

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH BARRINGTON

Tuesday, December 9, 2014 7:30 p.m.

Rose Hall in the SB Village Hall 30 S. Barrington Road South Barrington, IL

CALL TO ORDER

President McCombie called the special Board meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Clerk Wood took roll:

Present: President: Paula McCombie

Trustees: Joseph Abbate, Therese Cohen, Steve Guranovich, Louis Matuska,
Anthony Stagno

Absent: Trustee: Bernard Kerman

A quorum was present. Also present were representatives from Commonwealth Edison.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President McCombie asked if anyone wanted to address the Board before ComEd gave their presentation; there was no one.

PRESENTATION BY COM ED REGARDING SMART METERS

Present for ComEd were several representatives, including Michael McMahan, VP of the Smart Meter Program, and Cynthia Thomas, South Barrington representative for ComEd.

President McCombie introduced Michael McMahan to the audience, and he began a presentation on the installation of smart meters, part of the Smart Energy Modernization Act passed by the Illinois General Assembly. In addition to the installation of smart meters, which automatically send usage data to ComEd six times a day, avoiding the necessity of meter reader personnel, ComEd will also be updating poles, lines, substations, etc. ComEd plans to install over 4 million smart meters by 2018. Installation in the Village will begin January 2015.

After providing background on the program, Mr. McMahan explained what the process of the installation of the new meters would mean to the residents. Thirty days prior to installation, ComEd will send letters explaining the process with Frequently Asked Questions and a number to call to schedule the installation. Corex will be the vendor that does the actual installation in South Barrington. They will knock on the door when they arrive, but will still install the meter if no one is home. There may be a loss of power for a few minutes. Corex will also be inspecting the sockets to be sure they work with the new meters.

ComEd will also provide information on signing up for programs to take advantage of energy saving tools. Mr. McMahan thought that it would be a large advantage to consumers to see their energy use in hourly increments. One of the cost saving plans offered, "real time pricing", will not work with residents who take advantage of South Barrington's municipal aggregate pricing program.

Mr. McMahan said that there are actually two radios to communicate information, one for sending usage data to ComEd and the other in place for future use. The meters are assembled in the Chicagoland area and are UL certified. He compared the meters to a baby monitor or garage door opener, and noted that as they are wireless, ComEd had security as a priority when selecting a vendor. He said that even if they were hacked, there is no personal information being transmitted. Mr. McMahan also stated that ComEd will not sell the data they collect. However, they will turn over all information if required by law.

Mr. McMahan stated that hundreds of studies were done on health effects of the smart meters and that no specific linkage was found to any kind of cancer, sleep deprivation or headaches. He referred concerned residents to the report "Health Impacts of Radio Frequency Exposure from Smart Meters" dated April 2011 by the California Council on Science & Technology, a copy of which is on file at the Village Hall. He said there was insufficient evidence to make changes to the current standards regulated by the FCC.

At approximately 8:00 p.m., Mr. McMahan finished his presentation and asked for questions from the audience. Discussion ensued, and in response to some of those audience questions: Mr. McMahan stated that residents could opt out of the smart meter program by paying a monthly fee of \$21.53 to cover the cost of requiring personnel to read the meter. Residents that chose to opt out can call ComEd at (866)368-8326 and will not have to give a reason for their choice. Those residents that do opt out can always choose to later go on the program, and in fact, Mr. McMahan did qualify that any Village resident can only opt out until 2021, at which time everyone will need to be on smart meters.

The meter's life expectancy is twenty years, and would be replaced at no cost to the individual homeowner, but be part of the general cost for every electricity consumer.

The meter does have switching capabilities (power on, power off) and is controllable by ComEd. The meter will contact ComEd when the meter loses power, a feature which will be integrated into their outage system by 2016.

Smart meters can support sending power from solar panels back into the grid.

Smart meter technology would enable ComEd to immediately disconnect electricity to a home at the request of the fire department.

A Village resident asked the Board if it has the option to accept or refuse the new smart meters. President McCombie explained that the Board has no control, the new meter installation is mandated by the State of Illinois.

Mr. McMahan summed up the smart meter program as one of consumer benefits and future efficiency.

President McCombie asked for more public comments or questions. When there were none, she thanked the audience for attending tonight and their interest in the Village. She invited residents and the Board to see the sample smart meters and other ComEd equipment on display and announced that the ComEd representatives would stay to speak with residents individually.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to ADJOURN was made by Trustee Cohen.

SECONDED by Trustee Guranovich.

There was no further discussion. By unanimous voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

These minutes were approved this
_____ Day of _____, 2015.

Donna Wood, Village Clerk