

Utility Commission Minutes Jan. 8, 2025

Chairman Joanmarie Wermes called to order the meeting of the Hoffman Estates Utility Commission at noon on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025 in the Hoffman Estates Police Department. Others present were Trustee Anna Newell, Staff Liaison Joseph Nebel and Commissioners Jim Bamberger and Tricia O'Brien. Commissioner Bamberger is considered present since he called to clarify the need to take his sick daughter for treatment.

There were no public comments.

A motion to amend the Nov. 6, 2024 minutes to read that Trustee Anna Newell was not present was made by Commissioner Tricia O'Brien and duly seconded with an affirmative vote. Then O'Brien moved that the Nov. 6, 2024 minutes be approved as corrected; it was seconded and unanimously accepted.

Staff Liaison Joseph Nebel reported that his staff member Kevin bought two \$50 Target gift cards using our 2024 budget balance of a little more than \$100. Those gifts will be used as third or fourth prizes during the commission's 2025 Energy Hog Contest. Nebel was pleased that the public works open house was such a success but had his stress moments as he contemplated the numbers present that none of the crowd would get hurt. He said that he noticed 50-people deep in line to go on the rides on the plow and other vehicles.

Under Unfinished Business Chairman Wermes noted that the 2025 budget is \$500, less than the 2024 budget of \$750 but said a good quantity of Royal Blue Mop Toppers were purchased with the former budget and the larger amount is not needed this year.

Under Unfinished Business Wermes reported on her visits to the fourth graders in MacArthur and St. Hubert Elementary Schools in Hoffman Estates to present consolation prizes to those who wrote essays. The students were excited and enthused to receive a Mop Topper and a coupon for pizza at Garibaldi's. The principals at each school handed out the prizes after Wermes quizzed the students on what they had learned and urged them to continue to inform their parents, siblings and other students about how to conserve energy.

Wermes read the thank you letter she sent to Garibaldi's manager Steve Carlson and also thanked Anna Newell and Karen Arnet for procuring the pizza prizes.

Under New Business commissioners discussed how to use the 2025 budget of \$500. Tricia moved to again present the Hog Energy Contest and to use the \$500 for the prizes in increments acceptable to the number of contestants. The motion was seconded by Anna Newell. The vote was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Tricia O'Brien and seconded by Anna Newell to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. It was unanimously approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2025.

The minutes were composed and submitted by Chairman Joanmarie Wermes.