



E-Mail News

<<23 April, 2003>>

Volume 1, Number 2

“Before the Board, Undergrounding of Central Neighborhood.”

Dates to Remember:

?? **Spring Clean up**

Monday May 12th

?? **Hazardous Household Waste May 3rd**

Call 941-5555

?? **CNA Monthly Meeting May 14th @7PM**

?? **Emmanuel United Methodist Church Bake Sale June 21st**

Traverse City Light and Power Board Meeting 22 April, 2003

First for those of us that are new to the area, here is a little bit about the board. The Light & Power Board consists of seven members nominated and appointed by the City Commission. Unexpired term vacancies shall be filled by the Mayor with the approval of the City Commission. Not less than one and no more than two of these members shall be selected by the City Commission and shall be ex-officio members with full voting authority. Members must be resident elector of the City, except that one member may be a non-resident if he/she resides within current actual service area of the department. Non-Commission Board members cannot hold any other City office, nor can they be an employee of the City.

Non-Commission Board members shall be appointed to serve terms of five years from the first Monday of April. The Commission Board members shall be appointed for a two-year term bi-annually at the City Commission organizational meeting.

The City Manager or the City Manager's designee shall be an ex-officio member without voting authority and shall not be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum.

Here are the current Board Members. All where in attendance last night.

Frederick Nelson
231-946-6256 (res.)

John F. Welch
231-946-1286 (bus.)

Linda Kreft
231-947-3653 (res.)

Joseph J. Zimmerman
231-947-7900 (bus.)

Harry Liebzeit
231-929-3498 (res.)

Commissioner Anne Melichar
231-946-1146 (Ex-officio/full voting authority)

Commissioner Phill Orth
231-941-7013 (Ex-officio/full voting authority)

City Manager Richard Lewis
231-922-4440 (Ex-officio/no voting authority)

THE BOARD'S PURPOSE

The Board "shall have exclusive jurisdiction, control and management of the Light and Power Department and all its operations and facilities, except as herein provided. Unless specifically allocated to the City Commission or to a City official, the Board shall have all the powers and duties possessed by the City to construct, acquire, expand and operate the Light & Power system."

Creation of the Light & Power Board is required by City Charter.

The Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:15 p.m.

Ok the meat and potatoes. The question of under-grounding wires has been a goal of the board for some time. Of course this was closely tied to The Bay Shore Beautification Project, which by the way is a great achievement towards making the area near the Clinch Park look outstanding and power pole free.

The main focus of under-grounding was aimed at new business and housing projects. However the question of the Power Pole Tower on Wadsworth south of Front Street brought about the idea of under-grounding the Central Neighborhood, which would eliminate the need for the pole and would physically move it out side of the city limits. Not to mention eliminate all the poles in the neighborhood.

The only problem with this idea is the cost. Estimates are between \$1,000.00-\$9,000.00 per household. This cost includes under-grounding all the wires in the neighborhood and running it to you house and changing the box on the outside, and if needed changing the fuse box on the inside to meet code.

The other problem is it may even cost more if the county electrical inspector gets in your house to inspect the new connection and finds other problems. Which in some of the older Hanna Homes is likely, thus costing you even more money.

The Board is also going to look into under-grounding the 64KV lines. Those are the high power lines at the very top of the pole. This will not eliminate poles in the neighborhood, because they still have to connect to your house. But it would eliminate the need for the pole on Wadsworth. The important thing here to remember is the Power Company only makes so much money each year, so if they did decide to do this it will take time and would be done in sections. This would take us one step closer to under-grounding the rest of the neighborhood.

It was also recommended that they look into the possibility of placing the tubing/or conduit, for the power line runs as streets are dug up for other purposes and eventually we would achieve under-grounding. Of course this method would take many years.

For now I personally do not see this as a feasible. My vote is to go ahead with Painting the Pole on Wadsworth and Landscaping for now.

I would ask you to pass this information on to your neighbors that may not have E-mail and be ready to give me your input at the next meeting on 14 May 03. I would like to go back to Richard Smith, TCLP and the board with some sort of consensus from the neighborhood. We do not need them spending any needless time and money if we are not interested in the under-grounding project.

Thanks and See you at the next meeting.

Tim Luckey

Up-Coming Events

Spring Clean up Monday May 12th call the city hotline for more information 922-4909

Hazardous Household Waste Saturday May 3rd Garfield Township call 941-5555 for an appointment

Central Neighborhood Meeting May 14th 7pm Central Grade School

Traffic Meeting April 23rd 7pm, Emmanuel United Methodist Church
9th and Wadsworth Streets

Bata Board Meeting - April 30th - City Library 12 noon

City Commission Meeting - 7am Government Building
Renewal of BATA Signs

Annual CNA Garage Sale will be on 21 June 2003.

Garden Club...If your interested in joining the Garden Club contact Lynda Crandall at 946-0517 or at lrccrandall@hotmail.com

