

**ELECTRIC ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Regular meeting held May 6, 2024

B. Regular meeting held June 3, 2024

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Power Cost Adjustment

B. FY 25 Budget

4. ROLL CALL:

5. ADJOURN:

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, ADA COORDINATOR, AT 728-9740, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

F.S.S. 286.0105 "If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purpose they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based." The City of Leesburg does not provide this verbatim record.

**ELECTRIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
CITY HALL, 501 W MEADOW STREET
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Leesburg Electric Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024, at Leesburg City Hall. Chairperson Morris called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Board Member Jack Braton
Board Member Dan Robuck
Board Member Marc Schwartz
Vice-Chair Jessica Flinn
Chairperson Timothy Morris

Also present were City Manager (CM) Al Minner, City Clerk (CC) J. Andi Purvis, the news media, and others.

INVOCATION

Vice-Chair Jessie Flinn gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Regular meeting held April 1, 2024

Chairperson Morris asked if there were any corrections to the April 1, 2024, minutes. If not, he would entertain a motion. Board member Robuck made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Board member Flinn. Chairperson Morris stated all in favor to signify by saying aye, oppose same sign, Motion carried unanimously.

3. PRESENTATION :

A. CIP's (System Improvements)

CM Minner said Brad had a scheduled vacation scheduled, so sitting in for him is Chris Atkins, one of the Deputy Directors for the Electric Department.

Chris Adkins started by introducing Greg David, the other Deputy Director, and Marie Carter who helps with the budget and financing, as being present. He then started his presentation. A couple of things on here are going to be stuff that has already been talked about so we will move fairly quickly. He showed a slide of the service area for the Leesburg Electric department that had been previously presented. Talking about revenues, we have residential sales that have been talked about before, as well as commercial sales, both demand and non-demand. We also have rental light agreements that bring in some revenue, streetlights, pole attachment fees, where other utilities are attached to our poles, and they have to pay us a fee. Those bring in revenue as well as other charges for change of services, new services, and meter tampers. We also have a surge protection program, meter treaters, that are rented out on a monthly basis to residents to help with surges throughout the whole house, which also brings in revenue. The customer aid to construction is part of new construction and we will go over that in just a minute. CIP funding sources, some of this you have already gone over with the city manager, and the renewal and replacement. Part of the funding for the customer aid and construction is associated with new projects and the amount varies depending on the revenue that new construction project is going to bring in. That is a cost that costs us to do the work and that is one component in the revenue that is going to add to the system as a component as well. We have projected revenues and possible grant funding. He worked on grant funding for DOE, but unfortunately, we were not able to receive that funding. We also have another ten grants out right now to the Florida Department of Emergency Management for some projects we would like to do, and hopefully we will get funding for those. **Board member Robuck** asked how often grants are actually awarded to us. **CM Minner** stated in the Electric Department we have not done them much. We are now just getting into them to try and increase the revenues we have coming in to do some projects. **Board member Flinn** asked if this an application process. **CM Minner** replied yes ma'am. The only thing he would add to that too, as far as the electric side of the house, FEMA money is considered a grant, so those are typically available on a declared store for utilities. Few municipal electric utility grants, up until recently in the electric department, were non-existent, so the grants really have more to do with the federal government doing some different things with electrification, going solar, and these types of things. The grant stuff we applied for in the past six months that we got rejected, is a brand-new program from the new administration. In his thirty years, this is the first time they ever heard of grants for municipal utilities. **Chairperson Morris** asked if the city has a grant writer. **CM Minner** replied internally.

DD Akins said moving on to the capital Improvement plan and system repairs, the capital improvement process is updated every five years and that supports long-term planning horizon. We do studies, analysis, and estimates to justify the plan. We ensure that net revenues for both capital and O&M are covered so that we can cover that plan. System repairs are unplanned things that go bump in the night, replacing, repairing, and upgrading things as needed and costs to provide utility service. Moving on to contingency plans, as per prudent industry practices, we do a study annually to look at the feeders and also the buses inside the substation to determine what loading we can expect in the future. The process involves doing outaging and what we call outaging a problem or planning for a problem and then trying to solve that with the system capabilities that we currently have. We identify restoration concerns, identify uncertain load situations, and identify opportunities to improve. Typically, not performed on loss of entire substation; however, this year because we have one of our substations down at north sub number one, we are running one transformer at that substation so we did do a contingency plan there to try to ensure that we can feed that load if the other transformer breaks. **Board member Flinn** asked for a definition of what unserved load situation means. **DD Akins** replied we have opportunities sometimes at the end of our lines when we know things are coming and those are right now unserved because we do not have any lines there. We know things are coming in that area and that is part of a consideration we have when we do these studies. **Board member Robuck** said one of the transformers that is currently

down, are we waiting on a new one? Is it maintenance or what? **DD Akins** said it has been down about two years, and we have been trying to fix it this whole time. We hope to be able to get some budgetary money for getting a new one ordered. **Board member Flinn** asked am I correct, at the last meeting did we not say that we had an inventory. **DD Akins** said we do have an inventory of transformers like would be at your house, but we do not have an inventory of substation grade transformers. **CM Minner** said not to interrupt because I see the cloud, so back to kind of the steps here so transmission lines into the substations, when you are driving down the road like over here and you see the big giant transformers in each substation there are two in each substation. Or over here at Cutrale, you see the two big high wires hooking into it, that is the type of transformer he was talking about. To put those in place you are talking a million bucks. When your lights go out and you hear a pop that is a pole mounted transformer, which is like \$3,500 on the transmission side. **Board member Flinn** said like the one that caught fire a couple years ago. **CM Minner** replied yes, over here at the east sub by Cutrale. **DD Akins** said that was actually Duke's transmission breaker for our transformer. **Board member Robuck** said, this is a different transformer that is down. **DD Akins** said yes, north substation on CR 468 and Marcel Way. **Board member Robuck** is it going to be replaced or did you say repaired? **DD Akins** replied we are working on repairing it, but it is a 1957 transformer that was rebuilt in 1992, so it is a little old. **CM Minner** said, just so everybody knows, we are paying attention here, so these things should not be like bumping the night kind of what the city is doing over at the north substation. About four years ago we replaced four transformers with the total cost on that project of four million bucks. That was a big deal. That was a big project at north substation, we identified that one of the two transformers was in very poor shape so that was replaced. What the strategy, and we will talk more about this next month when we do budget, but so now we are going back to kind of the second tier year of transformers that we want changed out. While we are telling you we got a transformer we want to change out it is sitting next to a brand new one so that should ease your mind a little bit. **Board Member Flinn** asked would we be able to get a map of the substations. **DD Akins** replied yes. **Board member Flinn** then asked what is the station directly across from Dr. Glover's office. **CM Minner** replied center. **DD Akins** said analysis is done at peak loading conditions. We got local loading issues large and new specific commercial or subdivision growth would fit in that category and also incremental issues over time. More people put more things in their house, need more electricity, so we see those things in our study as well. We also want to improve redundancy and switching configurations and all the feeders that we have, have opportunities to switch that load in the field. We can do it both at the office or in the field. We want to try to improve those opportunities so we can always bring as many people back up as quickly as we can, then repair the damaged area. **Board member Robuck** asked are we actually seeing a typical residential customer, their load grow over time? **DD Akins** said in the study that we did this year it shows on the 10-year average about 2%, maybe a little bit more, 2.5% on an annual increase. The last three years he thinks the general growth was 7%, 4%, and then somewhere around 4% last year. **CM Minner** added just so you understand the gravity of 3% to 4% growth, he would say that is a solid good growth number. It is not too fast and it is not too slow. In our system when we did our initial reviews with the department heads here the other day, I called it we are not outgrowing the weather. We could have it cloudy at 3:00 on July 27th at 2 p.m. and that cloud could be significant enough to either increase or decrease our total cost by 3%. **DD Akins** added another thing to understand, we are looking at this week having hot weather and whenever you have multiple hot weather days in a row the increment ups the usage by customers because they are continually run their AC down. We see that growth on a rolling week basis during the summer. Targeted reliability improvements; we study outage trends and analysis. We have an outage management system that gives us a report, we run it weekly and monthly to determine what outages are going on in specific areas, pieces of equipment that are going out on a regular basis. We want to go out there and try to figure out what is wrong so that we can stop that outage from happening in the future. We look at sustained and momentary outages, fuse coordination, and isolation. We try to coordinate our system to where the least amount of people are out whenever a fault happens. A fuse will take it out or a piece of equipment will and we look at aged infrastructure, sometimes we have equipment

out there with some old wire that is brittle and it is easier to come down during wind storms. The available tools we have may add feeder reclosers which look down the line to see faults, deal with them, and isolate them, we are also working to develop what we call a FLISR (Fuse Location, Isolation and Restoration Scheme) system that monitors the system. Whenever it sees a fault it will automatically switch around and isolate that section. We used to have one in place out by the mall but that company has discontinued supporting it, so now we are trying to do that internally and we hope to have that up shortly. Potential capital improvement projects for a single year is Feeder L703, a reconductor that is a section in Fruitland Park. We have to have some upgrades there because we are seeing some growth on the north of Miller and also on Register Road and also on Spring Lake Road, which could potentially be coming. We need to plan to replace about 85 older poles, we have those poles inspected on an 8-year cycle and they tell us what poles need to be replaced due to aging or damage. East sub, Cutrale, has a transformer themselves that they own and that unit needs some work, which Cutrale will pay for all those costs. North sub, as I talked about before, we hope to order a replacement transformer for the transformer that is down the older one and the load tap changer that is what adjusts the voltage on the transformer, it is broken and we cannot get parts because of age so they trying their best to work through that. Maintaining a replacement of a system infrastructure as needed is just the damage equipment things that go break in the night. **Chairperson Morris** asked the transformer that has been down for two years, does that just not beg the question why invest the money to even repair it at this point. Have you not found workarounds that might be suitable? **DD Adkins** said one of the major reasons is that once we order, it can take two to three years to receive, so we are trying to do everything we can to get it back up. Even if we did have the capital money to do that, it still takes so long, we would still be down so we are trying to get it back up. **CM Minner** added that is a super good question and those are the kind of questions we have internally all the time; needs versus wants. All the substations can work with one transformer, the second one is the redundancy part of it. North substation is precarious because the biggest section on there, not that the villages are special, but that is the biggest load into that area. There is contingency plans so if the new new transformer goes out there are ways that we would refeed and close that off and re-route so we have coverage. The questions become the balancing act of where do you want your rates, how much do we make the electric department sweat. As far as things that we know we can cover and so these are the things that as we go through the budget process what strategies do we take. Those are the things that always kind of get rolled into the equation. Are we going to make do with the substation, we are not going to do a transformer this year, then okay we got to work with it and there will be a plan in place for how we do it. There is always a balancing act. **Chairperson Morris** was curious on their budget, if they do not spend all of their budget do they carry the remainder over to the next year or does it wipe the slate clean and start over again. **CM Minner** replied both. What does not go into what they do not spend goes into the category of an unrestricted reserve so the cash level increases which is actually a primary goal for fiscal year 25 for the electric fund to get their reserve levels back up to that ten to fifteen million dollar range. Electric used to sit around twenty million and as we have discussed it has dropped off for a multitude of different reasons. He does not think you need to be back up as high as twenty million but right now we are sitting around seven million and that does need to come up, so yes, if they have cash left over that goes into the bank. Then we start new so there is not a spend it or lose it mentality. In fact, at this stage I would be like do not spend it and we need to squirrel it away. **Board member Robuck** said when you talk about cash reserves, you mentioned like it is a million dollars for a transformer but you cannot have one for two years so you do not need a million dollars on reserve for a transformer, you would need a million dollars in two years. **CM Minner** replied yes, but then that is balanced with all the other needs too. Remember the truck issues and some of that is like some of those numbers are encumbered in the cash graph, so even though we are saying we have seven million bucks you know some of that is going to be restricted for incumbrances like the trucks we have ordered but have not yet come in. If we do that, we will have an encumbered number, it is ordered and paid upon delivery. **Chairperson Morris** said but you have the money set aside. **Board member Robuck** said it kind of washes out. **CM Minner** replied yes.

DD Adkins stated some potential capital improvement projects are going to be a multi-year initiatives, west substation, that is in the plans. We hope to be able to do that to help with the load on the west side of the service territory. **Board member Flinn** asked where the west substation is. **DD Adkins** replied it has not been built yet. We just purchased that property. **CM Minner** said it is two acres north of 44, next to Pembroke Pines. **Chairperson Morris** clarified, Whitney on Whitney Road, that one. **CM Minner** replied yes. **DD Adkins** stated we also have to replace existing AMI, that is the metering system that takes all of the readings for reads and also allows us in operations to do a couple things with turning on and turning off meters remotely. That is being project managed by Tino Anthony in IT, he is working through that, and so we hope to have a resolution soon. **Board member Robuck** said it is good branding AMI Solutions, much less controversial than Smartgrid. **Board member Schwartz** asked can you quickly bounce back? I think it was your first slide with the revenue about a surge protection program. Can you explain that please? **DD Adkins** replied we have a certain protection device that goes in between the meter socket and the meter that helps with whole home surges. We lease those out for use at a monthly fee. Those have a warranty with the company, not on us, but they warrantee them and insure them, so if something does get burned up, they contact the meter treater company to deal with claims and stuff. We just provide the service. They are good for about ten years and then we have to change them out on a rotation scheduled manner. **Board member Schwartz** said he is intrigued by this. Is there an upfront installation fee and is this an ongoing monthly cost? Do you know what that number is? **DD Adkins** replied it is a monthly charge around \$13 a month. **Board member Schwartz** asked if he had any sense as to what percentage of homes have taken advantage of this. **DD Adkins** stated he did not, but could get the actual numbers. **CM Minner** thinks it is a pretty small number if he remembers correctly. We have a designated fund for that, so we put it as an expense, and then we put it into a fund and that is what we use to purchase the surge protectors. He believes we throw 100 grand at it, so about a 100 grand is sitting there to purchase the surge protectors as needed. Hazard a guess, maybe 2,200 customers out of 27,000-ish. **Board member Schwartz** asked how do they know it exists, how do they know that this is an option? **CM Minner** believes it is on the website and by some other advertising we do. **DD Adkins** added that whenever they go into customer service, a customer service representative will let them know whenever they turn on their electric service. **Chairperson Morris** thinks he remembers seeing it on one of the monthly statements. **CM Minner** agreed it is through customer service, the monthly newsletter, and those types of things. **Board member Braton** thinks, to him, that more people would take advantage of this if they knew about it. **Board member Flinn** said she did not know about it. **Board member Braton** said in any business, he hates to see revenue being left on the table. Joking, **Board member Robuck** added if we were a private company, we would make people opt out of it showing up on their bill. **CM Minner** said everybody loves it, thinks it is great until they wonder why they pay an extra \$15. **Board member Robuck** said no, we cannot really do that. **Board member Schwartz** asked if it is like the cable box Wi-Fi router model. You know once It is in your home and it just kind of gets added on, but the difference is that this is providing a specific service of protecting your expensive electronics. He knows there are a lot of electrical companies that offer this and that is why he was kind of surprised because he did not know that it was even an option through the city. **Board member Braton** suggested putting it inside a mailer outside the normal electric bill. **Board member Schwartz** said if he was not mistaken, depending on your home and how it is wired, some may require more than one surge protector. **DD Adkins** replied it depends on how many meters you have. These are plugged in at the meter and there are some meters that because of the size, because of the load, we do not have meter treaters that would cover those. **Board member Schwartz** said so not per panel. **DD Adkins** replied no.

4. DISCUSSION ITEM:

A. Power Cost Adjustment Update - presented by City Manager, Al Minner

Chairperson Morris thanked DD Adkins for the presentation. Moving on to Discussion item, #4A, he turned the meeting over to the city manager.

CM Minner wanted to make sure everybody got the email that we are going to be able to bring for April the power cost adjustment down to a penny per kilowatt. That knocks about 10 bucks off your average thousand bill. As far as what that looks like right now, that brings it down from \$127.94 to \$117.94, which puts us about 9th now in the state. So, right now, we are about average on the Muni bills with the average being \$127.41 from the last FMPA report. He thinks that is an exciting thing. It has not been at that level for a little bit of time and actually we are optimistic, hopefully we can keep it there for a little while. Most of the reports coming in from FMPA and those type of things say we are looking at about \$80 power for the all requirements project so that for Leesburg means about \$85 bucks the way things break down. Hopefully it looks like there is some stability there, especially with some of the hedging that we have done and the market being a little more stable. Hopefully, we can keep it there for a little bit.

B. Teacher Location Incentive Concept - presented by Board member Marc Robertz-Schwartz

Chairperson Morris turned the meeting over to Board member Schwartz for item #4B, teacher location and incentive concept. **Board member Schwartz** said this is a concept that has been batted around for quite some time in different ways. He believes at one point the conversation was could we discount electric rates for teachers in the area and there are all kinds of reasons why that would probably be a challenge, but in working with the school district and superintendent Cornegy he was able to get some specific numbers. To put this very simply over the last three years there has been an average of 206 new employees in what is considered the Leesburg feeder district, that is the nine schools that make up elementary, middle, and high school teachers. If all 206 of those were to move into this area and needed utility services turned on; water, electric, and gas, if they needed all three of those, we are talking about a maximum of \$4,200 to facilitate that benefit to teachers as an incentive to come to the Leesburg area schools. We are in a unique situation because there are homes that are served by Leesburg utilities, there are not a lot of other places throughout the county where you would have to go to the big guys, if you will. You know Al talked about Duke and Seco and all that and he felt like this might be an opportunity to kind of bring this concept back up to everybody. What he proposes is a 2-year beta test to basically look at it and say is this actually a benefit. Do teachers perceive it as something that is going to be of value to them. Can the school district use this as a way to go to other entities maybe it is cable, maybe cell, whatever the services might be, and say look the City of Leesburg's utilities have stepped up and are willing to do this, what might you be willing to do to help us put together an incentive package to draw the best and brightest here at the Leesburg schools. **Board member Braton** loves the idea, just questions why the private schools in the area are not included, like St Paul's, First Academy, and the Montessori school as they all have employees who live in Leesburg. **Board member Schwartz** agrees they do and he thinks there are two ways to look at this. Let's start somewhere and also when you are looking at the public schools, he cannot speak to necessarily what the compensation numbers are for some of the private schools. **Board member Flinn** said she has several friends who work at First Academy and she knows they make what a teacher at Leesburg High School makes, so she would be curious if that would not be something that could be offered in consideration for them. Without trying to sound terrible, the people who send their kids there may be rich, but the teachers there are not. She would definitely just offer that as something to be considered with this because it is an amazing idea and we should be trying to recruit and bring in people and give them some compensation for it. She is just curious if the private school teachers should not be considered also. **Board member Schwartz** thinks that opens up a much larger conversation about the public schools that are taxpayer funded versus the private schools. In the presentation as you are probably aware Lake county is the 19th largest county and funded 64 of 67 per

pupil. Again, it is not to completely dismiss and we could have a dynamic conversation about first responders, what about I would love to see after two years, after we take a step back and say okay of the potential pool how many took advantage of this. The school district, and we have a couple representatives from the school district here tonight, will they be able to come back to us and say because of these types of things we were able to recruit teachers who maybe were on the fence, and selfishly while they represent Lake County, we represent Leesburg. Did we maybe tilt somebody over to Leesburg that maybe may have gone to Clermont? Yes, let's keep them in Lake County, if at all possible, but let's move to Leesburg if we can. **Chairperson Morris** said he does not get at inverse what is being said. He is looking at if a teacher moves to the Leesburg area why should they not get this regardless of whether they work in Clermont or anywhere else. We are going to offer the program to the teacher who is moving into our area. If you are picking and choosing if it is in the Leesburg area, there is two schools that do not buy City of Leesburg electric that are on here. They are in our area, but they do not buy the electric. **Board member Flinn** asked which schools. **Chairperson Morris** said that would be Treadway and Villages Elementary. That is why he was thinking about the inverse way to say if a teacher moves in you get this ability to have this forgiven regardless because it is going to help the school system. **Board member Schwartz** understands where he is coming from, but does not necessarily see the connection. If you have an independent citizen who has accepted a position working at a school that is outside, because they do not really have the option whether they purchase Leesburg electric or not, it is where they are in the zone for those services. It might be somebody who is living in Fruitland Park but works at the Village Elementary. In his mind, based on the criteria suggested, it is a preliminary plan that they would qualify for based on where they are residing. **Chairperson Morris** said he was trying to make it merrier for everybody. **Board member Robuck** said this kind of falls into when he was on the commission, not very popular, but you know the libertarian comes out and like an incentive for someone is a tax on everyone else. He agrees our teachers are underpaid, but does not think it is the electric companies, our goal should be to give low rates to everyone. He has a lot of employees that he knows struggle to make ends meet and could benefit from this and he thinks they are every bit as deserving as teachers are. He just absolutely hates incentives based on job titles. He is against every exemption for your property tax, save our homes all that, he thinks if we are going to talk about stuff like this, it should be income based not job based. So, a teacher whose husband is a doctor is going to get the same thing as anyone else. The program means well and he can absolutely see why it probably would be very popular. Certainly, when he was on the commission, he lost about every single one of these votes, but that is just how he views it. **Board member Schwartz** understands there are income-based programs though not a safety net type of program. He thought there was a fund. **CM Minner** replied the utility billing assistance program. **Board member Robuck** mentioned the fire assessment. **CM Minner** said there is some sort of program, you can get an income waiver for the fire assessment. **Chairperson Morris** said this is a discussion item. **Board member Schwartz** thinks we, as an advisory board, can generate enough support among ourselves and, as he understands it, then the city manager would bring it to the commission with our recommendation for consideration. Ultimately it is going to be their decision anyway. **Chairperson Morris** asked if board member Schwartz was asking for a vote on this tonight or just to take it to the city commission and see what they say. **Board member Schwartz** said that was his understanding. Would that be accurate AI? **CM Minner** replied yes, the Electric Advisory board is new, so we are all a little bit in uncharted territory about how we go about these things. His suggestion would be to make a motion to say we recommend this and go from there. If there is not the support to do this, which he thinks was what Mark was asking for, it can be something still flushed out at the commission level. His anticipation, not to throw any curveballs, is as we move into the budget process, we will work with you all for the budget and that will be the next meeting. That budget will then go before the commission, he thinks first part of July, so if we need two meetings to kind of bang out the budget and go over stuff, his thought process would be to give the commission a little bit of an update on what you all have been doing this year. We kind of started in December, so as part of the budget process of the electric fund to the commission, will say hey this is what we have been doing and that is your positive or negative

vote. However, you would want to do it would probably be one of the bullets to stick on there and saying hey they talked about this. Do not know if that gets their attention or not, but if you guys affirmatively say this is something we want to do collectively then yeah, he would bring that to the commission right away, which would require a resolution for them to approve and put into place. Does that make sense?

Board member Flinn answered yes, just making sure based off the paperwork we have in front of us that the utilities, this would cost them about \$4,200. **Board member Schwartz** said if all on average, using the number of 206 employees and if every single one of them moved into this area and were using all three Leesburg utilities; electric, gas, and water, then that is what the maximum number would be based on that average number. **Board member Robuck** and this is not just teachers this is anyone who works for the schools as written. **Board member Flinn** said so, it could also be a school janitor. **Board member Schwartz** replied correct. **Board member Flinn** said okay, which by the way, hands up for the janitors, people who stack chairs and clean toilets, especially this time of year, are her heroes. **Board member Schwartz** said his whole mindset on this was that this was an opportunity, number one, for us as an advisory board to maybe put something out there that might not have been flushed out to this degree. In two years, we may look at this and say you know what it really did not make much of a difference or we may find that it was a valuable opportunity. We did try to figure out putting together specific criteria that was going to be very tangible and very quantifiable and holding the teachers accountable, you know they have got to fulfill a full year of employment. **Board member Flinn** asked what would be the contract basis on this. Would they have to work for the school for a year and then do they pay it back if they do not fulfill that contract. **Board member Schwartz** said typically, and correct him if wrong, but his understanding is typically they are signing annual contracts so right there we know coming in they have proof of paperwork. So is moving to the area to take a job at Leesburg Elementary, they are within the service area of Leesburg electric, here is a copy of their one-year agreement we are going to waive the \$205 maximum dollars for turning on their electric. **Chairperson Morris** asked who is going to monitor all of this. **Board member Robuck** said if you put the criteria in place and then you walk away, like if they do not fulfill their contract, you are not going to go back and get that \$205, it is going cost you more than that to do it. **Board member Flinn** asked would you have a different employee just to cover this. **CM Minner** replied no. **Board member Schwartz** said it is pretty minimal when talking about 29,000 customers. **CM Minner** said it would be a de minimis type of administrative thing. **Chairperson Morris** agrees with Dan to give it to them and if they do not fulfill their part or whatever as it does not hurt their credit right. **Board member Schwartz** said we could garnish their future wages at their next school district. **Chairperson Morris** said his only concern was the inclusiveness of it. He thinks geographically it should be in the City of Leesburg utility area. Whoever actually moves to the City of Leesburg that works for the Lake County School System. **Board member Robuck** said from a utility perspective all we should care about is that they have Leesburg utilities, right. **Chairperson Morris** said that is where he was headed. The whole goal is to get people here and they are going to spend money downtown or wherever. **Board member Schwartz** agrees with that. Definitely an economic impact if we can recruit people to the area. **Board member Robuck** said hopefully get tired of the drive to Clermont and they want to teach in Leesburg. **Chairperson Morris** asked if the school system representatives had anything to say. **Guido Zamora**, HR Director, said they agree, and would love to see this devotion pass. They can make this program part of the relocation package and inform their applicants when they attend the job fairs and it could be another incentive that we can provide. As far as being able to confirm their employee with us within this area it is very easy for us to provide that employee a verification letter of employment that they can submit whenever they are registering for services. This is very easy for us to be able to conceive from our department to that new employee going into the area and can be very thankful and honored partners in this. **Chairperson Morris** asked if they are aware of anybody else in the state doing this. **Quiana Peterson**, Instructional Recruiter, said there are a couple of school districts in the south that have started looking at trying to do something similar, but nothing that she is aware of with utilities in the State of Florida. Much of what they have been able to do or offer some sort of discount for like housing with apartment complexes and such. She thinks she heard

about a school district in another state that was able to do that. There is not a lot of them here in Florida where they are able to make that happen but a lot of them are trying to do that, offer incentives for a specific area that we have difficulty in recruiting. She did say as the recruiter on the teacher side of the house that most of her candidates are recruited into the Leesburg schools and are coming into this area.

We rely pretty heavily on people moving here for our instructional recruitment. **Chairperson Morris** asked board member Schwartz if he wanted to make a motion on this. **Board member Schwartz** said yes, the motion would be support of this proposal being forwarded to the Leesburg commission.

Chairperson Morris added with the codicil of it being anyone that comes to Leesburg and works in the Lake County School System. **Board member Schwartz** agreed. **Chairperson Morris** said that way everybody is included. **Board member Braton** thinks all teachers need to be included, a teacher is a teacher, and you have the government teachers, you have the private sector teachers, but with school choice now and step up for students you have just as many taxpayer funded students going to First Academy or St Paul. He loves the idea of the program, the possibility of it, but he would not be able, if he were on city council, to get behind this unless it was all teachers that were Leesburg utility customers working in the Lake County area, not just the government teachers. **Board member Flinn** agreed, it is not like they are making bank. **Board member Robuck** said this would be for the city commission to hopefully figure out, not that part but that you know it gets a little tricky when it comes to support staff like at First Baptist. Who is support staff for the school? **Board member Flinn** said she attends First Baptist and will tell you that they are separate entities completely; first Academy is an a completely entirely different set than First Baptist. The janitor that takes care of First Baptist chairs and the pews is not the person that works at First Academy, they are completely separate. **Board member Braton** said they conflict all the time over stuff. **Board member Flinn** said she cannot speak for St Paul's or Montessori or anything like that. **Board member Robuck** said this is just for the educational right. **Board member Flinn** replied yes, we are not trying to support churches on this, we are just talking about the schools. **Chairperson Morris** so why not beta test it for two years with those criteria. **Board member Schwartz** do we have any sense as to what those numbers are? Do we want to specifically identify which schools we think should be added to this list? **Board member Braton** replied any of them that have teachers. **Board member Flinn** added any school that has a teacher who has Leesburg electric. **Chairperson Morris** said that has got to be the first criteria, Leesburg electric. **Board member Flinn** so that would drop Rhymes and Treadway. **Chairperson Morris** replied no, the city electric service area is what he was saying, anyone in that geographical boundary, who moves in that boundary has this opportunity if they work for the school system or private. **Board member Robuck** said the teacher uses the utilities, the school we do not care. **CM Minner** clarified, so what you are saying is anybody who lives inside that red line (boundary slide from presentation), that could be Fruitland Park, could be unincorporated Lake, could be Leesburg, anybody who is in that box, who is a teacher, gets this. **Board member Flinn** asked where would this fall in our budget year. **CM Minner** thinks from conversation with Mark previously, that the concept was to start it immediately. For this fiscal year because they are in the midst of recruiting so they are trying to get teachers here now who would start an August. That would kind of be year one, then year two now they would have a full year to start getting teachers here for August 25. **Board member Flinn** asked when our fiscal year starts. **CM Minner** October one. So, you are at six months in but again you know that number. **Board member Flinn** said so we are looking at five grand. **Chairperson Morris** said so we include families who move in here, one of them being employed by the school system as a teacher is still minimal. **Board member Robuck** said it is a onetime deal, not an annual expense. **Board member Schwartz** thinks that is one of the sticking points, you are talking about a \$205 waiver, one time, as a new resident to the area and that is one of the stipulations. They must be a new resident; they cannot be an existing Leesburg Electric customer who suddenly became a teacher and decided to teach here in the Lake County area. **Board member Flinn** agreed, new residents only.

CM Minner said let me give it back to you so you know what you are voting on. This is a two-year beta program, if you will, for any teachers that are new residents and you are waiving the connection fees for

electric, gas, and water. **Board member Schwartz** thinks that is fair. He has concerns about the broad statement of teachers and that is why he suggested it might be worthwhile to identify where they are teaching. There needs to be criteria on who employs them and as to what determines them being a teacher. **Board member Flinn** said so it is not the education system, you are just talking about teachers.

Board member Schwartz mentioned for instance when they first moved here, his daughter went to a daycare and the provider, who was a licensed teacher had just opened up a new business. Would she have been eligible for this? She is not employed by an educational facility but had a license as a teacher.

Board member Flinn asked who is going to research that like on a registry or something. **Chairperson Morris** said there is K through 12. **Board member Robuck** said that would eliminate a daycare. That is a really good point though. **CM Minner** would define teacher as K through 12 so then you eliminate daycare. **Chairperson Morris** said he could put on his Lake Sumter trustee hat and wish that be a benefit for them too, but you might not want to go there now. **Board member Schwartz** jokingly said this is kind of how congress works, where you put up a very simple bill but everybody adds their ear marks to it and suddenly you are like wait what. **Board member Robuck** said now this goes to the commission.

Board member Flinn made the comment that preschool workers tend to kind of fluctuate more than teachers in general, so she feels like that would not be a good investment as far as the city is concerned. To board member Schwartz, **Chairperson Morris** said my compliments on this, you did a good job bringing this. He asked the city manager to go through exactly what we are going to vote on.

CM Minner said, we are doing a test beta pilot program that would last for two years for a teacher who teaches in grades K through 12, they have to be a new resident locating in Leesburg's electric territory, and if they meet all the criteria, they would get waived our connection fees for water, gas, and electric.

Chairperson Morris said we need to add the voucher in there somewhere. **Board member Flinn** thinks it needs to be something signed. **CM Minner** added the voucher is evidence that they are a teacher. That is not a hard deal there obviously because they are going to give the contract and the private schools we will figure out as we go along. It is a new resident with evidence of employment. **Chairperson Morris** asked board member Schwartz if that is his motion. **Board member Schwartz** replied sold and **Board member Flinn** seconded the motion.

Chairperson Morris asked all in favor to say aye (4), opposed (1). **Board member Robuck** said jokingly, that this was exciting. In the 8 years he was on the commission he got to vote against churches, firefighters and police, but never teachers, so he got that one too. **Board member Schwartz** said he appreciates everyone considering this and would like for us to be able to serve some sort of purpose here.

CM Minner stated he is not sure if we can make this to May 13 commission meeting, but if not, we will get it to the May 28 meeting.

5. ROLL CALL:

Board members had nothing further to discuss. Board member Schwartz added "Go Gators!"

6. ADJOURN:

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, ADA COORDINATOR, AT 728-9740, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

F.S.S. 286.0105 "If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purpose they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based." The City of Leesburg does not provide this verbatim record.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

**ELECTRIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
CITY HALL, 501 W MEADOW STREET
MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2024 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City of Leesburg Electric Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Monday, June 3, 2024, at Leesburg City Hall. Vice-Chair Flinn called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Board member Jack Braton
Board member Dan Robuck
Board member Marc Schwartz
Vice-Chair Jessica Flinn

Chairperson Tim Morris was absent. Also, present were City Manager (CM) Al Minner, City Clerk (CC) J. Andi Purvis, Electric staff, and others.

INVOCATION

Vice-Chair Flinn gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2. REVIEW PROPOSED FY 25 BUDGET

A. Proposed FY 25 Draft Budget

CM Minner stated first out of the gate he has to give a whole bunch of exceptions and gets the right to change numbers and maneuver. Long ago when the city was putting together the Electric Advisory Board, the purpose behind it was to show the state legislature that the city of Leesburg is moving more into an authority type model in operating our Municipal electric utility, which has both corporate and unincorporated electric customers. This is a model that more recently the state legislature wants to see as much of the legislation the past two sessions has dealt with taking away Authority from Municipal Electric utilities, making it penal based on whether you have an authority so on. Mark in his application, I'm going to share this conversation, he asked is this going to be a real committee that actually has authority or are we all just wasting your time. So, today you all are a real committee, which is one of the reasons why I am putting these caveats out because you all are new to the budget process. Typically, the information that I am sharing with you this evening has 30 more days to cook, but because you guys meet the first Monday of the month, and we are trying to get a budget review past you, which talks about rates, it is a long way from being done, but we have like to 90 days before things really need to get solidified.

Out of the gate, I am going to hit you with the bottom line that this thing is not done and these are all my concerns. The city commission, please forgive me, has not heard this so you are the first. You are a real committee, the first to hear it. The electric Department has not even heard it yet. They have a lot of influence in this, but basically the only three people who know about what is going to be shared is myself, Brandy, and Jim Williams.

So, with that said, we are working on the Fiscal Year 25 budget and what you are going to be reviewing are my overall concerns that I do not have answers for you this evening. I was slightly hesitant in sharing this but because Mark wanted to ensure that this was a real committee, I am throwing it at you. So, these are my concerns no matter how horrible it makes us sound or unprepared or whatever I will argue the opposite. There is a significant concern I have with how we have been doing our budget forecasting and typically what we do is we take total revenues divide it by our wholesale purchases and we come up with a percentage. We want our percentage to be around 62%, so 62% of wholesale purchases are part of our Revenue. We have used that model for a long time, a couple of years it got a little bit wonky, but right now I am questioning that model because the numbers are not stacking up. One of the examples is that the current budget, has a total budget of 48.5 million in sales and 78 million in Revenue. In all honesty we have never seen \$78 million in Revenue when the power cost adjustment went way crazy high, so on a surface level the percentages might be right but on an actual match level we are getting data from two different sources. One is Doug Hanley our consultant and the other is Jim Williams our Finance Director. Our FMPA numbers are significantly different, which is giving me cause, makes me wonder if that contribute number is correct. If that number is incorrect, then we have got a deficit even though what you looked at is a balanced budget.

The next thing he is worried about is the contribution in aid agreements. We have tipped you off a little bit about what the contribution in aid agreements are, there is a policy that comes through that says if you develop, we are going to ROI in four years. These are things that the city will pay for, these are things that developers will pay. The same kind of hole in the bucket is potentially in those developer contributions so if we are underestimating, not just material costs, but if we are also having a leak in our Revenue numbers on what houses are using these days. If our ROI numbers are wrong then we are not asking for enough contribution from the developers. We kind of tackled recently the operations, a Transformers X bucks now we are charging X bucks. We are going to start writing that there is a Delta even if that number is off in the developer contribution, but if our Revenue numbers are off that is another potential leak because our ROI numbers are off. We need to look at that.

We really have not seen full scale growth in the electric department, I know that may sound foreign to you because if you listen to the meetings, you hear all the PUDs that get approved and we got 43,000 lots and traffic is crazy, blah blah. I am going to tell you what you hear from the public and their perceptions about Leesburg growth is not reality. Where we have sustained growth for the past couple of years is The Villages. When The Villages growth goes away you will see our numbers click back to traditional growth numbers 3%, 2%, and 4%. If you listened to Dan Miller's presentation at the last meeting about the comp plan, he talked about those numbers and he estimated that growth over Leesburg is 4%. Well guess what, those numbers do not include The Villages. We have seen significant growth in our initial number back from the appraiser's office, June 1 is 38% growth and all of that 90% of that is all Villages. **Board member Robuck** said it is ad valorem numbers. **CM Minner** said that also has an impact into the electric fund, so that is actually seven concerns. Well, it is number six, all that growth stuff in the general fund side of the house equals transfer numbers so that is the sixth concern. With these concerns do we need to look at a rate increase for this year? Our last rate increase was Fiscal Year 22, which would have been October 1, is about a 5% increase or do need to just kind of batten down the hatches, watch some of our expenses and some of these blips of growth. This is not Leesburg growth, this is electric territory growth, which most of it we are seeing in Fruitland Park and these growth issues do have an impact. The electric department was screaming about needing a Transformer at North sub, that cost is a million

dollars. I going to tell you here on this one, wants versus needs. You are going to hear the electric department say we got to have that Transformer, you are going to hear me say that is want not a need and I'm going to tell you that because we have different ways, we can feed the system. What the electric department is telling you is we got to have it this is optimal but optimal in the electric department is not practical sometimes and if we go with what is optimal, then that will lead to rate increases and it is not my decision or the electric department. Where you want to set the rate, that is your decision and the city commission's decision. We need to balance out these competing demands rates versus what is optimal and what is not.

Comparative CIPs, we need to go back and look at that some more for Fiscal Year 25. Operational issues; really the Lion Share of the electric fund is one thing, power cost supply, which goes along with the number one concern. Once you get past operations or paying the power bill then your next thing to pay is debt, those are fixed costs, we fix our costs with generation and power supply through our FMFA contracts. We fix our debt because that is our credit card and we have to pay that. Where we can trim is operational savings and there is really only going to be three potential areas in operational savings. A big expense is our tree trimming, so we are going to look at probably bringing some of that internal, so we need to slim back on the Lewis contract, and you will see that in the contractual line.

Then we need to probably trim back on some of our expenses. We have been doing with Team Fishel, so if we do internal stuff to fix the system or aids in contribution, we are using team Fishel to work with us, so we can spread our man power around. We need to pull that back a little bit and have our crews start doing some of this other work to save some money and meanwhile that also is going to affect overtime. We are spending too much on overtime, got to trim some of that back. Those are my costs; these six bullet points are the areas that in the next 30 days are going to get the significant comb. With that being said everything else I am about to show you is still under review for the next 30 days and you will probably get a second swipe at this depending on how the July meeting fall versus the budget workshop. He then showed a series of the graphs and charts that set up the concerns he just mentioned. The electric fund reserve cash, what he calls the good chart then he will show chart, the bad chart, so you are getting it all, getting his opinions and getting staff opinions. The good chart is from March 21 where we were around \$22 million in the bank. Now we only have about \$10 and a half million so where did that money go. I am going to tell you it went to a bunch of different spots, one in that time frame was paying the power bill when gas went wonky, two, it went to Capital Improvement projects and two can be broken down into Capital Improvement projects of fixing the system or Capital Improvement projects in aids in contribution expanding the system based on developer requests. In short, we have about two and a half million dollars that is hanging out that is not spinning any meters. One of them is called Silver Lake Point, a new residential subdivision, we put about a million dollars into, it is 300 some houses but not spinning any meters yet. Why, I will tell you in a brief overall, because they got into trouble with Duke and moving a transmission pole which affected their Ingress / Egress. Duke said yeah, we will move the poll, but it will cost \$8 million and the developer said I guess we are not moving that poll. So, when you drive down 44 and you see those big giant poles that are like 60 feet tall, I think they are metal or cast iron, you know Duke will move it for you but it cost \$8 million. That is a real number. So, now I am going to digress, if you ever thought about under grounding the transmission lines on 27 to make our 27 corridor look more like say Winter Park, you are never going to do it because there are probably 20 transmission poles from the North of city limits at Walmart to where that transmission line turns at 48 or Dixie. You can just count 8 million per pole, right, that project not going to happen.

His next chart shows where we are in reference to how much cash we have, \$10 million bucks. One line shows how much cash we are supposed to have about \$9 million right and when he says supposed to have that means what the GFO recommendation is, but in electric fund it is what the GFO recommendation is and what we say it is going to be. Then our bond creditors, remember we got A+ Bond rating, they want to make sure that we have that minimum amount of cash because that affects our bond rating, so, that is significant when this number starts leaking below the minimum requirement.

What the blue line recommends is the BCPA, remember our goal is we want this blue line to be straight at 3 million bucks and it typically does. But for example, let me just go to March 20 we had about \$5 million in the BCPA account and we had \$20 million total cash. Okay, Brandy is going to tell you no we only had \$15 million cash for electric operations because \$5 million of that is the BCPA, but I wanted to put this number in here because not only do we need to watch the cash number, we also need to watch for the BCPA and what those General Reserve numbers are. So, here when it was high, I'll show you another correspondent court saying well we lowered the BCPA and we gave money back to the customers and then even though this looks like a little short line you know from about 20 for a good year we held it almost at \$3 million bucks. **Board member Flinn** asked for a quick explanation of what the BCPA is. **CM Minner** said the BPCA is the bulk power cost adjustment, it is a flat charge per kilowatt that is on your bill that we collect that goes up and down elastically based on what the cost of electricity. **Board member Flinn** asked is that over a thousand. **CM Minner** replied no, that is per kilowatt. Right now, it is 1 cent per kilowatt. So, if you have a thousand-kilowatt bill, your power cost adjustment portion is 10 bucks. **Board member Robuck** so kind of getting to I think I understand the difference in viewpoint from you and Brandy with the \$5 million like we should not count it right which would imply that we have like \$3 million of cash or whatever. I kind of get that, but so how much cash above required reserves are in the gas and general fund roughly? **CM Minner** replied roughly more than \$5 million. **Board member Robuck** said because he was just thinking okay if you are going to play it the way you are, which he tends to agree with, given that you have a lever in the BCPA to fix this. If it becomes an issue probably just needs to happen faster than last time. You cannot shut down like in an emergency, you just loan money from the gas fund if you need a month or two to float because something crazy happens with your cash due to fuel cost? **CM Minner** replied yes, we have thought about that. So, Dan is saying we can borrow from other funds to float stuff and then kick it back to make the books look good and yes, we could do that. Rough numbers like the general fund right now is sitting on \$15 Million, 11 above Reserve, so there is some money over there in the general fund. **Budget Director Brandy McDaniel** said gas is building back up. **CM Minner** said gas took a little hit because of the lawsuit and the expansions with the Villages, so we are waiting on those to come back. Water and Sewer probably sitting at maybe four or five million above the reserve; each of these are super rough numbers. The airport fund, they are sitting on four million cash, so in every fund too like \$4 million cash above reserve in the airport fund, man that is a boatload of change above the reserve fund and electric is not. Where I think this number needs to hang out, we do not need to have 20, but we need probably 10 to 15 is where this needs to hang out constant. **Board member Robuck** said that makes sense and in a worst-case scenario, like there is some sort of crazy fuel spike again, although FMPA is now hedged further, you would have more time to react. **CM Minner** said why the 10 to 15 is because if you have a crazy storm where a bunch of trees come down and you have to spend a bunch on getting debris out, you are probably going to need \$3 to \$5 million to clean up a storm before you start getting your FEMA reimbursement. So, that is kind of like cash on hand for a crazy contingency and then everything the electric department does is in the millions, so you can have plus or minus swings. That account sitting at 10 or 15 million bucks honestly makes him sleep at night.

Looking at another chart, CM Minner said this chart looks like we are sitting at 10, but if take out the BCPA fund, we are sitting at five and a half so that is the difference. Brad will come in and say well Al, I am sitting on, he will use my chart against me, he will say I am sitting on 10 million bucks, but I am going to say 10 million minus 5, that is what you are sitting on. This one is alarming because as of March 24 we were actually below what the reserve requirement is by about \$2 million bucks. **Board member Robuck** so that does need to come up. **CM Minner** agreed that does need to come up. Moving to a historic sales slide, he said this breaks down sales of October through November, each color line representing a different fiscal year. Looking at the number 2.1% growth, it has not changed, adding two more years on there, it is still about 2% growth. When he told you at the other meeting that weather still

outpaces our growth, you see that is constant. Two fiscal years ago we sold 527 million kilowatt hours, this year with growth we are only estimating 519 million kilowatts. That is where the weather can change us quicker than growth. When we do these budget estimates for revenues and wholesales, we really got to tie it back. He thinks to the historical trend what this year's budget does is projected us at about 530 million kilowatts in sales, which we have never done. Our customer base has only gone up from in 2013 it was 25,000 customers and our customer base today is 27,900, so subtract that, that is 2700, divide it by 10, divided by that number and that growth rate is relatively small. If you look at the customer base like for example, in Brad's chart our aid in contributions where he has a million in this project, that is only 300 customers. So, we have a million dollars out for a potential return of four customers, was our aid in contribution numbers correct. Those are things we need to beat up and his guess is we have been kind of just dealing on historic data, so even though the math is right, we are using older data. The phenomena that are going on in the electric industry is even though you have more stuff in your house, all that stuff is more efficient, so even though you are running more stuff, you are using less electricity. Remember, we plan power resources out 20 years in advance so back in 2000, when we were planning for 2024, we saw 3% growth, but we are not getting 3% growth. He thinks what that has done in the marketplace, is made the investor-owned utilities, who are fighting the same fights that we are, and probably even worse because now they have the solar issue on top of it. What that has done to the investor-owned utility, specifically FPL, that has charged them up to go look for more market share so they go off and see their local state representatives and say they are not getting their fair share of the pie, or these evil Municipal Utilities who transfer money haphazardly into their general funds, it is taxation without representation and you got to stop them. That is so they can take Muni pieces of the pie, which are all fixed, because every square inch of the state has got a territorial agreement. What have we seen FPL do, we saw FPL take Northwest Electric whatever that thing with Golf electric or whatever, we saw them try to take over JEA, we saw them take over Vero, we saw that fight even though some of those stories I'm telling you are two or three years old in the electric industry, those fights still burn in Tallahassee. As the trends continue to not go match through resources, the investor-owned utilities get mad and they may be reasonable as they should force Muni's to tighten up their numbers. So, as a result we have tightened up our numbers and what we have tried to do is decrease our rate and decrease our transfer so that our utility looks more like an investor-owned utility and our general fund looks more like a municipal corporation that does not have a utility. **Board member Robuck** said one thing just to add there because he thinks it is also important and something he was considering after the last meeting is that it is not just the growth, the problem is like the actual dollars. The only thing less when you started 1000 KW bill was Leesburg's rate was like 138. **CM Minner** said 138 going to 142 and now it is 117.94. **Board member Robuck** said of course there are ups and downs but overall, your electric bill on a per kilowatt hour is the same or lower than it was 10 years ago. He thinks that is screwing up your revenue and you talk about these ROI calculations, your materials have gone up, your labor has gone up, but that 2.7 is maybe even wiped out. **CM Minner** said not sure if you want me to say this, but you put that out there, so with what all Dan said that might mean there is room for a \$10 increase in the base fee, the customer charge. So, we might need to look at that for fiscal year 25. **Board member Schwartz** asked the \$15 charge. **CM Minner** replied yes, that might need to go to 25. He is not saying we are doing this, okay, but he is saying we need to look at it and maybe we need to kick the can for a year. Maybe we two step it, he does not know but the next 30 days we are going to be looking at that. Another piece of the puzzle, the BCPA, is only recovering what we need pursuant to the relationship of our power supply costs. That is what the next chart shows. If you are ever asked, well the city keeps raising and keeps playing with the BCPA, yeah, we do. We are not making any money on the BCPA, the BCPA is a pass through based on sales, based on our numbers we get. This is a historic chart this goes all the way back to October 15. The orange line is in millions, so in October of 15 we had almost \$10 million in the power cost adjustment fund. Dude, that is way too much, remember \$3 million is our rule of thumb and we want to keep that line at \$3 million. We did it a couple times and so if it is above three, we have to give money back and we have to lower the BCPA. That is what this the Blue line represents, the power cost adjustment. When we were sitting on

\$10 million in cash, in the BCPA, the power cost adjustment was about 1.3 cents or \$13 bucks per thousand, so we said you know what we need to give it back, so we dropped it to zero and bled it down to about \$3 million and then we put it back up to about where we started, about 15 cents. There was a little hiccup there, but we held it pretty steady and when we saw it grow, we dropped it again and then we dropped it again to keep it around three million. Now when we got back to 3 million, we go back up and then this time frame, in January 21, that time frame was when gas started going crazy. We were down here \$10 million in the hole, so we go \$10 million in the hole, we go back up to the crazy power cost adjustment fee of 7 cents a kilowatt or \$70 bucks per thousand. We held that steady while we were recouping our money and then as soon as we got to where we thought we needed to be we knocked it down not once, twice, but three times. Now we are back to a penny of KW and our long-range recommendation because of things that Dan just talked about, FMPA is hedging our power cost. What you will see here is this chart correlates totally to the BCPA chart, so when you see this number crazy, this is what we were paying for power \$110 and \$97 a megawatt. Once FMPA got that under control, the trend for this year is \$79 to finish off this fiscal year and the next year our projection is \$81. So, we used to hang out around I guess that would average out at \$75 then we got those two whacks, now we are kind of adjusted, and we are probably going to hang out around \$80 to \$85 moving forward. This price is pretty much fixed. Through the middle of 25, actually now over at FMPA, they are talking about how we move out to the next chunk blocks, but our anticipation is we are probably going to hang out around here for a little while. **Board member Robuck** wanted to point out because historically you notice that 2024 trend, \$79 is higher than 2021, but yet our electric rate is lower and that is because the electric fund is not subsidizing the general fund anymore. **CM Minner** said not as much. The electric transfer, percentage versus dollars, you see we have lowered the percentage. When he started in 13, we were transferring 5 million and that was about 8 and a half percent. The policy at that time said 10%, mind you in 22 or 21 right before Dan got off the city Commission, we passed the two referendum questions, which were designed to do two things. One was designed to recognize that we want the general fund to operate as a municipal corporation without a significant transfer, 6%. So, what 6% represents is if you are a municipal corporation, you have a franchise fee with your utility provider pursuant to State statutes which gives other utilities who provide electric service in a municipal Corporation, it provides the franchise right and the right to use the right of ways. In short, that number across the state is 6%. Why is it 6%, he has no idea because when cities started giving their rights to investor-owned utilities to sell electric instead of them, they made long-term agreements that said 6% and that is the number we have copied. For Fiscal Year 25 because of the legislation, that has happened the last two years, he actually is trying to recommend to this body, as well as the city, that we lower it from 6% to closer to 3%. Why? Because if one day we are forced to operate totally like a municipal corporation, we cannot be taking any money from unincorporated customers and put that into the general fund. Now we do not have to do that yet, so this is kind of I am being draconian here in this recommendation okay, but I think the day is coming that legislation is going to be passed sooner rather than later. So, that means 60% of our customers are outside the city limits and unincorporated or incorporated Lake County, they are in Fruitland Park or they are in unincorporated Lake. But our sales are the inverse, 60% of our sales are in the city limits, so we need to take 6% of our sales, which equals about a 3% transfer. That is where we are trying to go, do not know, we try to this year because we save the \$1.6 million transfer.

Your electric debt, your principal balance payment is what we have to pay, that is what we have hanging out. That does not tell you the balance, what the payment is. **BD McDaniel** said that debt is around 3.7. **CM Minner** said so 3.7 million bucks total, which is paying all those bills, that is not crazy. **Board member Robuck** said no, but you ought to be able to kick something back to the general fund just like Duke kicks a dividend back to its shareholders. **CM Minner** said this is our initial swag at the budget. Electric department says 78 million plus miscellaneous stuff for a total operating budget of 79.9 million. This is the number that is under my microscope as we speak. I think this number is \$10 million inflated based on revenues. **Board member Robuck** asked if he thinks it is 78 or 88. **CM Miner** said he thinks it

is 68; this number is way inflated. He thinks 23 24 is going to be about 74 million actuals, but remember that still has a little bit of high-power cost adjustment in there, so that is not a good number. The numbers that we are looking to sell this year is 511-million-kilowatt hours; the trend is 519. **Board member Robuck** asked if you do 74 and 62% of it or whatever is power cost, is wholesale power, so roughly eight or nine million is going to leave you like a \$4 or \$5 million hole. **CM Minner** replied yes, the answer to your \$5 million whole is reduce the transfer, but that is this year, not next year, that is 23-24. We stopped transferring so we got some money back in so that is helping some of that. **Board member Robuck** asked how he is going to fix that this year. **CM Minner** replied he does not know how he is going to fix the hole this year. We are trying this stock slow down. Showing a chart, he said these are the numbers we need to tighten up on and just for comparison purposes, 1% growth on our total sales is 519 million kilowatts. We did that number back in 19 and so the corresponding numbers, we can kind of draw some comparisons. **Board member Schwartz** asked what is the miscellaneous and why up so much? **BD McDaniel** said miscellaneous is interest earnings. **Board member Schwartz** asked interest on the cash on hand? **BD McDaniel** replied yes, and then the contributions are in the other sources and that would be developer, the CAICs.

CM Minner said then we break it down into expenses. He showed two the power numbers, the St. Lucy plus the All-Requirements project. For Capital, this is kind of where the rubber hits the road and this is kind of where we are squeezing down, the three-legged stool and capital system expansion forced by development. Things that go bump in the night, this stool number one storm comes transformer blows out, we got to replace the transformer and then system improvements that we want to make. This basically represents this Capital plan; it is a preparation for pretty much all things that go bump in the night and nothing else, because the plan is trying to build our cash and address that \$5 million hole. Why can't we just go Kings X, no more Capital, because we have totally spent and we have made significant Capital Improvements since 2018. What do all those numbers add up to, a lot, so this is another example of when I say well Brad's going to tell you we need a Transformer and I am going to say we put 50 million into the system, what else do we need to do? It is like pump the brakes let's figure out where we are and I am going to repeat this again and again. The difference between the city manager and the department head is the city manager is charged with giving you a recommendation on where you make risk, the department head is not. That is not demeaning, you do not pay Brad to say let's cut that, you pay Brad to say this is what we need and that goes for every department head. We pay Joe Iozzi to say how many police officers you want, you have the city manager to interpret that for you and remind you well if you do what the department head wants, then taxes will have to go up or this fee will have to change. Every year we have to collectively decide what we are going to mitigate, that is the difference between the department recommendation and the manager recommendation. Many times, they are spot on. This year I am going to suggest to you that we are going to vary significantly in the electric fund, so when Brad says I need a transformer, I am going to say Dude, we just spent 50 million, you got to chill. That is the end of the presentation. I do not think it is as bleak as it sounds, there are some areas in there that I think we have a bead on, that we need to go back and look on and in July we will be closer. Any questions?

Board member Schwartz asked if he could talk a little bit more about the Villages and factor in how long is it going to be a factor for two years, three, or five years. What is your estimate? **CM Minner** said that question takes us out of the Electric Advisory Board because everything the Villages is doing, we have already accomplished on the electric side. In fact, that was part of one of the reasons for the debt issue, to expand the ROI to build the system, which is actually in Sumter County, which is the Villages of Catherine. **Board member Schwartz** said so as you put it, every potential meter is now spinning. **CM Minner** said every potential Villages meter that is in the city of Leesburg's electric territory, Fruitland Park and Sumpter County, is spinning. **Board member Robuck** added on the flip side is that 38% growth, we got a couple more years of that and that ad valorem helps the transfer. **CM Minner** said yes,

that is the other side. On the electric side of the house, we will never spin another Village's electric meter, never say never right, we will never spin another electric meter because their Village territory, roughly 44 to Center Hill, Lake Sumter to 301, that box they own. The only portions of that box that are in our electric territory are The Villages of Catherine and Fruitland Park. Even the city of Leesburg property in that box and the property Secret Promise, Denim Village, and the little spots in Lake County, because now they have Lake County in the box, they have Villages of Fruitland Park, Villages of West Lake, Renaissance Trails and then the end of our ISBA territory, and then they have Mascotte property below Bridges Road. They have a big swath still in Lake County, but for all of that, I will go out on a limb, and say it is either Duke territory or SECO territory. So, we will not spin a single Village's meter in Lake County or Sumpter County in the future unless we come up with the greatest brainstorm that encourages a territorial swap, which I do not think is going to happen. That is the electric answer. The general fund answer is every bit of growth that we saw last year or I will say 95% of growth that we saw last year. Our number was 23%, this year we saw 38%, which is a total increase in taxable base of about 890 million. That little piece we are missing is about 500 houses more to go in The Villages of West Lake, so we will get maybe 50 million more in taxable value for next year. **Board member Robuck** said this year's taxable value is January 1, 2023. **CM Minner** said it is everything sold to December 31, 2023. So, there is still 500 more that we will see next year, but we got the Lion Share, so when the Villages is all said and done, probably upwards of just south of a billion dollars a new investment. Oh, by the way that Performa was overperforming, when we did the presentation to the commission, we thought like it was 750 million in new taxable value and then now you are going to see Secret Promises so you will see more Villages stuff in the future. His guess is you probably will not see Village's investment back in Lake County until they build in the block from 470 up to 44, all that Baxley property and they are now up by the school so all that is going to get filled in at the clip of 270 houses a month, so that is 3,500 to 4,000 houses a year and that will fill in and then they will jump back over. If that pace continues there is no reason to think at this stage it will not continue, but I think in the general fund we have to deal with what we have until The Villages movement starts again.

Board member Flinn said with regard to what is going to come up in the future, as far as voting on this or going over this further, we are all suffering from inflation. All of us here are business owners or people who run businesses, so when is the call going to be made as far as optimization versus rate increase? She feels like the problem that happened in 2022 is that people were not informed and so she knows we have decided to be better about communicating that, but just curious to see what kind of headway or warning is going to be given to people who are going to have that rate increase. **CM Minner** said if there is a rate increase, it would be approved by the commission sometime in August, giving customers about a 60-day notice. Any rate increase would be effective October 1. Right now, Leesburg is the lowest cost provider in the region when compared to Duke, SECO, FPL, and Mount Dora. These numbers are going to change, look for them to start changing when FMPA gets up to date with the newest rates, but his inclination on what that number is going to look like is probably \$127. Still would be below Duke, below SECO, would be above Mount Dora, so even with 10 bucks added on there, understand everything you just said the trouble times, inflation, yada, yada, I hear you. That is why I am not standing here saying we need to increase rates because we understand that.

Board member Robuck asked if Cutrale has responded about their unneeded transformer. **CM Minner** replied not yet, and there is another problem we have not talked about yet, Cutrale. On the electric side of the house, I do not know how big of an impact that has, I am not even going to guess. We sell them about a million bucks of electricity every year so again that is in the shade window. **Board member Robuck** said but we do not make a ton of money on it. **CM Minner** thinks it is pretty much a pass through and it is really complicated with how they have a charge for when they generate, when they do not generate and again, I am going to caveat this with we are not done doing our homework. We got notice a week ago that Cutrale was closing by the newspaper the same way everybody else did. There

are two parts of that component; there is the gas side, which is a little easier to understand because it was a transportation rate, so yeah, we got half a million dollars flap in there. Cutrale did not notice us pursuant to the agreement so we need to square up with that, but we also think that there are ways to get out of that Transportation agreement where we will probably be held whole because they are going down in a time where the investor-owned utilities, remember 99.9% of the gas that comes through the big transmission lines is not going to Cutrale, it is not going to local distribution co-ops to make your ovens and your ranges go or your hot water, it is going to make the turban spin. All that other stuff is the stuff that Bob does in the gas fund, a relatively small part. If we have to sell, he cannot remember how many therms it was if we have to sell, you know a couple of million therms capacity on FGTs line in the summertime. Most likely somebody is going to buy that because they need that capacity for Generation purposes. That is good, but we were charging them for that service, which was gravy, and I hate to say that so bluntly, but that was about 150 grand of Bob's budget. We probably need to go back and click 150 grand out of it right now so his black number of surplus is going to be zero because he is going to need to adjust his revenues down. On the electric side of the house, it is a lot more complicated and my knee-jerk reaction, again I had this conversation with Jim today, Jim is our contract Zar. He has been charged with pulling the contracts, dusting them off and figuring out how they affect us. At the end of the day, I think we probably need to push Cutrale into just a general service demand customer or maybe an even general service customer on a commercial rate because their inclination of what they told us they were going to serve is security lights and AC and so on a commercial side that could just be a GS1 customer versus even a general service one demand customer.

Board member Schwartz asked does our bulk cost have to be, is there anything that mandates that it has to be an even number 10, 20, 30, 40, up to 70? Can it be a variable in between, could it be 11 like 0.11.

CM Minner asked if he was talking about the customer charge. **Board member Schwartz** said no, the BCPA. **CM Minner** responded there is formula that guides what the BCPA is, it is totally formulaic based on kilowatt sales versus cash on hand. Right now, it is 1 cent and it has gotten up to seven cents at one point, but so that was based on what we estimated we were going to sell minus our losses, what we over under collect. **Board member Schwartz** said what he is asking is could it, in theory, be one and a half cents. **CM Minner** replied yes, it has been that way. **Board member Schwartz** asked, so why would you entertain the possibility of increasing the customer rate, which is a flat fee regardless of how much you are using instead of adjusting a variable rate which would be more reflective of how much energy you are using. **CM Minner** responded that is a good question. The power cost adjustment is solely related formatically to what we under or over recover in relation to how much we buy Power for. The power cost adjustment does not pay Personnel, the power cost adjustment does not pay debt, it does not pay operations, the power cost adjustment pays power cost only. **Board member Schwartz** said you talked about efficiency and how efficiency is making, generally speaking, homes more efficient because they should be using less power. Why is the amount of power being purchased by Leesburg dropping accordingly? **CM Minner** said it is steady now. **Board member Schwartz** understands there is growth and growth is going to offset the reduction in the household usage, but he keeps going back to his college supply and demand courses and trying to figure if the demand, because of efficiency, is starting to drop, including new homes which should be even more efficient. **CM Minner** said since fiscal year 2016, we sold 474 million kilowatts. This year we look to sell 511 kilowatts, so minus those two and then divide it by the other. He is just going to give it in millions, so in 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, okay these are actual numbers we sold 474, 461, 465, 519, 505, 514, 527, 518, and 511. **Board member Robuck** added that jump is probably Fruitland Park. **CM Minner** replied no, that jump in 27 was a peak demand and heat related weather. When we saw 518 that was fiscal year 23, last summer, okay where we saw the highest peaks. Remember how much you are using and how much you need at once, so if it is in water, it is how many gallons you are taking out of the pipe and then how much pressure to push the water, that is Peak. We pay for both of those charges. You can take less water out, at any one specific time, but if you need a bunch at once, then PSI goes way up to get that water to you. It is the same on the electric side of

the house. You might use and consume a lot of KWs during a hot time and then we have to prepare to get you 110 megawatts at once, but then you are going to back down. In August 23, we saw a peak usage in August of 60 million kilowatts, but over the year the use was not down, so those yings and yangs, that is why these numbers are goofy. Your question, supply and demand, is because it is constantly changing and it is based on multiple factors like weather, Peak consumption, and average usage. Remember our wholesale contract is demand related. The best we do is when we use lots of energy, but at one steady rate we do not do that, we Peak and the more you Peak the more expensive our bill becomes because you have to be prepared to provide 120 megawatts worth of energy, but you might only use it for one hour out of 365 days a year. **Board member Schwartz** asked, so based on your explanation about how the money is used, is it theoretically possible that the BCPA could drop, but the customer service charge could go up? **CM Minner** replied yes, because your demands are different, they are not related. **Board member Schwartz** said so all the consumer, the homeowner, cares about is the bottom line of their utility bill. Is it possible to offset one charge by lowering the other, you have already said it is possible? **CM Minner** said the answer is yes. **Board member Schwartz** said our operational cost may be going up, but our cost of purchasing electric could be going down. **CM Minner** said yes, but we cannot plan on that. **Board member Robuck** said to Mark's point about this idea that if rates going up people use more should pay more. Given that we are like 30 some odd percent below Duke, which seems that is not one of those numbers. Doesn't it make sense that we need to be looking at a new rate study? With the inflation, a new rate study would allow you to do what you are talking about where if we come up with a higher rate it is based on usage, not an arbitrary fix, but that would require a rate study. **CM Minner** said yes, and it is going to bring you back to the same answer that you do not want to hear, that rates need to go up. **Board member Robuck** said if they going up in a fair way that is more controllable by the customer. **CM Minner** said everybody's rate structure is kind of different and so it goes to an article that Mark sent him the other day about the things that OUC is doing. OUC is looking at increasing base rates, changing the solar credit, and looking at doing a kind of demand residential rate. If you are a residential customer you are going to pay more for getting AC at 3 pm in the afternoon than you are at 9:00 pm in the evening. Those are expensive things to do. We tried to do it here, we were not successful with smart grid, but so that does not mean we do not do that again. We are going to have different demographics than OUC, so I think the time we put into trying to get that is not going to get us to where we want to go. What we are seeing the industry do is try to recoup maximum back when you are fighting all these different issues like solar and demand. What we are seeing the investor-owned utilities do is put it in a base charge or base customer charge, same, to guarantee yourself that upfront we are going to get that per month. **Board member Robuck** said they are probably doing that because of solar. **CM Minner** said he thinks more solar than anything. **Board member Braton** said he was just thinking on that whole vein, when we raise prices, it can be counterproductive. He thinks about it in his industry, every industry, and everything he learned about in business. When the base rate went up to 7%, and he can only speak for himself, but seven cents, what about the demographic. He has not done a full market study, but would guess that most of Leesburg's utility market is median to low income or fixed income retirees with pensions, whatever. You take a hit like those seven cents unexpected or expected, a lot of people are going to start conserving energy. They are not as free with running the air conditioner at 75, they bump it up to 77, and they have gotten good over the past year about turning lights off and things like that. At Turner's, that is he did, shut this off, shut that off, we do not need this, where in the past it was like wide open, everything is good because he was comfortable in a rate and a payment every month. Then it went up to where he was uncomfortable both at home and at the business and now, he has developed different habits on how to use electricity. He thinks that raising the rates, if it is a base rate or the customer charge, then it is a onetime hit, like dang my electric bill went up 10 bucks a month and then I can go about my life and can manage my utilities without that going up or down. Whereas if you start raising the rates people are going to squeeze a little bit more or think about saying when it is not as expensive, people are like well you know I can afford so they will use more. You can win in volume or you can win in the ticket price. He thinks about a restaurant he ran in The Villages in 2009 and grew the volume of that

restaurant to 900,000 to 4.4 million in the two years between 2008 and 2010, but what they did was just the opposite of what everybody else was doing. He lowered his prices, increased the quality, and made it so attractive that people really could not afford to spend their money anywhere else and he just went in volume. He would submit that it may be worth thinking about before we raise rates. Personally, he is starting to get a little bit more comfortable where the electric rates are and he is comfortable cranking the air conditioner down a little bit lower, or not freaking out when this set of lights is left on. Just starting to get comfortable where you see usage go back up and he would imagine that he is not the only person like that. Just his two cents, if that makes any sense at all. **CM Minner** said it does and we do see that when utility rates are higher, we consume less and that is actually a good thing for us especially on the electric side because if our rates are higher, we are earning more and then we are actually going to Peak lower because you are not going to turn your AC down to 72 at 3 pm, you are going to say I am just going to keep it at 78. So, then the system does not Peak as high and I am arguing the opposite of what you are saying. **Board member Robuck** said one thing he took away and this goes against how he would personally run it, but it was a takeaway from the blow back that we had with the \$70 BCPA. The one that really got brought up over and over again was our comparison to Duke because that is the one around here. Everyone brought up a Duke bill and of course now that Duke is higher, nobody comes in and says thank you, your rate is lower. Which leads him to say, this is not how he would run it, but do we need to be thinking about how and he is not suggesting it, but should our structure follow more of Dukes. Where it is more in the middle, so it does not get as low or as high. **CM Minner** said that gets into really super technical questions about rate structures. If you go to some investor-owned utilities, the industrial customer is not paying their proportionate share because they are subsidizing it with residential rates. Our utility spreads out the cost evenly, so if we were going to take it easier on the residential customer, then the industrial customer is going to go up or flip-flop then we would have to increase rates. All those are part of the Performa that the Public Service Commission reviews when they look at investor-owned rates. We do not look at that structure as much because ours is a everybody pays their share. Back to Jack's question, we see that on the water side too, you see the inverse structure on the more you use, the more you pay is designed exactly to keep you from using water over a certain amount. He would argue back to you that is exactly why we want to increase rates to prevent you from using electricity. **Board member Braton** said thinking with the limited knowledge he has, that you know if you cannot sell something at X amount of money, except maybe one or two, it is not creating the revenue that is needed to fuel the machine. He can only think in terms of his business, but if he has a hamburger at \$25 and only one or two people are buying it every day, but he needs \$300 a day for lunch to pay the staff and keep the lights on, then if he lowers the price of that hamburger to \$15 and sells 30 of them, then he is reaching his goal. He may have to work a little bit harder for it but at least he does not have a \$5 million budget deficit at the end of the year. **Board member Schwartz** thinks one of the big variables and what Jack is describing he understands where he is going, but one of the big variables is that Leesburg electric has no competition. You have no other choice; you cannot choose your hamburger versus somebody else's hamburger. **Board member Braton** said what he can choose is the amount of consumption and if that is small potatoes, it is small potatoes, and it may not even be worth having the discussion. It will not matter if half of Leesburg is using a core 25% less power every year. **CM Minner** said it would matter, probably help. **Board member Robuck** said he gets it from a business standpoint it makes no sense, the city in fact got in trouble for it and had to stop. They installed generators at Walmart and Publix and at Peak demand the stores would switch off the city of Leesburg and run their own power because it lowered the City's electric bill substantially because we shaved that Peak demand off. Of course, the other people who buy Power got pissed off because it was at their expense, but it actually saved a lot of money for our biggest users to not buy from us. **CM Minner** said that goes to the demand side of what was happening. The all-requirements pool, the other 13 cities, just throwing out a number so it makes sense, during peak time the all-requirements project need 15,000 megawatts of power for 5 hours of the year. When we were encouraging Walmart, times 1, and Publix, times three, we were saving 2 million bucks on our demand cost, but the pool still had that \$2 million cost to generate 15,000 megawatts at 3

pm. We were cheating the system because we were able to get out. Our demand meter went down, they did not collect any money, so that two million bucks got squished over to everybody else to pay. That is the two-part component of demand, demand use and energy use and so that is where the pool said Leesburg, you cannot do that and that was in the contract. **Board member Robuck** said he thinks whether it is this year or next year, that it would make sense to do a rate study now that we have this board. **Vice-Chair Flinn** asked what the general idea is on what a rate study would cost. **CM Minner** replied we put in around a 100 grand. He then stated we will have more data and information for you come July. The budget workshops are scheduled for the 2nd, 9th, and 11th.

Due to the number of meetings already scheduled for July, the board held a discussion on when to hold the next advisory board meeting. It was decided the July 1st meeting would be canceled, and the board will meet again on Tuesday, June 25 at 5:30 p.m. This will provide the board with an opportunity to make any recommendations prior to the start of the budget hearings in July.

3. ROLL CALL:

Board member Schwartz took a quick moment to let the board know, if they had not heard, that our effort to create the waiver for the teachers did get passed by the Commission. He also took a moment to thank Al for doing a great job of taking our little nugget and fine-tuning it into what it needed to be to pass the commission without any issues.

No other Board member had anything further to discuss.

4. ADJOURN:

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEEDING ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE PROCEEDINGS SHOULD CONTACT THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, ADA COORDINATOR, AT 728-9740, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

F.S.S. 286.0105 "If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purpose they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based." The City of Leesburg does not provide this verbatim record.

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.