

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Ray Danford

VILLAGE CLERK
Jerry Menard

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
Rita Baker
Seth Speiser
Charlie Mattern
Ray Matchett, Jr.
Steve Smith
Mike Blaies

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

FREEBURG MUNICIPAL CENTER
14 SOUTHGATE CENTER, FREEBURG, IL 62243
PHONE: (618) 539-5545 • FAX: (618) 539-5590
Web Site: www.freeburg.com

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
Dennis Herzing

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Ronald Dintelmann

POLICE CHIEF
Melvin E. Woodruff, Jr.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weilmuenster Law Group, P.C

January 6, 2012

NOTICE MEETING OF THE ELECTRIC COMMITTEE (Blaies/Smith/Matchett)

An Electric Committee Meeting of the Village of Freeburg will be held at the Municipal Center, Executive Board Room, **Wednesday, January 11, 2011, at 5:30 p.m.**

ELECTRIC COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

I. Items to be Discussed

A. Old Business

1. Approval of December 14, 2011 minutes
2. Franchise Fee (Ameren)
3. Highway lighting
4. HAPS
5. Portable Generator repair and replacement
6. Fuel Cost Adjustment
7. Arc Flash Study
8. Spill containment/Wiegmann's expansion
9. Safety Training
10. Digger truck/Demo
11. American Tower Request
12. Spreadsheet of agreements
13. Work on electric poles/transformers behind grade school
14. Lineman position
15. Shed
16. Total usage report for residents

B. New Business

C. General Concerns

D. Public Participation

E. Adjourn

At said Electric Committee Meeting, the Village Trustees may vote on whether or not to hold an Executive Session to discuss the selection of a person to fill a public office [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c) (3)], litigation [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c)(11)] personnel [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c) (1) a.]; or real estate transactions [5 ILCS, 120/2 - (c)(5)].

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ELECTRIC COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting of the Electric Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 by Chairman Mike Blaies. Committee members present were Chairman Mike Blaies, Trustee Steve Smith, Trustee Ray Matchett, Assistant Public Works Director John Tolan, Village Administrator Dennis Herzing and Office Manager Julie Polson.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of December 14, 2011 Minutes: Trustee Steve Smith motioned to approve the December 14, 2011 minutes and Trustee Ray Matchett seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.
2. Franchise Fee (Ameren): Dennis hasn't had time to work on this
3. Highway lighting: On hold for now.
4. HAPS: John said everything has been installed and tested. He said we have a couple days of testing to do and everything should be good to go. Mike asked about the billing on this project and Dennis said we've been billed monthly on the percentage amount completed. Dennis said BHM&G will probably bill the last 10 - 15% when the final testing has been completed.
5. Portable Generator Repair and Replacement: Nothing new.
6. Fuel Cost Adjustment: John said we are going to get meter readings off the lights to make sure we are in line with what we are charging and will track that for the next three months. John said we've done a better job of accounting for the lights.
7. Arc Flash Study: John emailed BHM&G a couple of weeks ago and hasn't heard anything from them. The same guy that is working on the HAPS project is also working on this. John will email him again.
8. Spill containment/Wiegmann: Dennis said Dean Park has corresponded with Wiegmanns and Dean has not heard back from them. Dennis said we need to get going on this pretty soon in order to do the work over the summer during Wiegmann's downtime.
9. Safety Training: Arthur Gallagher does offer some online training and if we request it, they can send someone to conduct some training sessions. John said he has everyone signed up for a JULIE safety course in locating and trenching/shoring. He will continue to look into a certified trenching/shoring class. He would like to network with other municipalities and townships and possibly have everyone go in on a certified class.
10. Digger truck/demo: John said the Altec representative advised we will receive the email quote shortly and will set up a meeting next week to review it.

11. American Tower Request: We have not heard back from American Tower.
 12. Spreadsheet of agreements: Julie will put a copy of the spreadsheet in everyone's mailbox and said if any additions need to be made to let her know.
 13. Work on electric poles/transformers behind grade school: John said we decided to wait until better weather to complete the project.
 14. Lineman position: Dennis said both he and John agreed to let the lineman position remain open for a while. John would like to wait another month or so and see where Tyler is. He said there is a capacitor/regulator class that he would like to sign Tyler up for. John said Tyler is very safety conscious. Item can be taken off the agenda.
 15. Shed: Nothing new.
 16. Total usage report for residents: Dennis reviewed this with Jane and she said we've always printed out usage reports for those residents that request it. It would be a huge, expensive project to print out a usage report for every customer and mail that since it prints in several sheets. Steve said he was fine with us providing the information if a resident called in. Item can be taken off the agenda.
- B. NEW BUSINESS:** John brought up the IMEA customer choice seminar tomorrow night and Dennis said we have 7 people attending. Julie received IMUA scholarship information and she will get an article in the Tribune about it.
- C. GENERAL CONCERNS:** John said we are in the process of putting underground power in for the pool. That will power the lift station and the overhead lines can be removed.
- D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.
- E. ADJOURN:** *Trustee Ray Matchett motioned to adjourn at 6:04 p.m. and Trustee Mike Blaies seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*



Julie Polson
Office Manager

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Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting of the Electric Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 by Chairman Mike Blaies. Committee members present were Chairman Mike Blaies, Trustee Steve Smith, Trustee Ray Matchett, Assistant Public Works Director John Tolan, Village Administrator Dennis Herzing and Office Manager Julie Polson.

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of November 9, 2011 Regular and Executive Session minutes: Trustee Steve Smith motioned to approve the November 9, 2011 Regular Session and Executive Session minutes and Trustee Ray Matchett seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.
2. Franchise Fee (Ameren): Dennis needs to see how many Freeburg residents are on Ameren power to see if the franchise fee would be worth pursuing
3. Highway lighting: John wants to hold off on this and check with other towns to see what they think of these new LED street lights.
4. HAPS: John said BHM&G is getting close to completion on this. Everything has been installed and tested. John said we have a couple days of testing to do and everything should be wrapped up within 4 - 6 weeks.
5. Portable Generator Repair and Replacement: Nothing new.
6. Fuel Cost Adjustment: Nothing new.
7. Arc Flash Study: John will ask Lincoln to get things moving. Dennis talked to IMEA on specialized training and Ed called him today advising there will be a seminar on this. Dennis said he would like to send as many guys as the budget will allow. The training will probably be held in Springfield and Dennis said it will be an extensive training session.
8. Spill containment/Wiegmann: Dennis said Dean Park has corresponded with Wiegmanns and Dean has not heard back from them. When he met with Mike and Rod from IMEA, they said not to worry about the funding. The project needs to be completed by spring of 2013.
9. Safety Training: Nothing new other than once we are settled in with the new insurance company, we will ask them about their safety training program.
10. Digger truck/demo: John said the Altec representative was out and we drew up the truck we'd like to have. The approximate cost is \$230,000. Dennis said the guys put together a truck that would be the most useful truck. Altec will come back down with the specs. John said if we ordered the truck today, we wouldn't see it until June which would hit the budget in the next fiscal year. We would probably look into a lease/purchase agreement with a longer term since we'll have the truck for 15 - 20 years.

11. American Tower Request: We have not heard back from American Tower.
12. Spreadsheet of agreements: Mike asked Julie to bring an updated spreadsheet to next month's meeting.
13. Work on electric poles/transformers behind grade school: John said we decided to wait until the new linemen were here before we completed this project. It is now scheduled to be done either 12/27 or 12/28.
14. Lineman position: Adam started work last Wednesday and Tyler started today. Item can be taken off the agenda. Julie will get the website updated.
15. Shed: Nothing new.
16. Deerfield Trailer Court Electrical Problems/Repair: Dennis sent the letter to Dave Self and John said it's been working well so far. Item can be taken off the agenda.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resident Utility Bill: The committee reviewed the resident's usage and noted there had been some other months with similar usage. John said the resident's son contacted him and asked if they could have a one-time waiver like we give for water issues. Dennis said that one-time waiver is for unexplained occurrences and we know what happened here. John also said if this is a renter, maybe the resident could talk to the landlord since the water heater broke. While we are sorry this happened to the resident, the power went through the meter and we have to pay for the power too. The committee denied the resident's request to lower the bill.

Dennis advised the committee the pool lights have been moved and Davinroy plans to start demolition work next week.

Dennis said Shane talked to him about placing security cameras on the utility poles behind the car wash. Dennis said he could use one of the pole agreements and draft an agreement between the Village and Shane for use of the pole at a yearly fee of \$10 per pole per year. The committee agreed with the request.

John would like to put money in the budget for Christmas decorations since some of ours are very old and need to be replaced. We could purchase some after Christmas to get a better price. Dennis is not sure if we have any money in this year's budget.

Dennis said he was contacted by IMEA regarding Ron's position on the board. Ron's 4-year term is expiring and Ron is required to go off the board for one year before he can go back on for another 4-year term. Dennis passed around a proposed resolution which would appoint a new director to the Board. Dennis suggested either John or himself for the director. John said he would like to see Dennis be the director but he would also go to the meetings. Dennis will advise Ron.

We received our annual IMUA membership renewal. Dennis said the dues are paid for by IMEA but they need to know our revenue numbers. The committee decided not to contribute to the scholarship fund. Mike said he would like to go to the customer choice seminar in Collinsville hosted by IMEA on January 12, 2012. Dennis said he and Jane plan on attending as well.

Steve asked if we could provide residents with a report showing their total usage for the year and Dennis will talk to Jane about it.

Dennis advised the committee that the Health Insurance Advisory Committee met recently because our agent was able to find some alternative plans after that initial meeting with the committee. He explained the difference between the original recommended plan and the new plan is the original plan has an embedded deductible while the new plan has an aggregate deductible. With the aggregate deductible, for everyone except single employees, the entire family has a \$10,000 deductible which needs to be met before the insurance covers anything. The premium with the aggregate deductible plan is approximately \$36,000 lower than the recommended plan. With the premium savings, the maximum exposure decreases to \$456,443 which is less than last year's total exposure of \$463,480. After we add in the two new employees, the total exposure in 2012 will be \$472,425. Dennis said the committee is revising their recommendation to adopt the new aggregate deductible plan with GHP and also to match the new deductible to this plan (\$5,000 for single employees and \$10,000 per family) without limiting individual family members to the \$5,000 reimbursement cap. The committee agreed with the Health Insurance Advisory Committee's recommendations.

C. **GENERAL CONCERNS:** None.

D. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

E. **ADJOURN:** *Trustee Steve Smith motioned to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. and Trustee Ray Matchett seconded the motion. All voting aye, the motion carried.*



Julie Polson
Office Manager



3400 CONIFER DRIVE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62711
217-789-4632 / FAX 217-789-4642

January 9, 2012

RECEIVED

JAN 11 2012

Dear IMUA Utility Member/Scholarship Program Contact:

Since its inception 12 years ago, the IMUA Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$28,000 to 56 students from 25 different IMUA communities statewide. It has proven to be a very popular and successful program, providing achievement, recognition and a measure of college financial assistance to hundreds of outstanding high school seniors in public-power communities throughout Illinois.

Enclosed are informational materials regarding the **2012 IMUA Scholarship Program**. These include an *application form, 2012 program guidelines, questions sheet and customized news release*. As the primary IMUA contact for your municipality, I'm asking that you distribute copies of these materials to the media outlets and high schools in your respective area. In particular, I suggest you contact teachers of senior English, Civics and Journalism courses who might want to include the essay competition as part of an extra credit project for students in their respective classes. *If you'd like, IMUA staff can assist you with the distribution of these materials, so please feel free to contact Tammy Hall at IMUA at (217) 789-4632 or thall@imea.org, should you like assistance in this regard.*

As in the past, *there is no obligation or fee for IMUA members who participate in the program.* However, any monetary donations to this worthwhile program are always welcome. Further, all donations are fully allocated to the program and in some instances, *may be tax deductible*. If you'd like to contribute, I ask that you consider making a **\$75 minimum** donation in support of this year's program.

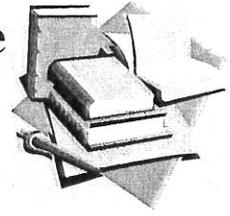
I strongly encourage your participation in the program. That's because IMUA and its members have realized a number of positive benefits from the competition itself. First, scholarship recipients in IMUA member communities have enjoyed a significant amount of goodwill, recognition and publicity generated by the awards presentations themselves. Second, the program offers your municipality the opportunity to increase public awareness about the vital role your utility plays in local economic development and growth. Third, and perhaps most important of all, it enables the youth of your community to better understand the nature of the many diverse and complex energy issues and challenges facing consumers and the public power industry today. As always, please feel free to contact **Ed Cobau** or **Tammy Hall** at **(217) 789-4632** should you have any questions regarding the program or require assistance with distribution of these materials.

On behalf of IMUA and the members of its Scholarship Judging Committee, we look forward to your participation, and wish you and your community's students the best of luck in this year's competition!

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Gaden, President & CEO, IMUA

**Illinois Municipal Utilities Association & the
City/Village of _____
2012 Scholarship Program Application**



Your Name: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Village: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Utility Account Number: _____

Utility Billing Address: _____

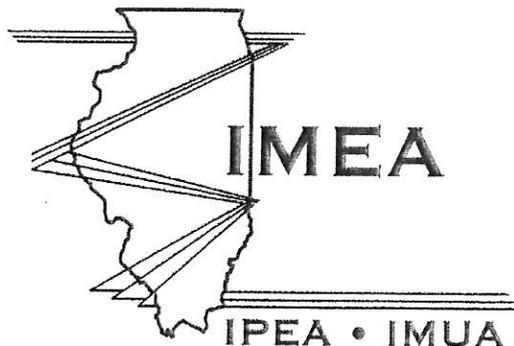
High School: _____

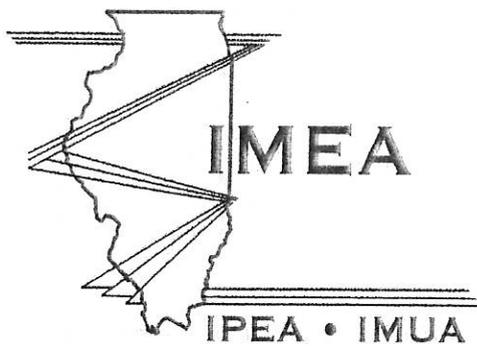
Educational Institution you plan to attend: _____

Please list any extracurricular activities or awards (use separate sheet of paper if needed):

Please attach a copy of transcripts and completed essay of 500 words or less and mail to:

**Illinois Municipal Utilities Association
Attention: Scholarship Committee
3400 Conifer Drive
Springfield, IL 62711
Postmark by Friday, March 9, 2012**





IMUA 2012 Scholarship Program Student Guidelines

Program Purposes:

To promote and recognize scholastic achievement; and,
To demonstrate the advantages of and the issues faced by municipally-owned and operated utilities.

Eligibility and Guidelines:

1. High school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are residential consumers of an IMUA member utility may submit written essays to win a \$500 scholarship.
2. Students must complete the enclosed application and submit, along with a copy of their transcripts, an essay of 500 words or less, typewritten and double-spaced, with the following information included on the cover:
 - Student's first and last name, home address, phone number and e-mail address.
3. Essay should **NOT** mention the student's hometown or hometown utility by name.
4. Sources of information regarding municipal utilities and utility-related issues can be found in the reference section of your library, periodicals, the Internet or individuals employed by your local municipal utility. Search phrases might include: *municipal utility; local ownership; municipalization; public power; public gas system; utility deregulation; Public Utility Holding Company Act (PUHCA); public interest; and, municipal utility rates*. There are many other sources as well. The following websites may also contain information helpful in writing your essay:
 - American Public Power Association (www.publicpower.org)
 - American Public Gas Association (www.apga.org)
 - Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (www.imea.org)
 - Illinois Municipal Utilities Association (www.imea.org, then click on the "IMUA link")
 - Illinois Public Energy Agency (www.imea.org, then click on the "IPEA link")
5. Essays **MUST** address your choice of any one of the following three (3) issues/questions:

1) **Q. Electric** - *Electric-powered vehicles are gaining popularity among consumers as an alternative to gasoline-fueled vehicles. Despite that growing popularity, gasoline-fueled vehicles still hold a number of advantages over electric-powered cars. Given that, what can be done to encourage greater use of electric-powered vehicles among consumers? What impact do you see their use having on our state, local and national economies? What particular challenges do you do they pose for the electric distribution systems of local municipalities, and why?

*Note: Includes Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs), Extended Range Electric Vehicles (EREVs) and Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs).

2) **Q. Natural Gas** - Shale gas holds great promise as an alternate form of energy to help supplement America's overall energy needs, both now and in the future. However, a number of environmental concerns pose a challenge to the further development of shale gas reserves, including a process known as hydraulic fracturing. In light of that, what can be done to help alleviate these concerns so that the development of shale gas can continue? What impact do you see shale gas having on America's overall energy picture, and why?

3) **Q. Water** – Water remains a precious and often scarce resource throughout certain regions of our country and even around the globe, with a very real danger of it running low on supply in some areas in the not-too-distant future. Given that, what can be done to ensure that adequate supplies of water will continue to be available to those who need it? What technologies, methods and practices do you see as being instrumental in helping accomplish that goal? Should water be regulated as a commodity in those areas where its scarcity is prevalent, and why or why not?

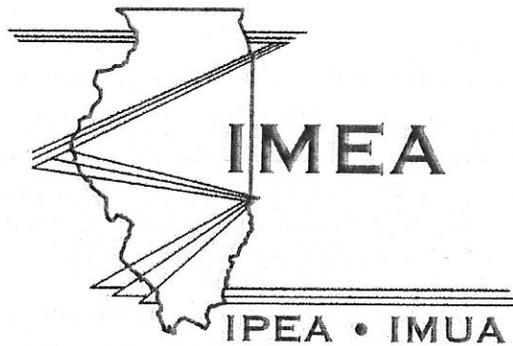
6. The deadline for submitting written essays is **Friday, March 9, 2012**. Please send your essay, transcripts and completed application to the address listed on the bottom of the application.
7. A total of **four (4) finalists** will be chosen by the IMUA Scholarship Committee. Each finalist will receive a finalist certificate and a \$500 award from IMUA. **Winners will be announced sometime in April.**

GOOD LUCK!

*PARTNERS IN DELIVERING
EXCELLENCE IN UTILITY SERVICES.*

ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AGENCY
ILLINOIS PUBLIC ENERGY AGENCY
ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOCIATION
WWW.IMEA.ORG

2012 IMUA Scholarship Program Essay Questions

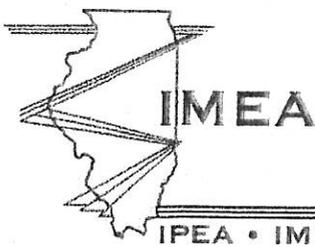


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2) Q. Natural Gas - Shale gas holds great promise as an alternate form of energy to help supplement America's overall energy needs, both now and in the future. However, a number of environmental concerns pose a challenge to the further development of shale gas reserves, including a process known as hydraulic fracturing. In light of that, what can be done to help alleviate these concerns so that the development of shale gas can continue? What impact do you see shale gas having on America's overall energy picture, and why?

3) Q. Water - Water remains a precious and often scarce resource throughout certain regions of our country and even around the globe, with a very real danger of running low on supply in some areas in the not-too-distant future. Given that, what can be done to help ensure that adequate supplies of water will continue to be available to those who need it? What technologies, methods and practices do you see as being instrumental in helping accomplish that goal? Should water be regulated as a commodity in those areas where its scarcity is prevalent, and why or why not?



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January __, 2012

2012 IMUA Scholarship Program Applications Available

The City/Village of _____, in partnership with the Illinois Municipal Utilities Association (IMUA), is again offering a scholarship competition program for eligible high school seniors. Each eligible applicant is asked to submit an application and an essay of 500 words or less addressing their choice of one of three utility-related questions (*see attached questions sheet*).

Applicants must be **high school seniors** whose parents or legal guardians are residential customers of the City/Village of _____ Municipal Utility.

According to _____, superintendent for the City/Village of _____, the program has a dual purpose: 1) to promote and recognize scholastic achievement; and, 2) to create greater awareness among young adults of the many issues facing consumers and public power municipalities today.

“Today’s energy providers, including municipally-owned and operated utilities, face a myriad of economic, environmental and other challenges which warrant creative and innovative solutions,” _____ said. “Creating a great awareness of these issues among tomorrow’s leaders can be the first step in helping to determine effective, long-term solutions, both now and into the future,” he added.

This will be the 12th year IMUA has offered the program.

“Since its inception in 2000, IMUA’s scholarship program has proven to be a very popular and successful program for IMUA, its members and the communities it serves,” said Kevin M. Gaden, President & CEO of the IMUA. “Public power communities offer their customers a number of cost, service and other advantages compared to those served by other energy providers. IMUA’s scholarship program is another example of how municipally-owned and operated utility systems can help return value to their communities while at the same time, provide a measure of financial assistance to those students who wish to pursue a college education.”

The deadline for submitting applications and essays is **Friday, March 9, 2012**. A committee of municipal utility officials will select a total of **four (4) finalists**, each of whom will receive a certificate and \$500 scholarship award. **Winners will be announced sometime in April.**

Organized in 1948, IMUA is a statewide trade association which represents the unified interests of, and provides services to, 64 municipalities which operate their own electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and wastewater treatment systems. Applicants may contact IMUA for more information at **(217) 789-4632**.

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2012 IMUA Scholarship Program Questions

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3) Q. Water – Water remains a precious and often scarce resource throughout certain regions of our country and even around the globe, with a very real danger of running low on supply in some areas in the not-too-distant future. Given that, what can be done to help ensure that adequate supplies of water will continue to be available to those who need it? What technologies, methods and practices do you see as being instrumental in helping accomplish that goal? Should water be regulated as a commodity in those areas where its scarcity is prevalent, and why or why not?

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