no guests present via Zoom.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of February 14, 2024 Minutes: Trustee Lisa Meehling motioned to recommend to the full Board approval of the February 14, 2024, and Trustee Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.
2. Customer Issues: Head Lineman Shane Krauss stated we had a partial outage on Briarwood on the 19th and an outage due to a tree on Rockhill on the 26th.
3. IMEA Energy Efficiency Grant: Shane said he is putting together a grant for street lighting. Plan is to eliminate the ballasts in the decorative street lights and use LED bulbs. He is in the process of getting bids and will have more to report next month.
4. Cemetery Road Line Extension: Nothing to report.
5. BHMG Cost of Service Study: Village Administrator Matt Trout said this is listed under new business as well. These are the updated rates and the proposal for the next 3 years from this Cost of Service Study. Shane and Utility Billing Clerk Jane Kramper have been doing an audit to ensure all customers are placed under the correct class. Trustee Mike Blaise questioned if the \$11 would be the average residential customer's monthly increase. Matt responded it would be and Shane added that it is showing 900kw is an average user. Mike asked if there are concerns with the bigger commercial users. Matt stated that has been one of the biggest concerns and plans to proactively reach out to those customers. Committee agreed to not make a motion to move to the Board at this time. Matt stated he will get it in final form and add to the Finance agenda.
6. Versalift Update: Nothing to report.
7. BHMG Memorandum of Agreement: Public Works Director John Tolan stated this was questioned last meeting. He said we started this agreement in 2015 and this was the first increase. Mike responded regardless; the increase is more than the 5% listed in the contract. John stated he would look at the previous contract and Tom recommended moving it to the Finance agenda.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. IMEA Power Sales Contract: Matt said he wanted to get the information to the Board so there can be a discussion. IMEA would like to come and discuss with the Board what their plans are going forward. Mayor Seth Spieser suggested a Committee as a Whole meeting and Matt added we can schedule for April or May.
2. Electric Rate Design: Committee discussed under old business.
3. FY25 Budget: Matt stated it is in final draft form with the ordinance and if the Board approves, we can include it on the Board agenda for Monday night's meeting. Trustee Ray Matchett suggested we put the new backhoe in this budget if possible. Matt stated we would need to pull the money from other areas to make that happen. Trustee Tom Carpenter passed around a quote Crew Leader Bob Jenkins had received. He stated it was cheaper than what was projected earlier and they have financing available. Matt stated he needed some direction in order to move things around in order to fit it in the budget, if that is what the Board wants. Ray stated he would like to see it worked into the budget.

Trustee Mike Blaies motioned to recommend to the full Board approval of the budget as is, and Lisa Meehling seconded. Continued discussions before an all vote.

Trustee Mike Blaies motioned to amend his motion to include the backhoe to the full Board approval of the budget being amended to balance with the backhoe in it, and Lisa Meehling seconded. All voting yea, the motion carried.

Shane said he had a visit from IEPA. It was for the Air Emissions Department of Energy. It was pretty extensive and the first full inspection that he has had to deal with. Overall it went very well. He said when it is finalized he will report on it.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Lisa Meehling motioned to adjourn at 6:23 p.m. and Trustee Bob Kaiser seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*



Mary Downen
Office Manager