

SECOND TAXING DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2015

Present:	Mary Burgess Maria Borges-Lopez Mary Geake Mary Mann Cèsar Ramirez David Westmoreland Martha Wooten-Dumas	Chairperson Vice Chairperson
Absent:	None	
Also Present:	Paul Yatcko Kevin Barber Lisa Roland Kara Murphy, Esq. Frank Murphy, Esq.	General Manager Director, Administration & Customer Service (via phone) District Clerk Tierney, Zullo, Flaherty & Murphy Tierney, Zullo, Flaherty & Murphy
Public Present:	John Moeling	Manresa Association

Call To Order:

Commissioner Burgess called the Regular Meeting of The Second Taxing District Commissioners to order at 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2015. The meeting was held at South Norwalk Electric and Water, One State Street, Norwalk, Connecticut.

Commissioner Burgess: "I will call the Regular Meeting of the Second Taxing District Commission to order Tuesday, April 21st at 7:02 p.m. and I need a motion for acceptances of the Regular Meeting minutes of March 10th and Annual Budget Electors' Meeting of March 17, 2015."

1. Acceptance of the Minutes

Commissioner Geake: "I make a motion to accept both."

Commissioner Burgess: "Is there a second?"

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Second."

Commissioner Burgess: "Any corrections to any minutes."

Commissioner Ramirez: "I have to abstain from the Electors Meeting."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "And I am abstaining as well from the Electors Meeting."

Commissioner Burgess: "Ok. All in favor?"

Commissioners Unanimously: "Aye."

Commissioner Burgess: "Abstentions?"

Commissioner Ramirez: "You have two."

Commissioner Burgess: "Yes, two. Ok, we will move on."

Consent Agenda

2. Electric Write-Offs – January 1, 2015 thru March 31, 2015

Paul Yatcko: "The next item on your agenda is the Consent Agenda, which is limited this session to the approval of the electric write-offs."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "We have public participation."

Commissioner Burgess: "Can we have public participation first?"

Paul Yatcko: "I am sorry, excuse me."

Commissioner Burgess: "Ok. Sir are you public?"

Joe Moeling: "I am as public as I know how to be."

[Laughter]

Joe Moeling: "Thank you for the opportunity to talk briefly. My name is John Moeling, I live at One Seabreeze Place in South Norwalk and I am an officer of a new organization called The Manresa Association. We are now a group representing 8 or 9 Norwalk neighborhoods as far field as Silvermine and Golden Hill and we are concerned with what will or may become of both the existing power plant on Manresa Island, which is now almost two years since it stopped operating and what may or may not go in there to replace it. We have been to Hartford and have consulted with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the State; we have consulted with people in Meriden and Greenwich who have dealt with decommissioned power plants in various states of completion, we talked to our local representatives and we meet regularly to become more knowledgeable about the degrees of hazardous materials, which exist on what used to be called Private Point. We are a volunteer organization; we tax ourselves to pay for the environmental consultants that we have hired and our car fare and whatever to get around and do the things that we do. Because some of us, many of us are residents of South Norwalk, all of us are concerned with the property, 124 acres, we felt that you all would also at least want to be aware of the fact that we exist. I have here a few leave

behinds, which will allow you to go to our website and see what our mission statement is and what progress we have made so far, what our own minutes have been and more importantly to raise any concerns that you may have or any questions that you may have. I will leave these. What is the appropriate?"

Lisa Roland: "Right here, thank you."

John Moeling: "Thanks again for you time, I hope I didn't take up too much."

Commissioner Ramirez: "Thank you, good job, congratulations sir."

Commissioner Burgess: "Alright, now the Consent Agenda. I need a motion."

Commissioner Ramirez: "I will second."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "So moved."

Commissioner Burgess: "Is there a second?"

Commissioner Westmoreland: "Cesar seconded."

Commissioner Burgess: "Ok, all in favor?"

Commissioners Unanimously: "Aye."

Commissioner Burgess: "Opposed, abstentions. Now..."

Commissioner Wooten-Dumas: "There is a question."

Commissioner Ramirez: "Chair? Just for the record, before we continue. I just want to make it public, reading everything that transpired at the Electors Meeting, I have to say to Paul and Kevin, especially Kevin did an excellent job, you will never take John's place though, but you did an excellent job. I was very impressed. Very nice and Paul for your first Electors Meeting you did an excellent job. I just wanted to say that and make it public. You had very tough questions and you came along real well and I appreciate it."

Paul Yatcko: "Thank you."

Kevin Barber: "Thank you."

Commissioner Ramirez: "You know what, you had a good leader and teacher and it is going to take you a little while to catch up to him, but you did very well. John, welcome."

[Laughter]

Commissioner Burgess: "Thank you. Now, we want a motion to move the Executive Session up to this point, under the Consent Agenda."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "So moved."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Second."

Commissioner Burgess: "All in favor?"

Commissioners Unanimously: "Aye."

Commissioner Burgess: "Well, now everybody leaves."

Kevin Barber: "See you later."

[Laughter]

Executive Session: 7:10 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Commissioner Burgess: "Ok, we are coming out now. Is there a motion to come out of the Executive Session?"

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "So moved."

Commissioner Wooten-Dumas: "Second."

Commissioner Burgess: "All in favor?"

Commissioners Unanimously: "Aye."

Commissioner Burgess: "Ok, we are now out. As a result of the Executive Session Commissioner Westmoreland will make a motion."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "I am making a motion as stated by our attorney."

Kara Murphy: "Due to Mr. Yatcko's ineligibility to enter the SEP in 2013 as per his Employment Agreement, the Commission moves to pay him the funds originally intended for the SEP directly, grossed up for federal and state taxes for this employment year only."

Commissioner Ramirez: "I am sorry, this year only, what is this year?"

Kara Murphy: "For this employment year only."

Commissioner Ramirez: "Right, and what year is that?"

Kara Murphy: "2015. Do you want me to re-read it?"

Commissioner Ramirez: "It should be in there."

Kara Murphy: “Due to Mr. Yatcko’s ineligibility to enter the SEP in 2013 as per his Employment Agreement, the Commission moves to pay him the funds originally intended for the SEP directly, grossed up for federal and state taxes for this employment year, which is 2015, only.”

Commissioner Burgess: “A second?”

Commissioner Wooten-Dumas: “Second.”

Commissioner Burgess: “All in favor?”

Commissioners Unanimously: “Aye.”

Commissioner Burgess: “Opposed, abstentions? None.”

Commissioner Ramirez: “Thank you. Good job.”

Commissioner Burgess: “Thank you Kara.”

Kara Murphy: “Ok, you are welcome.”

Commissioner Burgess: “Ok we now have to go back into Executive Session.”

Commissioner Westmoreland: “So moved.”

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: “Second.”

Executive Session: 7:48 p.m. – 8:25 p.m.

Commissioner Burgess: “Ok, we are coming out of Executive Session. Is there a motion to come out of Executive Session?”

Commissioner Westmoreland: “So moved.”

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: “Second.”

Commissioner Burgess: “Ok, we are in Regular Session. We now are onto the Regular Agenda, Electronic Customer Payment – Update.”

3. Electronic Customer Payments – Update

Paul Yatcko: “We need to get Kevin back in here.”

Commissioner Geake: “She is getting him.”

John Hiscock: "It was nice seeing you all again."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Nice seeing you John."

Commissioner Mann: "You are not staying for the rest of our meeting?"

[Laughter]

John Hiscock: "No, don't take this badly, but I have had enough of these."

[Laughter]

Commissioner Mann: "I am taking it personally."

Commissioner Burgess: "Are you having fun John?"

Paul Yatcko: "Good to see you John."

Lisa Roland: "That is on the record."

[Laughter]

Frank Murphy: "Good night."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Good night."

Commissioner Wooten-Dumas: "Thank you."

Commissioner Burgess: "Kevin you are on."

Kevin Barber: "Sure, I guess I was invited to provide you with an update on our electronic payment processing in our online portal. Since the last time we met, I can tell you that we have officially gone live with our web portal. Our web portal right now is pointing to our production CIS system, which is basically where all of our customer records and billing information is all kept. We have successfully processed a credit card payment through that system as well. So things are moving in the right direction. We have had a slight hiccup, I will describe it as that, with one of our interfaces. To bring you a quick reminder, the online portals are made up of two applications. One is our CIS web portal called CIS Infinity Link in which interfaces with our MDM (meter data management system) web portal, which provides customers access to their interval meter reading data. So everyone can go on and look and see exactly when they used their electricity along with some other tools that the customer could use to see how they are doing using electricity, determining ways to save electricity and other things like that."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "And that is up and available to the public now or is that new?"

Kevin Barber: "It is actually up and available to the public, we just have not told the public yet because we talked about it the last time and we discussed doing a soft launch, we are kind of in that phase. The slight hiccup we are having is some of the data that is passed from our CIS Infinity System to the Aclara MDM web portal, has some duplicate data. Now, that doesn't affect the meter reading interval data that is provided to the customer, but it does cause some, what I will describe, as some confusion on some of the information screens. That hiccup is with our CIS system and their developers are actually working on it right now to find out what the issue is. The system worked great in our test environment. As soon as we pointed it to our production, we had this little problem and I know our vendor is a little stumped by that because they are not sure why one is working and one isn't but hopefully they will have that fixed really soon. The nice part is we actually can, if we wanted to right now, open up the portal to customers and they can log in and start viewing their account information and making payments. But I know we did talk about a soft launch and maybe if the Commission would be interested, we can provide the Commission access to it to their accounts and they can see how it looks and how it works."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "When you say make a payment is that by credit card or a direct bank debit?"

Kevin Barber: "Right now you can do credit card and e-check, which is very similar to a direct debit. Those are the options that we have available. So, we can work and I can probably communicate with the Commission directly as far as instructions and links to the web portal, but we are getting there, a little hiccup here and there but we are getting there."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "That would be great. I would like to do it."

Commissioner Mann: "So would I."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Yes."

Commissioner Geake: "Me too."

Kevin Barber: "Good, ok, I don't know if the Commission would be interested, but we could set up a working demo or something of that nature."

Paul Yatcko: "That would be great, why don't we plan on doing that."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "No, no I want to be a SNEW customer. Just send me whatever the link is and let me see if I can figure it out."

Kevin Barber: "You want to do it as a regular customer? I will do that, we can do that. Ok, we can do that."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "Customers aren't going to get the demo or special treatment. We need to make sure..."

Paul Yatcko: "You are a brave man."

Commissioner Mann: "You are absolutely correct."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "If I can use it, that means that pretty much anybody can use it."

Kevin Barber: "I would appreciate that to receive some feedback to see what we can do to help maybe provide a little more information or instructions to the customer. I think that would be great."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "You might send us what you intend to roll out to the customers and we will tell you whether it works or not."

[Laughter]

Kevin Barber: "Yes, we are still working on some of that marketing material ourselves."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "We can do something close."

Kevin Barber: "I will send you a link and actually on the main page it does say first time users where you click on it, it does provide you with very simple instructions with what you need and how to register because the first step is you do have to register as a user and then the system will send you an email sending you a link verifying it."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "Oh great, another log on and password."

Commissioner Mann: "Oh man."

Kevin Barber: "I am sorry?"

Commissioner Westmoreland: "I have to have another log on and password."

Kevin Barber: "Yes you do."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Make them all the same."

Kevin Barber: "Yes you do."

Commissioner Geake: "Through the Chair, when do you think you will be able to let everybody else know?"

Kevin Barber: "It will probably depend on exactly how well it goes with the Commission checking it or trying it. Realistically, we can start letting customers know very quickly, by word of mouth in a sense or even through our website."

Paul Yatcko: "I think before we go for a wide spread launch, we need to make sure that our customer service representatives are capable of answering questions on the system because they are going to be our front line, if you will, as questions come up in the customer community. So, we need to make sure they have been adequately prepared to deal with this."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "The last thing you want to hear when you call customer service is, yeah, I don't know either."

[Laughter]

Paul Yatcko: "Exactly."

Commissioner Geake: "Are you going to have training for them?"

Kevin Barber: "Yes."

Commissioner Geake: "That would seem like the best."

Paul Yatcko: "We are going to train them and we are going to give them scripts, frequently asked questions and so forth. We are just not there yet."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "Well, that is all good."

Commissioner Mann: "Sounds good to me."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "Any more questions? Ok, thank you Kevin."

Paul Yatcko: "Thank you Kevin."

Kevin Barber: "You are very welcome."

Commissioner Mann: "Just make sure you send your cell number when you send the link."

Kevin Barber: "You won't even have my email address."

[Laughter]

Commissioner Geake: "I have your email address from here."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "So we move onto item #4, State Street Building Damage."

4. State Street Building Damage

Paul Yatcko: “We talked a little bit about that before we convened the meeting. Back on Good Friday evening, we did have a municipal sewer back up into the offices here at State Street. We had an outfit called Serv-Pro come in that weekend and clean up the immediate problem and dry out the carpeting. That cost us, I believe, about \$1,450, just to make the place inhabitable again come the following Monday. We have since determined that the sheet rock in the areas that you see out there where it had been removed, was saturated with municipal sewage, as well as the carpeting. We had some of the carpeting pulled up. We have had some of the sheet rock cut out and had the areas disinfected. We will be getting some estimates on replacing the carpeting this week in fact and we are going to use our own maintenance and construction staff to replace the sheet rock and we will have to get some taping, spackling and painting done as well. So, I just wanted to give you a heads up obviously just from looking around here, something has gone on and we wanted you to know about it.”

Commissioner Westmoreland: “Well, so the city isn’t going to pay for that, right? Do we have insurance that covers this?”

Paul Yatcko: “We have insurance but our property and casualty policy has a \$25,000 deductible and we are not going to spend \$25,000 to fix this mess. So, we are going to have to find it in our general maintenance.”

Commissioner Westmoreland: “Ok, alright.”

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: “I guess we need a motion to adjourn.”

Paul Yatcko: “If I may, could I ask for five minutes in Executive Session please? I promise I will keep it short.”

Commissioner Westmoreland: “I make a motion to move to Executive Session.”

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: “Second.”

Paul Yatcko: “Thank you.”

Executive Session: 8:35 p.m. – 8:40 p.m.

Commissioner Burgess: “Can I have a motion to move out of Executive Session.”

Commissioner Westmoreland: “So moved.”

Commissioner Burgess: “All in favor?”

Commissioners Unanimously: “Aye.”

Commissioner Burgess: "Ok, we are out. We didn't take..."

Commissioner Westmoreland: "No action."

Commissioner Burgess: "We didn't do the building damage?"

Commissioner Westmoreland: "We did."

Paul Yatcko: "Yes, we did."

Commissioner Burgess: "I was here when it happened the first time. I was here when the city forced us to move into this situation and I really dislike this. Now, our insurance covers this?"

Commissioner Mann: "No."

Paul Yatcko: "Unfortunately the deductible is \$25,000 in our property and casualty because we are used to having it applied to things like water treatment plant and substations and things like that and not general office situations. We will have to pay for it out of general maintenance."

Commissioner Burgess: "Well, you have to do it."

Paul Yatcko: "Yes, that is what I thought."

Commissioner Borges-Lopez: "I make a motion to adjourn."

Commissioner Mann: "I second it."

Commissioner Burgess: "All in favor?"

Commissioners Unanimously: "Aye."

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attest:

Lisa G. Roland
District Clerk