

MINUTES OF THE AUBURN MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2014  
AT 4:00 PM

Members Present: Denny Zach, Chairperson, Krste Biljanoski, Mike Luksa and Peter Ruzicka

Members Absent: Jim Wride, Nancy Hussey, John Montone, and Mike Daley

Staff Present: Anthony DeCaro

Staff Absent: Doug Selby and Bill Lupien

Chairperson Denny Zach called the meeting to order on Monday, September 8, 2014 at 4:00 pm.

Approval of meeting minutes. No quorum, approval tabled until next month.

**Public to be heard:**

None

**Hydroelectric Facilities:**

Mill Street: Anthony DeCaro updated the status and advised that all they were waiting for now according to Gene and Rich is the permission from NYSEG to do the power run. The testing is completed but just waiting for the interconnect go ahead. When production is started, that is when training will be provided. The telemetry work has not been done either as yet. They are still trying to get Siemens to coordinate that with our software integrator. None of the alarms are hooked up, none of our remote capacity back to the plant is done at all yet. We're still waiting for them to get the p.o. to our integrator so that we can set that up. That will be a wireless link from the station to the plant. That won't interfere with startup or generation of power, that would just simply be a delay on our ability to monitor it remotely. Once they that okay, they're going to start up and we're going to start training on this. Anthony reported that he did speak to the regulator and there's some paperwork that has to go back and forth. He contacted Siemens and they're going to make sure that that's done. This will not cause a delay. We're solely waiting for NYSEG. There was discussion on this.

Denny advised that he did meet with them when they made the last change on the metering which they agreed to do the pole primary metering. He told them that if they do the upgrade down the road, don't look at us to jump from 4160 and if they have to make any metering changes it's their baby because they're metering. Anthony advised that we did put in the pack so we're ready for a transformer and the wiring is pulled. There was discussion on this. There was also discussion on the replacement of a 50-foot pole with a 50-foot pole. There was discussion on the matter of the "brake" not being set to hold the turbine, it's turning. The gate is not closed all the way and they say that it's intended for that to spin like that all the time. There was more discussion on this. Denny advised that he had asked them about that and was told that it was a

gravity flow off an oil system and they wanted the turbine to keep pumping oil plus the fact that they don't want the bearing sitting in one spot. Anthony concurred that this was the explanation that he got too. More discussion ensued. Anthony advised that FERC within the next couple of years is going to require us to put in a stop gate and went on to elaborate on this issue. There was more discussion on the trash gate as well. Peter Ruzicka inquired if these concerns could be put into a letter and specifically send it to Doug and copy the Siemen's contractors. These questions should be asked in writing. This was discussed.

North Division Street: Anthony advised that permission was finally granted to pull it and they did find a hydraulic line broken inside but it was not one of the lines that we repaired and advised that when they pulled it the last time, they checked everything and repaired what needed to be repaired. It was run on the deck before it was put back in. When it was pulled, they found a line that had sheared that we have to replace and it's a different line. It's the hydraulic system that affects the controls. He discussed how it works. He also advised that they were hoping to get it disassembled and repaired within the next couple of days. Future use of the site was discussed.

The Board went on to discuss the sale of the recs. Anthony went on to advise that a condition of the grant was that Brian would get an assistant and that has not materialized.

### **LFGTE Facility**

Denny advised that he had met with Doug and advised that a commitment had been made to NYSEG and Denny was a little disappointed in the fact that numbers were not crunched. Peter Ruzicka advised that Council did not even discuss going back to NYSEG. There was no discussion on this at all. Net metering was then discussed.

Denny advised that the landfill has been running well with the gas production and he went on the discuss this with the Agency.

Denny also advised that the information flow between the Agency and Council has not been smooth and he advised that he is going to take the initiative at least once a quarter to do a spreadsheet on what we're making and what we could be. He went on to discuss his reasoning for this. Peter Ruzicka thought that it should be done more frequently than once every three months.

There was discussion on some of the issues regarding the co-gen facility including the noise problem. Demand charge and remedies was also discussed.

Denny advised of a solar municipal financing webinar being conducted and will send the information to all who are interested. He went on to discuss this.

Denny also wants the Agency to recreate a mission statement for Council in order to get into a better working relationship.

Denny advised that the City had entered into a service agreement with Energy Advantage and they are going to spend \$5,000 to have Energy Advantage do an energy audit.

Remote net metering was discussed.

Peter Ruzicka advised that we should have been better aware of the NYSEG hookup. He will ask Doug about this.

Denny discussed the natural gas prices and the fact that the City signed for the natural gas at a high rate, rather than a low one.

Motion to adjourn made by Peter Ruzicka, seconded by Mike Luksa. Adjourned.