



**Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Enhancement Commission
Tuesday, November 20, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.
Tinley Park Village Hall – Fulton Conference Room
16250 S. Oak Park Avenue
Tinley Park, IL 60477**

ROLL CALL

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Members: Chairman Antonio Halek
Frank Markowicz
Jeff Mech
Jeffery Loftus
Commission Secretary Denise Maly-Politano
Visitor Dave Hoover (NIMEC)

Absent: Aireen Arellano
Kelly Mulqueeny, Staff Liaison
Village Trustee Brian Younker

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Environmental Enhancement Commission was called to order by **Antonio Halek** at 7:03 p.m. in the Fulton Conference Room. Motion to open the meeting and approve the agenda made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus**. Motion to approve the October 16, 2018 minutes made by **Frank Markowicz**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus**. Minutes approved by voice vote.

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

Committee Reports

Electrical Aggregation – NIMEC – Dave Hoover

Antonio Halek welcomed visitor Dave Hoover. Stated we wanted some clarification on electrical aggregation confusion that residents have. Tinley Park is rated No. 8 as a green community. Also want to reassure our residents that the rate they are getting with MC2 is consistent with the ComEd rate and how/where we can get that information.

Dave Hoover explained how MC2 establishes rates. Asked that someone send him their ComEd bill. ComEd usually has 2-3 rates. ComEd's monthly adjustment is set every month. Released

around the 20th. Hourly rate is perfect to have for an electric vehicle. Hourly rate is a rate that changes every hour and based on the current market conditions. The flat rate would be .07 but hourly might be .03 when you plug it in. 2012 aggregation program started. It was to save the residents money. Regularly beat ComEd rate, \$300.00 savings total since program started, and \$5.7 million community-wide. When MC2 went to bid last time the rate received at bid was higher. ComEd rate and above state mandated rates. MC2 priced every single resident in Tinley Park based on user profiles. If you were below 7.3 ComEd rate or lower they would take those accounts and go to MC2. 8200 homes are MC2 and 100% green. 12,900 homes went back to ComEd under the MC2 program. 11% of the 8200 opted out and went back to MC2. With the program you are 100% green and pay the ComEd rate. Without the program you are 0% green at the ComEd rate. Saw on social media there was some unrest with the program. It is hard to summary the whole program to residents. 3,000 households had previously moved to their own third party and are not involved in MC2 program. We don't involve them in our program. We are not saving any money, which is probably part of the confusion with the residents, but we are being 100% green. Thinks residents expected the rate to be lower than the ComEd rate which might have added to some of the opt-outs. From a savings point of view it is zero because we are paying the same ComEd rates. When we first started the program residents would save 25%. Now it is closer to \$30.00 a year.

Antonio Halek thinks it helps to put into perspective for the residents.

Dave Hoover agreed. MC2 can't direct electrons into wind farm. REQ are numbered by the regulatory commission and then retired. Showed list of actual REQ's MC2 purchased and what REQ's achieved. Also showed certificates sent by the IPA showing Tinley as a green community. Should also be receiving signage to put out on the street.

Jeff Mech asked if 11% is pretty standard amongst other communities doing this. Dave stated it is a new program and based on a standard aggregation program. The range is 8-10% for opt-outs.

Antonio Halek asked how we can rely to the residents of how to get green energy and save money.

Jeffrey Loftus stated they are able to buy energy for energy efficient households because they don't use as much and get a better rate on those and so with that overhead/margin they then pay energy credits for the entire population of residents of Tinley Park.

Antonio Halek stated so if I use less energy can I get a better rate? Dave stated it is not how much you use but it is when you use it. It is a combo of how much you use and when you use it.

Jeffrey Loftus explained it is based on what you use during the day vs. during the night, such as AC.

Dave Hoover stated that theoretically you can get a better rate. There are mass market programs. The volume on a home is so minute compared to a power plant but they can't

customize each residence. MC2 is the only one that can give you a customized rate via their website. If you went to their website and asked for an individual rate you might get a better rate than ComEd. The Commerce Commission has all of the offers at pluginillinois.org they warehouse all the individuals offers. Recommends going with the village aggregation program or stay with ComEd, don't go shopping. Might have a good teaser rate but then the rate will jump up later. Charge extra fees and have a penalty after certain number of months or early withdrawal.

Jeff Mech agreed with shopping for another source. You may get a slightly better rate than a resident is paying right now but you really have to shop around and there is fine print they are counting on you not knowing/reading about.

Antonio Halek asked how we can confirm the rate and who we can confirm with.

Dave Hoover can give the contact person at MC2 but she will tell you that it is the rate because that is what they do. They track monthly adjustments. You won't see it in writing but rather on an actual bill. Rates will be identical when compared. That is how they price it every month, track monthly adjustment.

Dave Hoover explained right next to supply and delivery it will say MC2 and break it down to energy and transmission. Offer a fixed rate. Energy and transmission adds up to 7.3 cents. Then the purchase electric adjustment is the third line item. Rates will be identical.

Jeff Mech said to look at supply charge of a MC2 vs. ComEd bill for that exact month and compare bills.

Jeff Mech asked what **Dave Hoover** foresees happening one year from now.

Dave Hoover stated the ICC established pricing parameters for energy and electricity and they do change. There is no reason to do an aggregation program and charge people more. As long as pricing parameters do not change then profile as a community should not change. It's favorable to unfavorable. Brown energy vs. green energy. Test standard aggregation for Tinley a year from now and try to beat ComEd rates. If they can't then the Board faced with is faced with the exact same decision. Don't think there will be as much confusion. If we can't save residents money then the fallback is to keep the program in place. As long as the pricing parameters do not change it should be renewed.

Antonio Halek asked **Dave Hoover** if he would expect more opt-outs next year if the contract is renewed.

Dave Hoover thinks some people are locked into the mentality that the aggregation will save you money. They don't really understand aggregation and how it is purchased for the community. Expects it to be 11% or lower next year.

Antonio Halek asked if there is something that we can hand out or use as displays to push the idea. **Frank Markowicz** agreed and it would be a great idea to have something for Discover Tinley.

Dave Hoover will talk with MC2 to see if they can come up with something. Thinks we can work something out. **Jeffery Loftus** thinks it would be a great project for **Aireen Arellano** to get involved with. **Jeff Mech** asked how **Dave Hoover** integrates with MC2. NIMEC is a broker who has worked with Tinley since 2008. Brokers seem to be the best avenue for suppliers to access the marketplace. Went from a monopoly to open free market. Brokers were the ones that were able to really touch base with the community. First helped Tinley Park purchase electricity for village operations. Then asked to be energy broker power broker, priority is to keep a program running, paid on volume, present renewable money to all communities, vast majority do not purchase. MC2 is a power supplier we use and we are very loyal to them. The EEC should continue to make it known and encourage the board members that EEC are big fans. July-August we will come back and present to the board again for renewing.

Jeff Mech stated we are in support of NIEMEC and continue to support them and their ability to push for all communities, not just Tinley Park. Thinks if the EEC is in support it is better than having a resident in support.

[Dave Hoover/NIEMEC presentation ended, Dave exits.]

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:

Business Cards/EEC Email

EEC business cards went to print.

General EEC Inserts/Signage

In Aireen Arellano's absence, signage tabled until December.

Jeff Mech stated there is enough for 2 A-frame signs, double-sided. Still usable. **Antonio Halek** thinks we need some general EEC signs.

Tree City USA

In **Kelly Mulqueeny**'s absence Tree City tabled until December.

Rain Garden/Apple Pond

In **Kelly Mulqueeny**'s absence, Rain Garden tabled until December.

Solar Panels

Frank Markowicz suggesting having something to talk about solar or a general display at Discover Tinley.

Jeff Mech can help with ideas but can't promote company.

Antonio Halek is thinking of creating an educational display for Discover Tinley and the clean-up. Solar panels will be covered more in the spring but would like to have something prepared.

Jeff Mech would like to meet with people at Tinley Park HS and/or District 228 to see if they would be interested in solar panels on the roof at the various schools and asked Denise Maly-Politano to contact people there to set up a meeting.

Electronic Recycling Event

Antonio Halek received a bill for \$1,338.75 for the event. The event did not seem as possible as before. We will see what happens with the new garbage contract next year and decide if we will have the event again. Where line item is in the bid for recycle pick-up of electronics. Event was not as popular as we were expecting.

Jeff Mech suggested having the event every other year if the demand is not that high. Also remembers if they did not collect enough at the recycling event there would be a bill.

Jeffery Loftus stated the collection only filled about ½ trailer this year. Last year it was one trailer filled plus another ¼ trailer. Also thinks he found a good site to use online for recycling information to be able to give a good physical representation of all these things are.

40th Annual Spring Clean-up – April 27, 2019

Antonio Halek stated all permits have been lined up and he will reserve TPHS. December will be the meeting focus.

New Chief/Flares vs. LEDs

In **Kelly Mulqueeny's** absence the discussion will be tabled until December.

Antonio Halek will order samples to demonstrate how LEDs work and do some research in the area. **Antonio Halek** will contact Oak Forest, Midlothian and Country Club Hills to see what they use and where they order from.

Jeffrey Loftus will reach out to New Lenox, Mokena and Frankfort.

FUTURE BUSINESS:

Garbage Contract

Jeffery Loftus tabled until December. He will be in contact with Pat Carr to see if he needs assistance.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator Hastings Clean Energy Event

Frank Markowicz attended the clean energy event. Thought it was very informative but it was not a very big turnout. Only had about 25-30 people.

Jeff Mech also attended and stated that reps from Nicor, CUB, and ComEd had presentations. Tesla was supposed to be there but did not make it. Q&A format and Senator Hastings acted as

the MC. Jeff talked to Senator Hastings after the meeting about the EEC solar farm idea. Senator Hastings was very receptive and likes the solar panel idea. He is a really good advocate for solar and what we are doing here. Senator Hastings is taking on a leadership position on energy for the state, how to get more energy savings in homes and schools, infrastructure, Citizens Utility Board, how to get more support for the electrical vehicle wage which is coming. Well worth it to attend, first of its kind. Awesome event. Hopes he has it at least once a year. Was presented as a clean energy town hall.

Good of the Order

N/A

Comments from the Public

No public, no comments.

Adjournment

Motion made by **Jeff Mech**, seconded by **Jeffery Loftus** to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

/dmp