

## Utilities Commission Meeting 23 May 2022

**Participants** Chair Buddy Davenport, Vice Chair Rich Hawes, Secretary Treasurer Lillian Conrad, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer James Smith, Commissioner L. Kelly, Jr., Counsel Thomas Cloud (by phone) and GM/CEO Joe Bunch.

**Safety Message** TRAFFIC SAFETY FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY WORKERS:  
Improvement include safer reflective signs and battery-operated LED lights.

**Consent Items - All unanimously approved** after (c) was pulled for discussion that centered on a project cost increase of \$1.3M caused by a drastic change in scope.

- a. Minutes of Regular U.C. Meeting Held 4-25-22**
- b. Approval of Cost Sharing Agreement** with City of NSB for Washington Street Streetscape Project
- c. Budget Ratification** for North Atlantic Water Improvements Project **and Approval of Cost Share Agreement** Between UCNSB and City of NSB
- d. Approval of Continuing Professional Service Agreement** – RSQ 07-22 – Grant Research and Writing
- e. Ratification Award of ITB No. 13-22 to Gresco** Utility Supply Pole and Padmount Transformers
- f. Approval of Interest on Customer Deposits**

### General Manager's Report

- a. Financial Status** – April YTD Operating loss of 2.4M reduced to \$.4M; supply and demand problems are causing the “average start time to completion” to increase from 165 days in 2018 to over 365 days for 2022.
- b. Presentation on Solar Power Update** There is an ongoing Department of Justice investigation into Chinese manufactured solar panels.
- c. Introductions** of new UC staff: Josef Grusauskas, Director of Water Resources and Heather Carrizales, Manager, Human Resources
- d. 2021 Consumer Confidence Report** Water quality passes all EPA standards. Read Report at <https://www.ucnsb.org/wqr> or call 386-427-1361 for a paper copy

### Commission Counsel's Report

The UC is prohibited from funding any type of affordable housing thru our revenue by FL statutes/laws as well as our bond covenants. This will be communicated to NSB Commissioner Randy Hartman who raised the idea at last meeting between the UC & CC.

### New Business

- a. Scheduled Public Hearings** will be held in June & July on special EV charging rates and on increased costs for proposed Street Lighting.
- b. Presentation on Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure / Preparing for the Future** Anticipated growth of EVs from 6 M last year to over 18.7 M by 2030. The first local charging stations will be located at Palmetto Street Advent Health in October, soon followed by City Hall, Coronado Civic Center. Live Oak Culture Center and the main parking lot on Canal will come later. Shell Chargers are the vendor. 80% of charging is done at home by current EV owners

### Commissioners Comments

- **Comm. Smith inquired about rebates** specifically regarding Air Conditioners and was told existing rebates are still available at <https://www.ucnsb.org/conservation-programs>
- **Chairman Davenport inquired about status of UC relocating Fleet facility** from Swoope site. GM-CEO indicated it will be probably 1.5 to 2 years before completion of UC relocation. The City can use that area for additional boat trailer parking following relocation.
- **Chairman Davenport also inquired about status of septic to sewer** specifically Silver Sands and was told that funding from City or County for Aqua Golf (City) and Silver Sands (County) will move on to grant writing stage with today's approval of Consent Item d. Engineering will meet within 2 weeks to discuss all UC projects with the grant consultant. Chairman Davenport suggested that County Councilman Danny Robins is very supportive of water conservation projects and getting septic tanks off the water.