

Oberlin City Council meeting
5:00 pm
May 10, 2018



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 19, 2018 - GATEWAY- 5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER – President Brandon Oien called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Roll Call of the Members of the City Council – Brandon Oien, Scott Gawith, Deb Lohofener, Jim Garner and Jim Marchello by phone conference. Majority of the Body Present.

Absent: Mayor Ladd Wendelin and City Attorney Steve Hirsch

Others Present: City Administrator Halley Roberson, City Foreman David Sporn, Police Chief Brad Burmaster, Treasurer Steve Zodrow, Water Supervisor Willard Perrin, Faith Meitl with the Oberlin Herald, Brice Meitl, Ruth Miesner, Marilyn Black, Troy & Amy Haas, Heather McDougal, Dog Park Committee members: Cemetery/Parks Manager Jeremy Tally, Johanna Mason, Susan Nelson and Penny Fringer; Swim Team Club member Shannon Addleman; EDC committee members: Director Shayla Williby, John Sater, Danielle Wasson and Mark Starr; Park Committee members: Kandi Ketterl, Deb Klima and Valisha Raile; and City Clerk Sandy Rush.

Lohofener moved second by Gawith to approve councilman Oien preside over the meeting as Acting Mayor. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kandi Ketterl with the Parks committee asked for a letter of approval from the council to apply for a grant from the GROW foundation. It would be for \$500 to fund meals at the park for volunteers during the construction of the new playground equipment. Ms. Ketterl told the council the equipment is to be delivered May 9 and the plans call for ideally twenty workers to work 4-5 days on the installation. Roberson indicated the city crew would require many volunteers to accomplish the task. For this reason, Ketterl explained the committee would be advertising for bids locally to do the work and applying for a Hansen grant to fund it. She asked if there was money in the budget to help with the process. After a discussion, Lohofener moved, second by Gawith to approve the applications for a GROW grant and to fund the project with \$5000 as budgeted. **Motion carried.**

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of minutes – for April 5, 2018 regular Council meeting.

Appropriation Ordinance - Payment of Bills.

Lohofener moved, second by Gawith, to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

EDC Appropriation – Marchello discussed his desire to cease funding the EDC until the city's expectations are met. Oien proposed the city do an analysis on EDC during the budget discussion but to pay the quarterly appropriation at this time. Gawith reminded all to remember the secondary benefits of the businesses that were already here and assisted by EDC. Lohofener disagreed with the perception of what EDC was or was not accomplishing. After a long discussion, Lohofener moved, second by Gawith to pay the full amount of the quarterly appropriation. **Motion carried.**

New Business

Swim Team Meet – Shannon Addleman with the Oberlin Swim Club requested the council to consider closing the pool June 16th so they can host a meet. Lohofener moved, second by Garner to approve. **Motion carried.**

Dog Park – Jeremy Tally presented a summary of the dog park survey results showing a positive interest in a dog park. The top two concerns were discussed and they were diseases and neighborhood. Tally is seeking the approval of the council to continue with the grant application. Garner moved, second by Gawith to approve. **Motion carried.**

Pool Pricing and Opening Date – Administrator Roberson asked the council to review the proposed Pool Brochure showing hours, rules and prices for 2018. All agreed, no changes needed to be made.

REPORTS

- Acting Mayor Oien remarked he felt the council owed the citizens an analysis of the EDC.
- Administrators Report
 - Next Council Meeting is to be May 3, 2018 but several would be gone that week to a KMU meeting in Wichita. She requests the council consider different days in May for the meeting. Lohofener moved, second by Gawith to change the next two meetings to May 10 and May 24. **Motion carried.**
 - 2018 KMIT Assessment results showed the city receiving a Gold Star for their Worker's Compensation Package which awards a five percent discount on the annual premiums.
 - Alternative Housing – Roberson was asked permission by a citizen to build in a zone that does not allow for alternative housing. All agreed to have the administrator discuss it with the planning and zoning committees to come up with a plan to allow such homes.
 - Events Update – The MMA promotor has once again scheduled an event at the Gateway for Saturday, October 13, 2018.
 - Cattle Expo – The Strategic Doing Group is helping to organize local businesses, veterinaries and producers to launch a cattle exposition, to be held at the Gateway. This is scheduled for December 4th and 5th.
- Public Works Department
 - Report Available for Discussion
 - Water Main Information was presented for the recommendations proposed for water main projects to be done in the future if a CDBG grant were to be awarded.
- Treasurers Report
 - March Cash Flow Statement Available for Discussion. A new fund for the ticket sales has been created; Gateway Events.
 - Sewer rates have been calculated with the median rate staying approximately the same this year at \$17.58.
- Police Report
 - March 2018 Police Report attached.
- Board Reports
 - Chamber Report attached.
 - EDC Report: Shayla's Accomplishments, Minutes & Revised Bylaws attached.
- Other Reports

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:20 pm Gawith moved, second by Lohofener to adjourn. **Motion carried.**

Sandy Rush, City Clerk

Brandon Oien, Acting Mayor

AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Gateway 1 & 2 – Oberlin, Kansas
May 10, 2018
5:00 PM

Meeting Called to Order – Mayor Ladd Wendelin

ROLL CALL of the Members of the City Council and determination of quorum.
Oien____ Marchello _____ Lohofener____ Garner _____ Gawith _____

ABSENT – Brandon Oien

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the Flag

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Oral Communications from the Audience

CONSENT AGENDA: Discussion and possible action by motion to approve the following items and or reports:

- Approval of minutes of previous meetings
- Appropriation Ordinance (Payment of Bills)
Motion_____ Second_____

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Western Kansas Child Advocacy- Vicki Hubin
2. Street Repair Options

EXECUTIVE Sessions

1. Executive Session on matters deemed privileged in attorney-client relationship. (Hirsch)

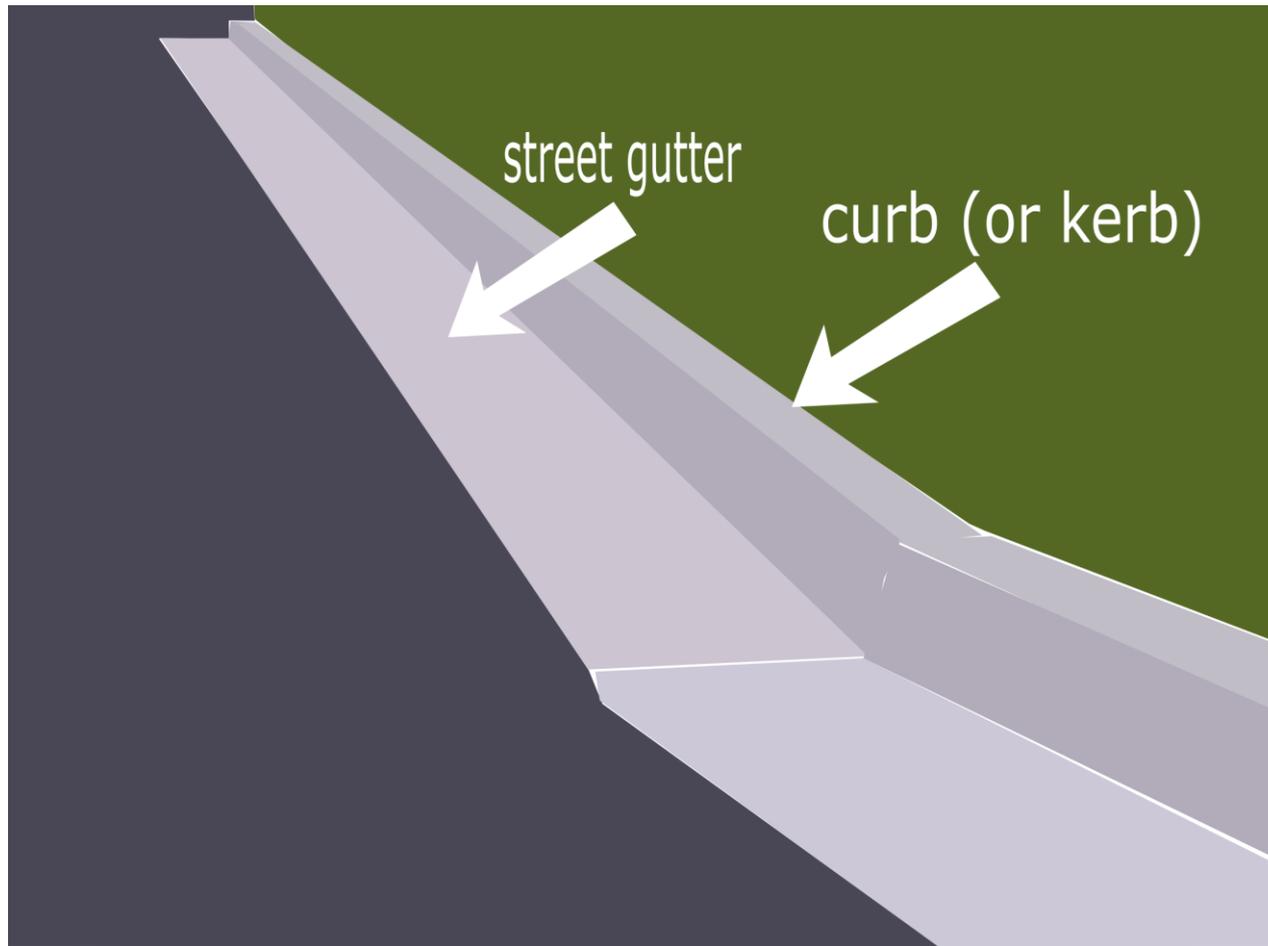
REPORTS OF OTHER OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- Mayors Report
- Administrators Report
 - Next Council Meeting May 24, 2018
 - CVB Update
 - Pool Update
 - Sappa Park Update
 - City Wide Cleanup
 - Silent Auction Reminder
 - Energy Study Update
- Public Works Department
 - Report Available for Discussion
- Treasurers Report
 - Cash Flow Statement Available for Discussion
- Police Report
 - Report Available for Discussion
 - Two New Officers
- Board Reports
 - Library April Minutes
- Other Reports

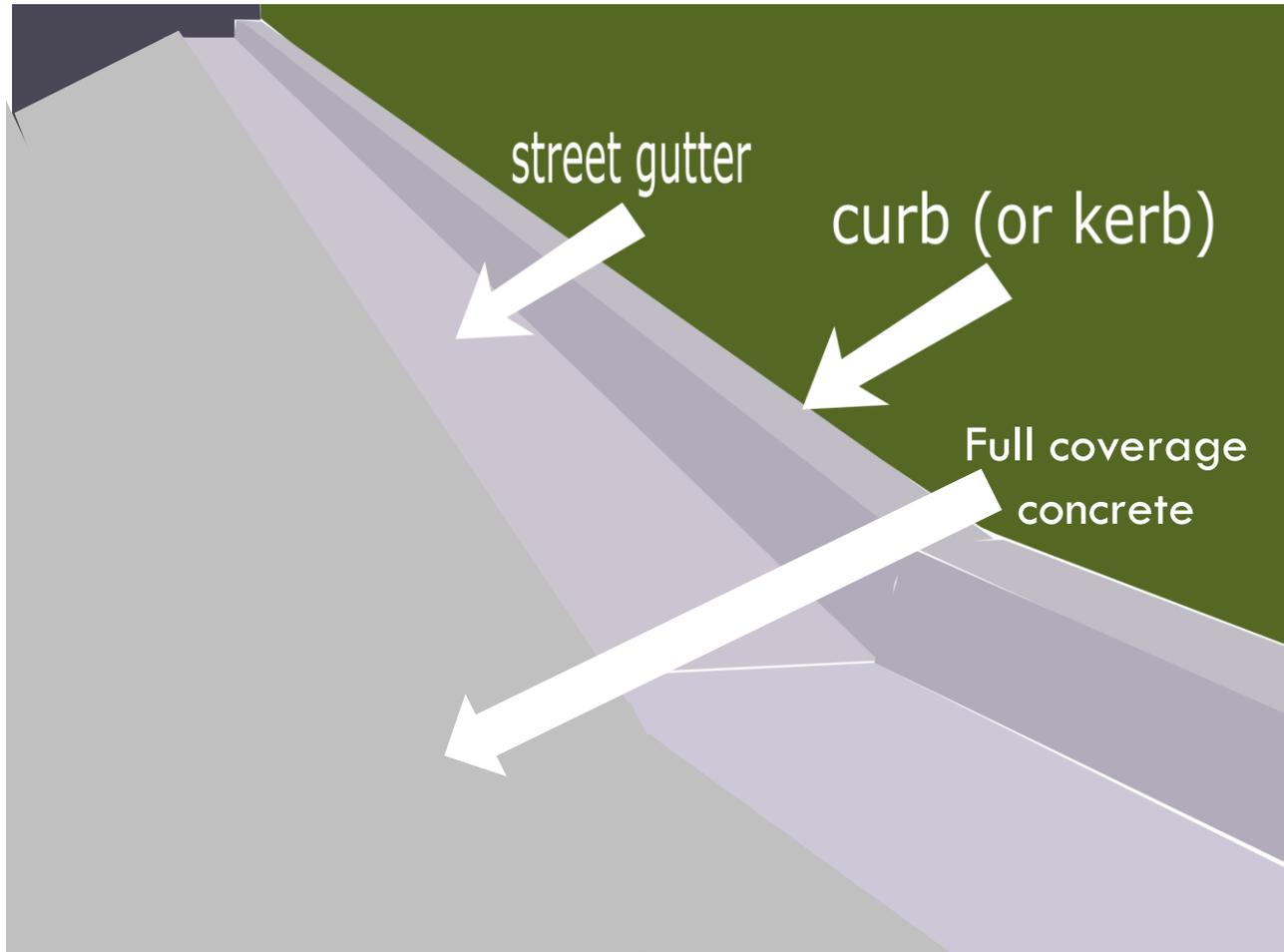
ADJOURNMENT

- Action – Motion to Adjourn
Motion_____ Second_____

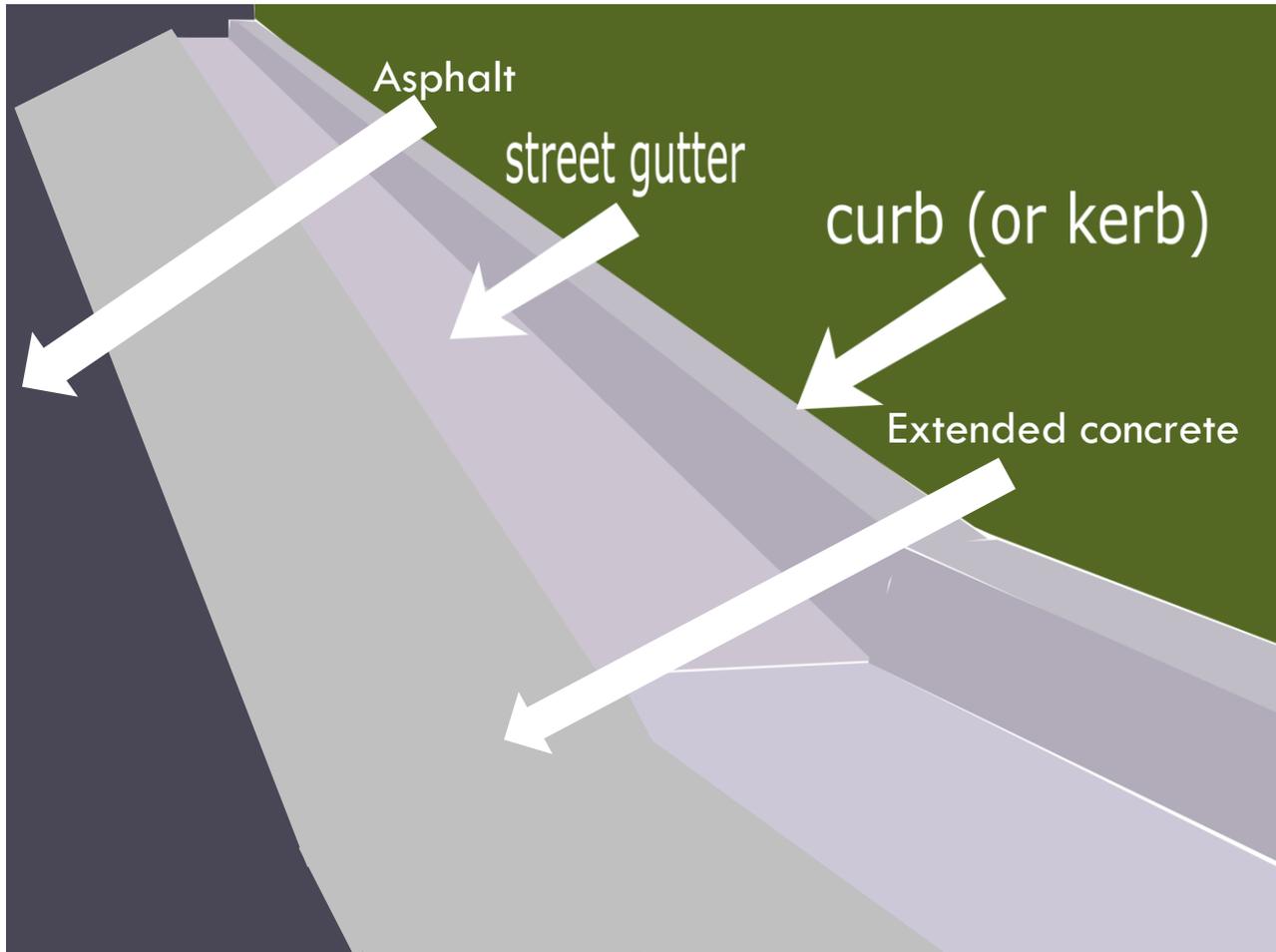
Traditional Street Construction



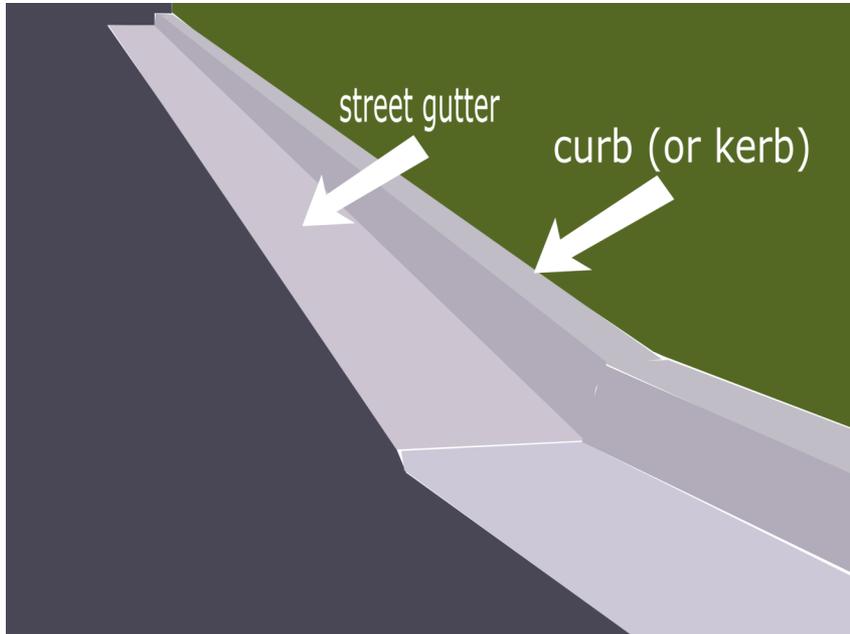
Ideal Street Construction



Hybrid Street Construction



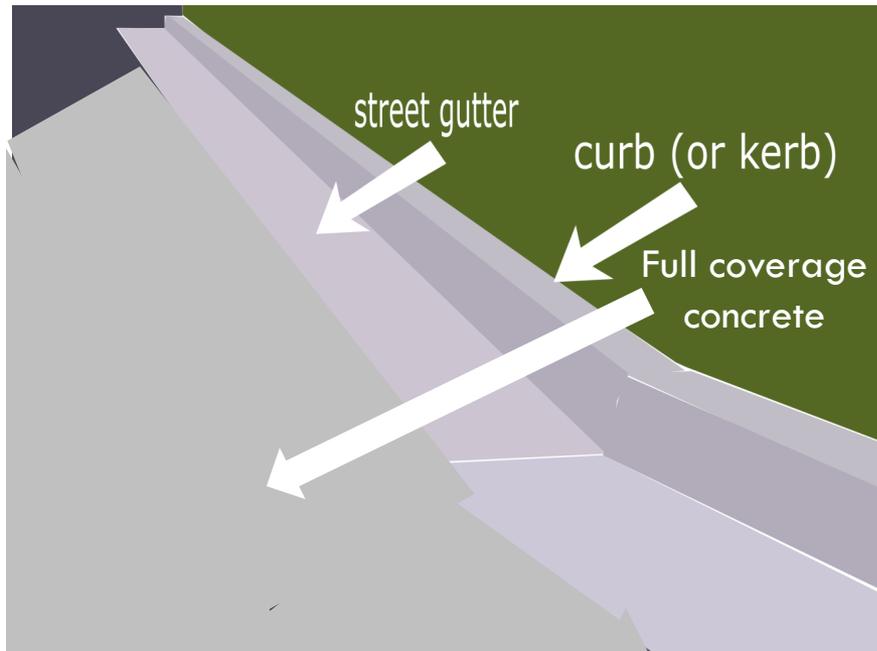
Traditional Street Construction



Traditional Street Construction:

- Provides for drainage
- Uses cost effective asphalt
- Easy access for repairs & maintenance
- Specific to Oberlin numerous repairs with chip sealing has caused excessive road crowning and drainage blockage

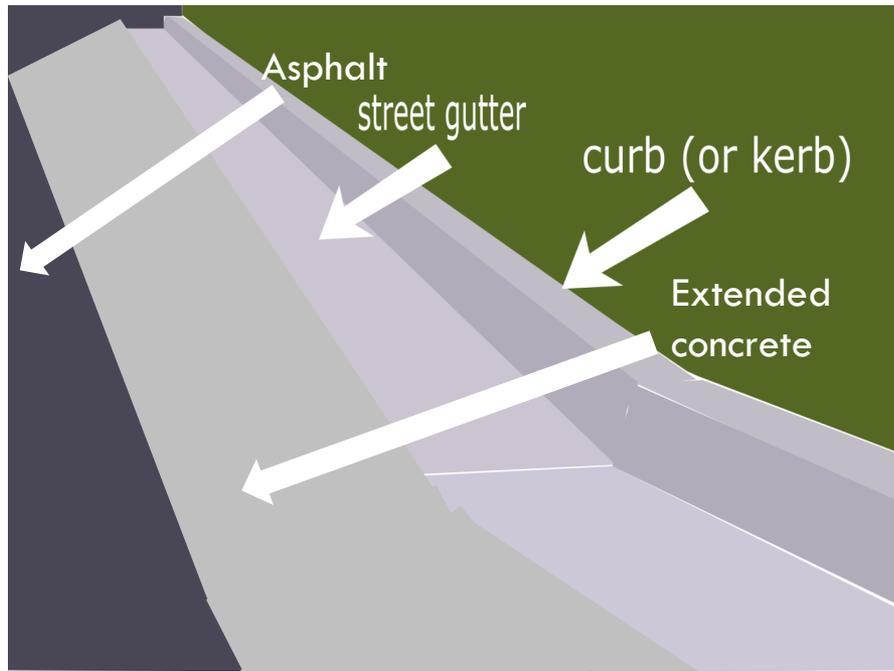
Ideal Street Construction



Ideal Street Construction

- Most durable street
- Best drainage
- Most expensive option for street construction or repair
- Difficult and costly for repair
- Fewer repairs needed
- Costly if any infrastructure work is needed below the street surface

Hybrid Street Construction

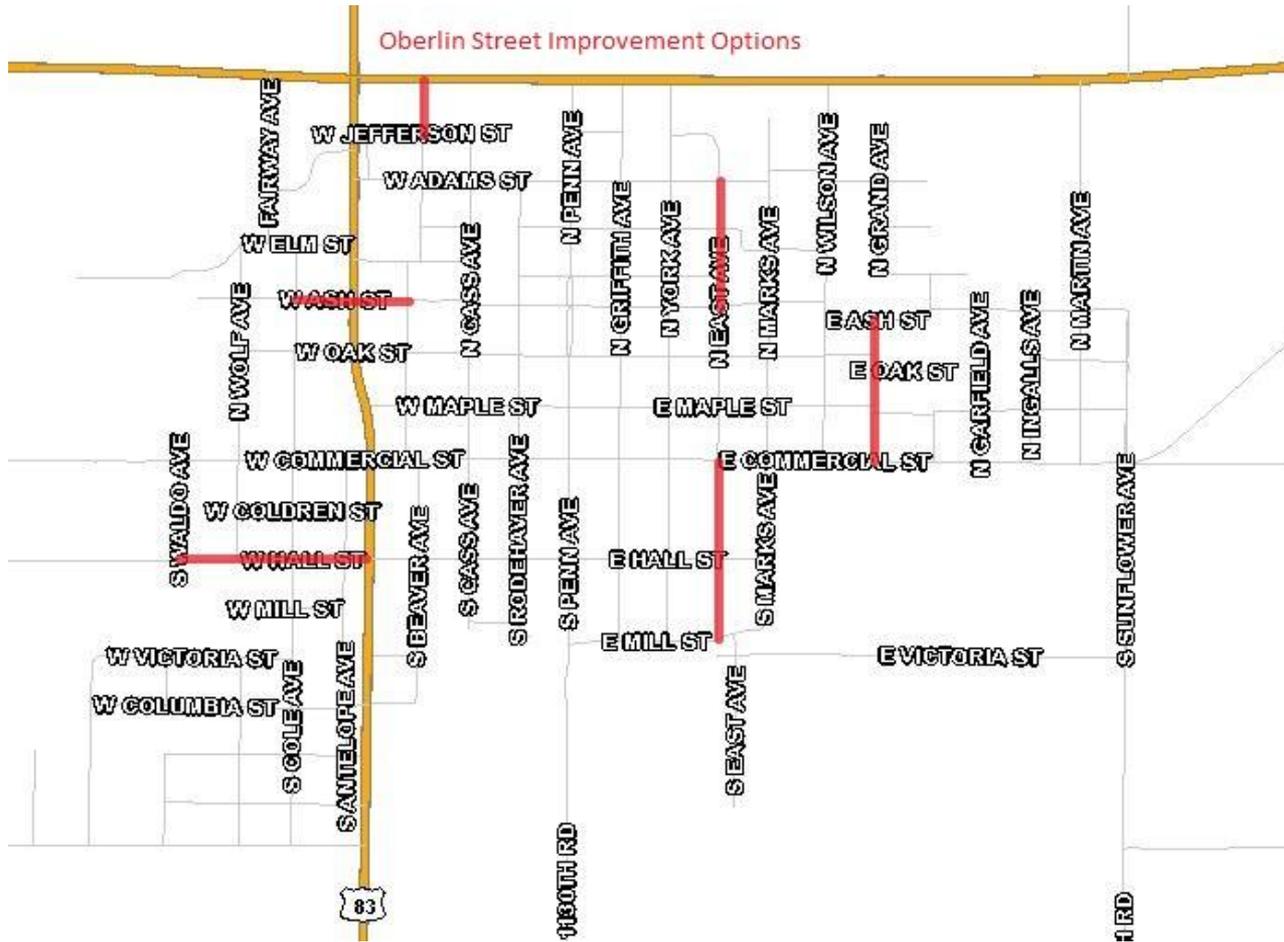


Hybrid Street Construction

- Specific to Oberlin – it is pro-active to maintain accessible and functional gutters for drainage – excessive street repair with chip seal has created large lip and road drop off making it necessary to ‘reclaim’ gutters
- Improved drainage, and improved road life longevity
- Reduced wear-and-tear on street sweeper
- Hybrid street construction can be completed in-house



Street improvement options





Suggested street projects

Suggested street projects

East from Adams at Elm (Not the intersection)

Ash off Elk to Hwy Ash to Hwy to Beaver (this connects 2 previous street projects)

W. on Hall at Waldo

East south of commercial to Mill (new main)

Grand from Commercial at Ash (new main)

There are near 57 bituminous and asphalt east and west blocks

There are near 56 bituminous and asphalt north and south blocks

NOT all streets need the edges replaced

All prices listed are approximate

Chip Seal

Done by a contractor-All of town=\$617,771 Each block=\$5467

NOTES: This is all inclusive except the road preparation. The prep would be done by our crew and would consist primarily of crack sealing and pothole repair.

Done ourselves – All of town=\$507,500 Each block=\$4491

1. Chip Seal= approx. \$2.50 sq. yd.
2. Each block of roadways is approx. 1562 sq. yds.
3. $1562 \times 2.50 = \$3905$ (approx. \$4000)

Equipment and Materials needed

- A. Roller \$25,000
- B. Oiler \$15,500
- C. Rock chips, 25 lbs sq yd, 39,050 lbs per block
- D. Oil, .30 gallons per square yard, 468.6 gallons per block
- E. Chip spreader \$15,000

Downfalls

- a. Road edges will still be high and continue to deteriorate
- b. Prime time for this is between May 1 and August 31 (busy season)
- c. No structural value
- d. No leveling value
- e. Large upfront expense for the needed equipment

Positives

- a. Water-seals the roadway to prolong life

NOTES: While chip sealing may reduce water from entering under the roadway, it has no value for structural support or pothole prevention. Prior to this type of treatment the street needs to be crack-

sealed and the blemishes need to be repaired. This is an option primarily for maintenance to prolong the life of an already structurally sound street.

Asphalt edge repair option #1

Done by Contractor – All of town=\$1,291,251 Each block=\$11427

NOTES: This price is for the installation of the new asphalt by a contractor and our crew would do the tear out and preparation. For Prep work, we will still need a packer and a saw for a total of \$39,000. The additional equipment will come to \$350 for each block, the contracted work is \$11077 for each block.

Done ourselves – All of town=\$987,281 Each block=\$8737

1. Asphalt= approx. \$78.50 per ton
2. 5' x 380' x 6"= 45.9 tons (one side of street)
3. Repave on both sides of a street is approx. \$7206

Equipment and Materials needed

- A. Packer \$35,000
- B. Saw \$4000
- C. Pavement Roller \$16,000
- D. Paver \$118,000

Downfalls

- a. Expensive additional equipment needed upfront
- b. Time sensitive
- c. Training needed
- d. Extra summer help needed

Positives

- a. Long lasting
- b. Can be driven on soon after laid

NOTES: This seemed to be a good idea for a repair of the street edges. The concerns I have here are the additional equipment purchases and the personnel it will take to operate them. This project would consist of us tearing out and preparing the existing edge (approx. 5' for the length of the street). When ready to proceed, we would have to get the paving equipment and start laying asphalt. There would be

several pieces of equipment out at this time which will require operators. The entire group of operators will need to be trained for a successful job. When all road edges in town have been repaired, we would end up with the paving equipment which would no longer be needed and would likely need to be sold.

Asphalt edge repair option #2

Done by a contractor – All of town=\$1,898,400 Each block=\$16,800

1. Mill off 3" while bringing the road edge back to gutter level
2. Total width would be 11'
3. \$8400 per street side

NOTES: This option came after I spoke to a contractor. He said this is what they are doing in their town. This seems like a good repair and would have less of a pitch from the center of the street. The company would do all this work so training and extra personnel would not be needed. This option would also generate millings. This would be the highest dollar option.

Concrete edge repair (concrete price has increased considerably)

Done ourselves - All of town=\$1,201,868 Each block=\$10,636

1. Concrete= \$125.50 cubic yard
2. 5' x 380' x 7"= 41 cubic yards (one side of street)
3. Concrete on both sides of street is approx. \$10,291

Equipment and Materials needed

- A. Packer \$35,000
- B. Saw \$4000

Downfalls

- a. 10 day dry period before put back in service
- b. Odd appearance to the road

Positives

- a. Local material and business

- b. Longest lasting
- c. Not much additional equipment is needed
- d. Training not needed

NOTES: This option appears to be the best to me. The money spent could stay in town. There is a minimal amount of extras needed. This project would consist of us tearing out and preparing the existing edge (approx. 5' for the length of the street) and then having concrete poured. Concrete seems to last the longest although it may be slightly more difficult to get to utilities beneath if needed. After poured we would go back and seal the edges with our crack sealer. There would be no additional personnel or training needed. The streets may have an odd appearance with the contrasting colors of the black center and the concrete edges.

CONCLUSION: I set out to make a crack sealing project for our street crew for the fall months and was struck by the poor condition of the streets. Most of them are so bad that they are beyond this type of maintenance. We have six blocks that can be crack sealed and 107 blocks that need another type of treatment. That is when I began looking for other options suitable for Oberlin. If something isn't done soon, I fear the worst. Once streets become this bad, water gets beneath them and they deteriorate very quickly. Several years ago we used a chip sealing program which has kept the streets OK for a long time, but has also contributed to the destruction and increased height of the edges. After we stopped chip sealing, the water started to enter the base of the streets. As time has went on, the neglect has multiplied itself to our troubles we have today. Not all of these streets need to have the edges rebuilt. There are many that can be improved with chip seal, but our main concerns are the ones needing to be rebuilt. These streets will continue to deteriorate faster and faster until something is done.

The middle of our streets appear to be in fair condition, with a majority of issues along the edges. I believe the most cost effective way to prolong street life would be to repair the edges and seal the middles with our crack sealer. This would greatly extend the life of our streets and ease the usage of our street sweeper, while being able to effectively clean gutters.

In conclusion, I believe with a little money set aside each year for some of these projects, and by starting to improve the worst streets first, we will end of up with decent, long lasting and cosmetically appealing streets of Oberlin for years to come.





Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB)

Mission

Foster a diverse tourism industry for the economic growth of Oberlin.

Initiatives

- Financially partner with organizations or individuals hosting events geared toward bringing people to Oberlin
- Bring quality events to Oberlin
- Design and distribute quality marketing material to attract people to Oberlin

Proposed budget

Percentage	Budget Item	Projected Dollar Amount
5%	Photographers	\$1,250
65%	Events/Grants	\$16,250
25%	Advertising	\$6,250
5%	Memberships	\$1,250
Estimated annual budget		\$25,000

Process

- CVB will operate as an advisory board, and assist with the effort of designing annual marketing campaigns, strategies, and event specific marketing projects with the administrator for recommendation to the city council.
- CVB already has a grant application process already in place to assist organizations sponsoring events and it is recommended this remain.
- The gap – with CVB being entirely volunteer supported and meeting once a month there is a gap of services; simply a logistical obstacle to make decisions fast enough to meet marketing needs of Oberlin. Please read further under methodology for a *recommendation* on how to overcome this gap.

Replenishment

Any organization receiving \$1,000 or more from CVB for an event is with the expectation that after the event 75% of the CVB funds be returned from event proceeds. This ensures an event budget is always available, and to reduce any lull in tourism revenue. This can be handled on a case-by-case basis, but is primarily designed for large events. Replenishment provides the opportunity of profits to remain with the entity managing the event, without depleting CVB funds.

Methodology

Initiatives

All of the initiatives directly drive the mission, in order to maximize tourism dollars. These efforts are best focused to attract people to Oberlin so they spend the night; this drives the idea of quality behind everything CVB sponsors. Over-night stays increase revenue potential throughout Oberlin. Additionally, over-night stays increases the CVB budget through bed-tax revenue. The long-term impact is to expose more people to Oberlin, making Oberlin a consideration of where people live and conduct business.

Budget

This budget proposal is similar to the one already submitted and approved by council. The difference is there was a line item for graphic design. This line item was folded into the line item of events and advertising. Typically, graphic design will occur when either an event or advertising is taken place and seems more seamless with this task being incorporated with events and advertising. Additionally, the line item for advertising is decreased from 30% - 25%. The reasoning for this is to capture actual advertising costs for Oberlin. It is anticipated with the grant initiative designed by CVB, a significant portion of grants will go toward advertising as well. The idea behind Oberlin advertising is to market Oberlin 'institutions', such as but not limited to; Sappa Park, the Museum, movie theater (especially when a 3D movie is available), the Fair, the Gateway and Golden Age. By incorporating this focus CVB's initiative of directing funds directly to Sappa Park, the movie theater and the museum will be met and hopefully exceeded.

Process

The process and the concepts the CVB has implemented are founded in the best of intentions for the City of Oberlin. The effectiveness of these initiatives has yet to be fully understood, but are incredibly encouraging and a path the council will hopefully continue to support. CVB already has a strong network of photographers, and a solid understanding of what memberships garnish the largest results. The thought is keeping these tasks with the CVB will help expedite, improve, and reduce workload for the City.

The gap is caused by a lack of resources. It is common for CVB's to have full-time staff members, and have the board function as clearing house, or think tank. Oberlin is not in this position, at least not yet. This is an increase of workload for Oberlin staff; primarily the administrator. The suggestion is for the administrator to be able to conduct what has been assigned CVB board business in the past. In the eyes of the state, the CVB funds are the same as Oberlin's general funds. Laying this groundwork now will help define the role of marketing/project manager staff member and how that position can move among different Oberlin 'institutions' and event planning entities for overall betterment of Oberlin. And why the concept of replenishment is important. Policy assigns the administrator with a \$10,000 spending authority. It is recommended for CVB funds there be an understanding of anything over \$5,000 for CVB funds would require council approval. This will eliminate the need to bring the smaller grant requests to the council, overcome the gap in services, and generate more tourism revenue for Oberlin. In the spirit of working together, to create a seamless relationship, it is imperative the administrator communicate any expenditure with the CVB. The intent is to have CVB and the City working together toward the same goal laid out in the mission statement.

The Future of Your Utility

Positioning Your Community to Succeed in a Sellout Evaluation



The Future of Your Utility

Positioning Your Community to Succeed in a Sellout Evaluation

Report written and prepared by LeAnne Sinclair and Ursula Schryver

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The Future of Your Utility

Positioning Your Community to Succeed in a Sellout Evaluation



The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 93,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.

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The Future of Your Utility

Positioning Your Community to Succeed in a Sellout Evaluation

Despite the many changes in the electric industry, public power utilities have remained true to their fundamental commitment to their customer-owners: to serve. Public power utilities¹ offer competitive rates, high reliability, local control, public accountability and responsive customer service to the communities they serve.

As the electric industry continues to evolve, utility priorities now include investing in aging infrastructure and new technology; changing or diversifying the utility's power supply portfolio, including using renewable resources and increasing energy efficiency and demand response; protecting the environment; and responding to changing customer expectations. Electric utilities also have obligations to ensure the reliability and security of the transmission grid and other electric infrastructure. As they face these challenges, public power utilities' close relationships with their customers allow them to set a course that best serves their communities' interests.

The public power business model is based on the tenets of local control, not-for-profit operations, low-cost delivery of service, and an ultimate focus on the needs of customers. This model has long been successful. But fiscal pressures on local government, the expansion of traditional competitors, and the existence of new market entrants may lead to debate on whether your community should continue to own and operate its own utility.

The best defense against a sellout attempt is to make sure your utility is well run, and that your customers and stakeholders understand the value they receive from owning a public power utility. Long before the future of your utility comes into question, you should determine the strengths and weaknesses of your utility, identify potential warning signs and develop a communication campaign to build positive goodwill within your community.

If a sellout attempt or buyout offer emerges, you may be called upon to decide if the utility should be sold or leased and, if so, at what price. The sale of such a valuable asset, which reflects the investments of its past and present customer-owners over many years, is a complex issue and deserves careful consideration.

Whether a buyout offer comes from a prospective new owner or the notion of selling your utility is raised by a local policymaker, the reasons for selling a valuable community asset should be clearly understood and carefully examined, and the community needs to be kept fully informed of the formal process for considering such a sale and the citizens' role in the ultimate decision. The sale of a public power utility is a drastic measure and those who propose selling should be required to demonstrate clearly how the community would benefit from the change.

Many public power utilities have been providing reliable, responsive, low-cost service for more than a hundred years. Public power utilities provide value beyond privately owned utilities because they are community-owned, locally controlled and operate on a not-for-profit basis. Because of these long-term, important contributions to customers and the community, there must be compelling reasons—beyond the short-term cash value of the assets—to give up those benefits.

This manual will help you work through the major issues in understanding the value of your community-owned utility, and the importance of running your utility effectively. It will help you identify warning signs that your utility may become a target of a sellout attempt, and provide you with tools to make an informed evaluation on the retention or sale of your utility. However, because of the magnitude of this important decision, this analysis may require a more thorough evaluation by city or utility staff and their accountants, valuation experts, lawyers, engineers or other consultants.

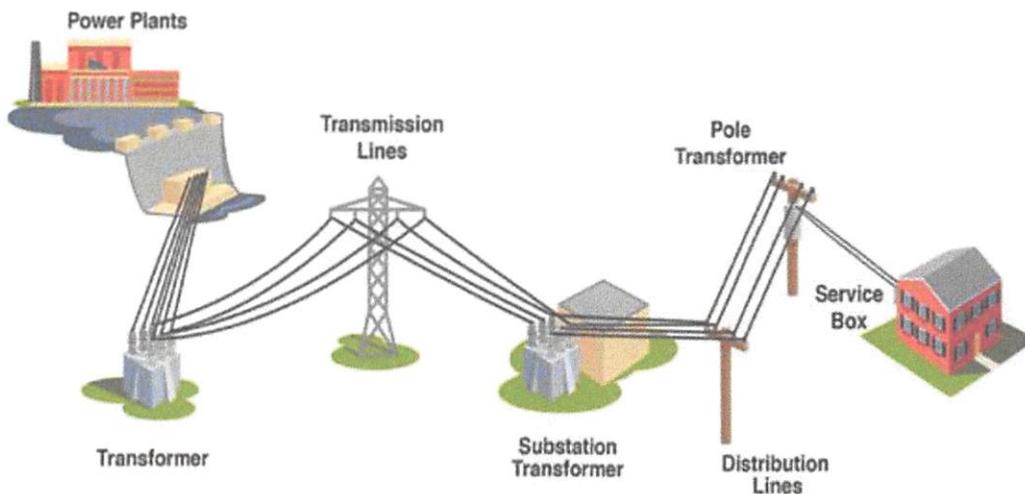
¹ This guide uses the terms "public power utility," "consumer-owned utility," "community-owned utility," "publicly owned utility" and "municipal utility" interchangeably in referring to local government-owned electric utilities of all varieties.

Who is in charge of public power utilities?

Public power utilities are owned by and accountable to the people they serve. Citizens have a direct and powerful voice in utility decisions and policies, both at the ballot box and in open meetings where business is conducted.

The governance structure for each utility varies. Some are governed by the city council; others are controlled by an independent utility board whose members may be elected or appointed by the mayor and city council.

Where does the power come from?



Electric utilities have three core functions:

- Generation of electricity;
- Transmission of electricity; and
- Distribution of electricity to customers.

Most public power utilities are distribution-only, meaning they do not own and operate their own power plants and bulk transmission. Instead, these utilities purchase power and transmission services at wholesale to distribute to their customers. Many distribution-only utilities purchase power and transmission from joint action agencies.

Together, public power utilities and joint action agencies generate two-thirds of the electricity they distribute to their customers. The rest of the electricity they distribute is purchased from investor-owned and cooperative utilities, independent generators and federal power agencies.

Overall, public power utilities and joint action agencies own 10 percent of electricity generation and transmission in the United States and 16 percent of all electricity distribution.

Public Power's Share of the U.S. Electricity Market³



10%
OF GENERATION



10%
OF TRANSMISSION



15%
OF DISTRIBUTION

³ Energy Information Administration Form EIA-860, 2017 (2015 data).



Chapter 2

The Benefits of Public Power

Public power utilities are community-owned, locally controlled and operated on a not-for-profit basis. Each utility is a little different, depending on population, geography, structure, and the community's values and goals. This ability to tailor operations and services to the local community is the foundation of public power's success.

A public power utility provides long-term value to its community and citizens. The benefits are manifold, including (to name a few) rate stability, support for jobs, policies that are in line with community priorities and financial support for local government functions. To examine these benefits, it is helpful to consider them in broad categories: local control, reliable customer service, affordable rates and economic development.

Why does local control matter?



- Increased transparency and accountability gives customers more say in how the utility is run—and ensures the utility is working for the community's best interest
- Support for local government, through direct financial contributions and in-kind contributions, means lower taxes, more robust community services, and the community is a better place to live
- Efficient operations, through integration with other municipal operations, reinforces the support for local government
- The utility can support local priorities, reflecting the values and choices of the community

Local Control

Public power is distinctly different from the investor-owned utility sector and even rural electric cooperatives because utilities are fully accountable to their customers. Public power is about serving the local community. Local control affords public power communities five distinct advantages: accountability and transparency in governance; financial support for the local government; more efficient municipal operations; the ability to tailor utility policies, programs and practices to serve the priorities of the local community; and the value of ownership.

Accountability and Transparency

Public power utilities are governed and regulated by the city council or county commissioners or an independent utility board whose members may be elected or appointed by local officials. This means customers have more say in the policies and practices of the electric utility.

Citizens participate in the governance of the utility at the ballot box and through participating in city council and utility board meetings, public hearings, citizen advisory committees and other public forums. Utility business is conducted in the open, subject to open meetings, public records laws and local scrutiny. Citizens have access to planning alternatives, cost estimates, performance and other reports. Customers know how and why decisions are made.

When citizens have concerns, they can call their elected officials; in many public power towns, customers can simply speak directly to the utility's general manager. If a citizen disapproves of the way the utility is run, he can vote the elected officials out of office—or she can run for office to take on a more direct role in the utility's future.

In contrast, customers of a private utility have little, if any, influence over or access to the company's CEO or



A rare kind of accountability

"But it surely also helps that Norwich Public Utilities' general manager, 12 linemen and five commissioners live in the community, drive the local roads, see the overhanging branches and bump into their customers at the Norwichtown Mall. That's a rare kind of accountability."

"The Troubling Connecticut Power Failure,"
The New York Times, November 3, 2011.

other top officers or board members. The typical investor-owned utility has a large service territory and will likely have its headquarters located far away; board meetings are conducted in private, and decisions are made behind closed doors. While the boards of rural electric cooperatives are elected by their member-owners, turnout for electric cooperative board elections is low (even compared to off-year and municipal elections), suggesting cooperative members may feel disengaged from their utility or do not understand their rights and responsibilities in its governance.⁵

Public power utilities also face a special kind of accountability, unparalleled in almost any other business: their friends and neighbors. In an era of globalization, public power utilities stand out because every employee is a member of the community. From the lineworkers to the general manager, all utility employees take pride in their work because they know their customers are their family, friends and neighbors.

Supporting Local Government

Public power utilities provide a direct benefit to their communities in the form of payments and contributions to state and local government. The total value of the contributions made by publicly owned utilities often comes in many forms and is not always easily recognized. In addition to payments that resemble property taxes, payments in lieu of taxes and transfers to the general fund, many utilities make in-kind contributions in the form of free or reduced-cost services provided to states and cities.

The level of support and how these benefits are returned to the community is a local decision—another advantage of local control. For example, some public power utilities make transfers to the city's general fund in an amount equal to the property taxes that would have been paid by an investor-owned utility. Others set the amount as a percentage of electric revenue or as a charge per kilowatt-hour of electricity sold. Some cities take advantage of synergies between municipal departments and use electric employees to install temporary lighting, perform electrical repairs or tree trimming services for other departments, or provide technical expertise.

Quantifying public power's financial support

Public power utilities make greater financial contributions to state and local governments than investor-owned utilities.

The American Public Power Association regularly analyzes payments and contributions to state and local government based on surveys of public power utilities and data submitted by investor-owned utilities to the federal government. The results consistently show that, on average, the payments and contributions made by public power utilities are greater.

In the most recent year for which data are available, the median amount contributed by public power utilities was 5.6 percent of electric operating revenues. Over the same period, investor-owned utilities paid a median of 4.2 percent of electric operating revenues in taxes and fees to state and local governments.

When all taxes, tax equivalents and other contributions to state and local government are considered, public power's contributions, as a percent of electric operating revenues, were 33 percent higher than those of investor-owned utilities.⁶

PUBLIC POWER'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ARE



⁵ Institute for Local Self-Reliance, "Just How Democractic are Rural Electric Cooperatives?" January 13, 2016.

⁶ American Public Power Association, 2017-2018 Directory & Statistical Report, "Public Power Gives Back: Payments and Contributions by Public Power Utilities to State and Local Governments," 2017 (2014 data). Read the full report in Appendix B.

In-kind contributions

Beyond direct financial contributions, public power utilities may support their local government and community in many ways. These may include:

- Free or discounted electricity or other services to the local government, including streetlights, municipal buildings, water or sewer treatment facilities and traffic signals
- Installing temporary lighting for special events
- Maintaining streetlights, traffic signals or stadium lights
- Electric repair or maintenance for other city departments
- Rewiring municipal buildings
- Tree trimming for other departments
- Reading water meters
- Putting up city signs or banners
- Providing technical expertise (e.g., engineering studies)
- Providing free building space
- Hanging banners and holiday lights
- Sharing electric department vehicles and equipment with other municipal departments

The myth about franchise fees



Private utilities may pay a franchise fees to the local government in exchange for the right to operate exclusively in the community. However, these franchise fees are almost always passed on directly to the customers. Instead of being a new revenue source for the community, it is no different than any other tax or fee on a customer's utility bill:

"Many years ago investor-owned utilities began to add the annual franchise fee they were required to pay the city to the rates they charged their customers in the community. Instead of treating the franchise fee as a legitimate expense, a cost of doing business in the community, the investor-owned utility simply incorporated its franchise fee into its rates and passed the costs along to ratepayers. Consumers ended up paying the investor-owned utility's franchise fee instead of sharing in its profits. This practice of including the franchise fee in rates continues to this day in most communities."⁷

⁷"Renegotiating a Municipal Franchise," Paul Hughes, Environmental Services Inc., July 2002.

Efficient Operations

Public power utilities keep costs down through local scrutiny of operations. They use strategic partnerships and joint action with other public power agencies to obtain the advantages of size in wholesale supply matters without taking on the disadvantages of merging into larger, more bureaucratic institutions.

Electricity distribution, unlike large-scale generation and high-voltage transmission, is local, and public power utilities find that their smaller size can be an advantage in electricity distribution. A public power utility's headquarters and operations are located near the utility's customers. Distribution lineworkers are very familiar with the utility's service territory—and thus likely to be more responsive to outages. Utility managers and customer service representatives are fellow citizens. Oversight is provided by a local governing body, which keeps the utility focused on reliability, price and service.

Municipal utilities can also create new efficiencies in local government. Some utility operations may overlap with other services the municipality is already providing; when these can be combined, the result is a leaner, more efficient operation that benefits everyone. For example, a city providing multiple utility services (electric, water, wastewater, natural gas and telecommunications services) may combine billing and metering operations and share a 24-hour emergency call center. Other examples of efficiencies that may be achieved include:

- Integration of municipal operations (e.g., shared office space for multiple city services)
- Shared personnel (e.g., human resources department that serves the city and utility)
- Lower per-person administrative costs for municipal employee benefits
- Town may avoid short-term borrowing costs due to cash flow from electric revenues

Local Priorities

When the community owns the utility, the community controls the utility's priorities. Decisions about pricing electricity, building power plants, purchasing wholesale power and service policies are made locally and reflect the values and choices of the community.

By participating in the utility governance process, citizens exercise their voice on big questions the utility may face, including:

- investments in local infrastructure—system maintenance and upgrades

- energy conservation and energy efficiency
- energy resources—renewable energy, coal, natural gas, or other sources
- environmental stewardship—pollution prevention, investing in cleaner technologies
- customer service policies—assistance to low-income customers, service extension policies
- system aesthetics and design—choosing whether to underground electric lines for community beautification or enhanced reliability

- utility finances—setting electric rates, level of financial support for the local government

Public power utilities emphasize long-term community goals and can direct utility resources accordingly, by implementing programs and timetables to achieve goals. Without local utility ownership, the community is disenfranchised, with no input on these decisions.



CASE STUDY:

Continued public ownership of utility allows community to pursue local priorities

GREENSBURG, KANSAS • 2007

LESSON LEARNED:

- *Local control over the future of the utility is a powerful benefit of owning a municipal electric utility. The utility should work together with the city to promote local priorities.*

In May 2007, an EF-5 tornado struck Greensburg, Kansas—destroying or severely damaging 95 percent of the city, leaving 90 percent of its 1,400 citizens homeless, and wiping out the town’s entire electric system. With the survival of the town very much in question, a neighboring cooperative utility offered to help rebuild the electric system, with the understanding that they would be allowed to purchase the system from the town.

Meanwhile, city leaders began formulating a plan to rebuild the entire town as sustainable, energy-efficient and “green.” The “Green in Greensburg” idea caught on; the community decided it should rebuild its town from the ground up as a model green community, powered by 100 percent renewable energy. However, this would not be possible if the cooperative took over ownership of the utility.

The city hired a consulting firm to assess the advantages, disadvantages and risks associated with selling or keeping the utility. The study recommended that the city retain ownership of its electric system and city leaders agreed.⁸

In the end, the most important factors in Greensburg’s decision were the utility’s contributions to the city and the community’s desire to control its energy destiny. Because it was able to make its own choice about its generation source, the city achieved its goal of 100 percent renewable energy and is not concerned about current and potential future regulations on coal and natural gas.

⁸Thomas A. Wind, Wind Utility Consulting, and Lynn Billman, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, “Greensburg Municipal Electric Utility Business Strategy: Analysis of Greensburg Municipal Utility Business Strategies to Become Green,” January 15, 2008.

Ownership

Public power communities receive another benefit: ownership itself. Ownership of the utility means local management and control over decisions involving investments, operations, maintenance, power supply choices and customer programs.

More than that, though, there are some options and choices available only to an owner—including asset leverage, equity borrowing, ratemaking authority, and control over future streams of income for the utility and the community.

"It has everything to do with the philosophy of whether the city wants to be sharecroppers or landowners. Do you want to own your home or rent?"

Ken Cotton, City Attorney, Wagner, South Dakota, "Wagner OKs Municipal Power," *Press & Dakotan*, December 5, 2007.



Reliable Customer Service

Public power utilities are highly responsive to customers' needs and concerns, typically getting high marks for customer satisfaction because their first and only purpose is to provide efficient, reliable service to the customers in their communities. Reliable customer service takes three forms for public power utilities: a focus on overall system reliability; quick restoration of power after an outage; and making excellent customer service a priority.

Reliability

Public power utilities have a strong record of focusing on core electric operations and delivering a reliable power supply. Because of their connection to customers, public power utilities are motivated to maintain the community's assets to keep their local electric system operating continuously and efficiently. Maintaining the highest caliber of electric service is one of the core facets of a public power utility's business model.

Reliability, from a systems engineering perspective, is the ability of an electric system to perform its functions under normal and extreme circumstances. In the United States, customers expect to have power at all times. But every utility experiences some power outages as a result of severe weather or natural disasters, interference from wildlife or overgrown vegetation, equipment failures, or even a car crashing into a utility pole. Realistically, a utility can make power available between 99.9 and 99.999 percent of the time.

There are many ways that electric utilities measure their reliability. Two of the most common:

- System Average Interruptible Duration Index (SAIDI) – measures the average length of time, in minutes, that each utility customer was without power during a year
- System Average Interruptible Frequency Index (SAIFI) – measures the average number of outages that each customer experiences during a year

Recent data show that public power utilities demonstrate higher reliability than the national average by any standard – frequency or length of outages, with or without major event disruptions (MED).

National Reliability Metrics⁹

	 RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES	 INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITIES	 PUBLIC POWER UTILITIES	ALL
AVERAGE OF SAIDI - with MED	430.98	282.72	117.73	314.26 minutes
AVERAGE OF SAIDI - without MED	163.13	132.92	54.73	128.62 minutes
AVERAGE OF SAIFI - with MED	2.00	1.43	1.26	1.66 interruptions
AVERAGE OF SAIFI - without MED	1.54	1.15	0.97	1.30 interruptions

⁹ National reliability metrics (IEEE standard), average of SAIDI and SAIFI, with and without Major Event Disruptions. From Energy Information Administration, form 861, 2017 (2016 data).

The data show that without including “major events” (such as hurricanes or winter ice storms), customers served by investor-owned utilities experienced an average of 2 hours and 12 minutes without power each year. Cooperative utility customers were without power even more: on average, they experienced 2 hours and 43 minutes of outages. Public power customers, on the other hand, experienced less than one hour without power. When major event disruptions are included, these numbers become even more pronounced in favor of public power.

Accountability promotes reliability

Public power utilities make business decisions every day that result in reliable electric service. The elected officials who oversee public power utilities are accountable to voters, who are also the utilities’ ratepayers. In contrast, board

members of an investor-owned utility are accountable to shareholders; they are judged not on their ability to provide low-cost, reliable power or excellent service, but on their ability to maximize profits for the investor-owned utility or its holding company and to pay a quarterly dividend to shareholders.

In pursuit of short-term profits, investor-owned utilities may implement cost-cutting measures that ultimately affect reliability. For example, extensive reductions in the number of employees, maintenance expenses, or tree-trimming programs can result in longer and more frequent outages. This issue was highlighted in 2011 when Connecticut Light & Power experienced extensive outages after two storms. In an article about the outages, *The New York Times* reported that the utility had cut its maintenance spending by 26 percent between 2008 and 2010.¹⁰

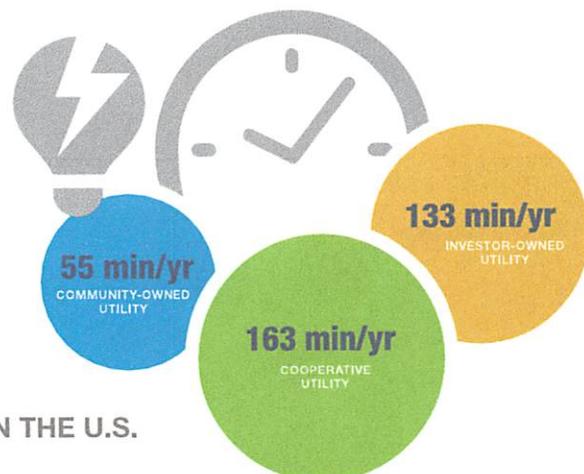
What makes public power so reliable?



- Focus on core utility operations—knowing your purpose and doing it superbly
- Increased accountability to local officials, friends and neighbors
- Accountability to customers, not shareholders, means there is no incentive to implement cost-cutting measures that ultimately affect reliability
- Crews live and work in the community, so they can respond faster to restore power after an outage
- Public power towns always have priority restoration; they don’t have to wait for limited crews to restore power to other parts of the service territory first
- Local crews become more familiar with the power system and can identify reliability issues more quickly
- Mutual aid agreements allow utilities to tap into the national network of public power utilities for assistance in restoring power after a major event

Outage Restoration

Many public power utilities have outage prevention programs, the most common of which are tree-trimming services. Other outage prevention programs include wildlife management (animal/squirrel guards); routine inspection and maintenance of distribution lines; other vegetation maintenance; thermographic circuit inspections; lightning arresters; reviewing poor-performing circuits; and converting overhead wires to underground.



AVERAGE OUTAGE TIME IN THE U.S.

¹⁰ “The Troubling Connecticut Power Failure,” Rob Cox, *The New York Times*, November 3, 2011.

joint action agencies, the agencies have evolved to provide a wide range of shared services to help public power utilities keep costs down while providing the highest level of service to their customers.

Today, many joint action agencies plan and implement energy-efficiency and demand-side management programs for their members. Some agencies hire “circuit riders,” individuals who work on-site for member utilities one or two days a week, then spend another part of the week at other member utilities. For example: WPPI Energy in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, hires energy services specialists who fulfill this role. American Municipal Power in Columbus, Ohio, has tree-trimming crews that support member needs. The arrangement enables the agency and its members to recruit and hire highly qualified personnel whom cities individually may not be able to afford.

In places where significant state-level regulation of publicly owned electric utilities remains in effect, joint action agencies like Vermont Public Power Supply Authority offer significant regulatory and legislative services to support member utilities.

Among other services, many agencies support their members in economic development, rate design, fuel purchasing, training, telecommunications, lobbying, information technology, engineering, project management, finance and equipment testing. Local public power utilities pool their resources, working together to achieve substantial savings for their communities.

Joint action agencies allow public power utilities to join forces to take advantage of economies of scale and shared services to boost efficiency. They are a lifeline for public power utilities that want to retain the benefits of owning and operating their own electric utility while not losing out on the economic advantages of a larger organization. The agencies facilitate the best of both worlds—small and large—for their members and their customers.

Local Economic Development

Public power utilities are an integral part of the economic development of their communities, working closely with new and existing businesses to provide the highest levels of reliability, customer service and development assistance.

Public power utilities are local and are invested in the success of the customers and communities they serve.

A public power utility spurs development in the local economy as a local employer operating in the community, and through the benefits that the utility affords the community. In some public power communities, the utility may also directly support the town’s economic development efforts.

Hometown Jobs and Business

Public power utilities benefit their communities by providing employment opportunities for local residents. The local utility is headquartered in town and creates local jobs for customer service representatives, lineworkers, engineers, mechanics and administrators. Kids growing up in public power communities can find a career right in their hometown. Each dollar of a public power employee’s paycheck circulates through the local economy an estimated four to five times.

More than just being a local employer, public power utilities also support the local economy as a business operating in the community. Utilities may implement policies to “buy local” and support local businesses whenever practical, including purchasing materials and services from local companies and using local financial institutions for their business operations.



EVERY DOLLAR PAID TO A PUBLIC POWER EMPLOYEE CIRCULATES THROUGH THE LOCAL ECONOMY 4 TO 5 TIMES.

Stimulating the Economy

Public power utilities are good for the local economy. Lower electricity prices allow consumers to spend more money

on other goods and services, in addition to attracting business and industry to the community. Local dollars stay at home in public power communities. They are not sent to companies and shareholders out of the city, state, or in some cases, country.

Investments made in the utility and its infrastructure also support the local economy. By meeting the interrelated needs of residential, business and industrial customers, a public power utility makes the community a more pleasant place to live and allows it to compete more successfully in attracting business and employment. For instance, utility investments to improve power quality and service reliability make the community more attractive to businesses that may locate or expand there.

The contributions utilities make to the local government, whether in the form of payments in lieu of taxes, transfers to the general fund, or other in-kind contributions to the local government, also help the community economically. Because public power utilities typically make greater financial contributions to the local government than investor-owned or cooperative utilities, these benefits may be felt more strongly in a public power town.

Direct financial contributions provide real, tangible benefits to the community, helping to pay for police officers and firefighters, teachers and schools, the municipal library and parks, road repairs and other city services. In-kind contributions—free or discounted services provided to the local government and other operational efficiencies—save money for the local government.

The financial contributions made by public power utilities give the community a choice: to collect less in local tax revenue to support its services; or to increase the number (or improve the quality) of services it provides. The community and local economy benefit either way: from more money staying in citizens' pockets, or from the enhanced municipal services.

Technological Leadership

Many public power utilities take a leadership role in preparing their communities for the future by pursuing new technologies as an integral part of community growth. They serve as information sources in a variety of technology fields such as environmental stewardship, high-speed internet capability, safety and community technology development.

Some public power communities offer telecommunication services because private companies may not offer them to smaller towns at competitive prices. Access to high-speed broadband encourages economic development.

How does public power help the local economy?



- Local employment
- Utility patronizes local businesses
- Lower rates means more money in customers' pockets
- Not-for-profit means money isn't sent to distant shareholders
- Investment in infrastructure and reliability helps other businesses in the community
- Contributions to local government allow more robust public services without raising taxes
- Technological investments can help support community economic growth
- Utility key accounts and economic development programs help business in the community

Economic Development Programs

Public power utilities are logical partners in economic development. A locally controlled utility is part of a public service community team that cooperates on public works projects, downtown renovations, extension policies, business development, industrial parks and energy-efficiency programs. The utility has an inherent interest in promoting the community's well-being and prosperity.

A 2015 survey indicated that the most important thing an electric utility can do to attract business to the community is offer high reliability and competitive prices.¹⁹ While public power excels in both these areas, many public power utilities go beyond, working with city officials to promote economic development.

¹⁹ "Building Community: Economic Development Best Practices," Greenville Utilities Commission and East Carolina University, 2016. Data from APPA Economic Development National Survey, 2015.



Chapter 3

Preventing a Sellout Attempt from Emerging

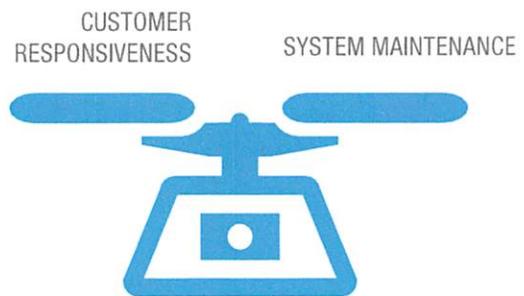
The best defense against a sellout attempt is a well-run utility and customer-owners who understand the value of public power ownership.

One survey examined the history of public power utilities in Minnesota over 100 years, looking at why some public power communities sold their utility, and what happened in other communities that evaluated selling and chose to retain public ownership. The report found:

The overriding conclusion from reading the accounts of these past buyout discussions is that there is no silver bullet or sophisticated public relations effort that prevented the sales of these municipal electric utilities. Municipals that consistently do a good job by responding to their customers and maintaining their systems have very little to fear from the buyout threat.²⁰

Before a buyout offer or the idea of a sellout ever emerges, run your utility as effectively as possible. Identify your utility's strengths and weaknesses and recognize the warning signs that a buyout offer or sellout campaign may emerge. Follow through on plans to mitigate those problems and develop a communication campaign to build knowledge and goodwill in your community. If you face a sellout or buyout attempt, it is vital that citizens understand the value and benefits the community receives from your utility.

Lessening Buyout Threats



Operating a Successful Public Power Utility

Public power utilities offer competitive rates, high reliability, local control, public ownership and accountability, and responsive customer service to the communities they serve.

While public power utilities vary—in size, structure, resources, customer composition, community priorities and more—several key areas are important to public power's success. The relative importance of each of these areas will vary from utility to utility, and will likely evolve over time to meet changing needs, so it is important to reevaluate your utility's operations and strategies regularly to ensure they align with your community's short- and long-term goals.

²⁰ "A Brief History of the Sales of Municipal Electric Utilities in Minnesota," Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association, 2011.



CASE STUDY:

Quick action and customer education make the difference

MT. PLEASANT CITY, UTAH • 2016

LESSONS LEARNED:

- *The earlier you can make your case to your customers and stakeholders, the better. Don't wait for sellout proponents to get a foothold in your community.*
- *Public opinion matters. Build goodwill with your customers, and demonstrate your value to them. Local officials are far less likely to proceed if public opinion is for retaining ownership of the utility.*

Mt. Pleasant City, Utah, was facing a budget crisis. Between existing loans and upcoming projects to repair roads and the water and sewer systems, the city needed \$19.5 million for all its infrastructure needs; the city's capital fund had only \$750,000.²¹ The mayor supported selling the electric utility to cover the costs of these needed infrastructure upgrades.

After much pushing from the utility's superintendent, the mayor agreed to hold a city council meeting, where the sole agenda item would be the proposed sale of the utility to Rocky Mountain Power, a neighboring investor-owned utility. The superintendent was influential in getting public support and attendance at the city council meeting; the city chambers were overflowing with standing-room only.

At the meeting, the superintendent emphasized that the utility belonged to the citizens, and focused on the benefits of public power. Key themes were the value of

local control; the utility's high service reliability and quick outage response time; the utility's direct and indirect financial contributions to the municipal government and community; and how the utility supports the local economy.

At the end of the meeting, the mayor took a straw vote of the citizens present to see where public opinion stood. Only four citizens favored continuing to investigate a sale; the rest overwhelmingly voted against any further consideration. So strong was the demonstration of public support for the utility that the issue was set aside and the city continues to own and operate its successful public power utility.

²¹ Ray LaFollette, "Mt. Pleasant considers power department sale," *The Pyramid*, December 15, 2016.

The Threat from Investor-Owned and Cooperative Utilities

In recent years, both investor-owned and cooperative utilities have made aggressive pushes to buy out neighboring public power utilities. While utilities looking to expand may try to portray their motivations as altruistic—looking out for the best interests of your customers—the reasons behind these moves are always economic.

Investor-owned utilities are interested in expanding their customer base to increase profits for shareholders. One investor-owned utility recently proposed a strategy of acquiring municipal utilities at their annual investor conference, as a means of increasing its market share in the state and expanding shareholder earnings.

Electric cooperatives have also been increasingly aggressive in their attempts to buy out public power utilities in recent years. Cooperatives are attracted to public power utilities because they represent a more balanced mix of residential, commercial, and industrial customers and because municipal utility service territories are typically denser.

One cooperative laid out the argument for acquiring municipal utilities: “One of the key disadvantages of electric distribution cooperatives as a whole is that they serve an imbalanced mix of highly rural members, agricultural farm accounts, and limited commercial accounts.”²² The cooperative calculated their load was comprised of 80 percent residential and agricultural customers and 19 percent commercial (including schools, a county wastewater facility, and one small manufacturer), with the balance of their load consisting of security and public streetlighting; the cooperative serves no industrial customers. They conclude that “without the mix of commercial and industrial consumers, and the density of incorporated areas,” it is difficult for the high concentration of residential customers “to generate enough revenue based on kilowatt-hour consumption on a per-capita basis to cover system investments and overhead.”

In terms of customer density, the numbers bear out that, relative to their general market share, electric cooperatives own a significantly higher share of distribution lines in the United States. Public power utilities’ relatively compact service territories mean they typically earn higher revenue per mile of distribution line than other utilities—keeping costs lower for their customers.

Electric Utility Comparisons²³



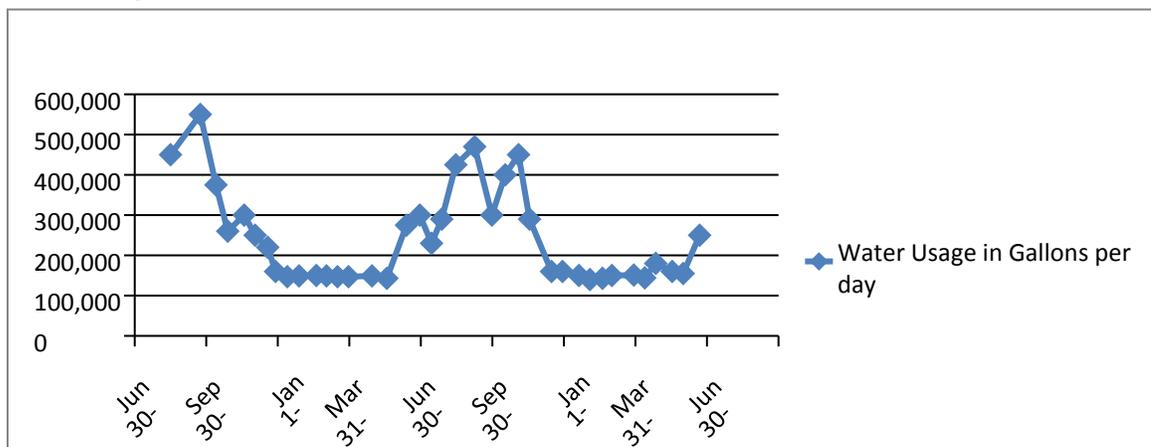
²² The Evolving Energy Business: Growth by Acquisition, Delaware Electric Cooperative, GC4Q2016 Update.

²³ National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, “America’s Electric Cooperatives: 2017 Fact Sheet,” January 31, 2017 (based on Energy Information Administration 2014 data; density data for IOU and public sector is 2009 data).

To: Mayor and Oberlin City Council

From: City Foreman David Sporn

1. The Curb Cleanup was successful. We used 2 Front loaders, 3 dump trucks, 2 trucks and trailers, one pickup and 10 employees to complete this project in $\frac{3}{4}$ of a day. There was 46 participants and items ranged from a small limb pile to riding mowers and the item most picked up this year was the same as last year, old TV's.
2. Dalton, Halley, Steve Z., and I attended the KMU conference in Wichita last week. There is an abundance of knowledge in utilities that gets transferred at this meeting. I spoke to many people about their power plants and had with many conversations involving municipal services. The class that left the most impact with me was titled "Distributive Generation". It was a class about renewable power and the laws involved with it, along with the future preparation of it.
3. Alumni weekend and pool opening is just around the corner. This is the most critical city event involving cleanliness and upkeep. Many people come back for this weekend and expect Oberlin to be in tip top shape. As we are aware of this we devote the time needed for preparation.
4. This time last year we were recovering from a massive town crippling snow fall which occurred on April 30th. The town came together and we all pushed until we were least functional. Oberlin had to replace 83 power poles and ran solely on our Power Plant for 8 days. We won't forget the help that quickly arrived to get us back in order and power restored.
5. Oberlin gets paid credit for having electrical capacity that can be claimed by one of our elect. providers, according to our current contract with Sunflower. This is because we have a power plant. It also means they can call us at any time and we have to start our engines and provide power. This is a problem because we don't have a Power Plant crew and I've been trying to preserve our plant for Oberlin's needs, also I am not convinced that we can generate legally unless Oberlin has an emergency. This is a situation that needs to be corrected. I have been preparing and gathering info on this matter for several months. As soon as I find the best solution and options, I will notify the Mayor and Council. We receive approx. \$1,900 a month due to the claimed elect. capacity of our generators.
6. Water Usage:





OBERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

107 W. Commercial
P O Box 237
Oberlin KS. 67749-0237
oberlinpd3@ruraltel.net



MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT TO COUNCIL MONTH OF APRIL, 2018

CITY COURT: FINES COLLECTED IN APRIL, 2018 - \$2,894.00 – YTD \$18,804.00

.....

CITY COURT CASES FILED

- 1 – ILLEGAL TAG
- 1 – NO DRIVER'S LICENSE
- 4 – MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS
- 1 – EXHIBITION OF ACCELERATION
- 1 – DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED
- 1 – MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE

DISTRICT COURT CASES / OTHER FILED

- 2 – DOMESTIC BATTERY
- 1 – MISDEMEANOR WARRANT ARREST
- 1 – DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED
- 1 – DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED
- 2 – POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA
- 3 – POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

ANIMAL CONTROL: 1 – DOG AT LARGE
1 – NO CITY DOG TAGS

CODE ENFORCEMENT: 3 – HEALTH AND WELFARE
2 – JUNKED VEHICLE CODE

2018 Board Meeting Notes for Month of April

Attending: Dave Olson Vicky Ray Ruth Wolfram Ronda Schroer Matt Barnes
Violet Shaw Linda Dixon Sharyn Bodfield Guest: Gordon Pettibone, Chair of Friends of Oberlin Library

Minutes from previous month approval: Motioned by: Matt
Seconded by: Sharyn
Passed or Opposed: Passes

Financial Statement Approval: Motioned by: Vicky
Seconded by: Violet
Passed or Opposed: Passes

Donations:

\$3000 from the City of Oberlin for operation expenses
\$227.20 from FoOLs for the Summer Reading program, Story Hour and after school program. A grant also helps with the summer program.
\$50.00 from FoOLs to pay for a free class for 5 patrons.
\$40.00 from Amanda Coryell for kids painting class room rental.

Personnel:

No report.

Facility and Maintenance:

Received desks for the youth space in the basement. They will need to be assembled. Ronda will call when they are ready for them.
Davis Flooring will order flooring this month. It is carpet and vinyl. We are paying half down and other half upon completion. This money was in the grant.
NWKLS started painting this week on the walls and lobby. They will return next week. The shelves on the walls will remain as they are permanently fixed to the walls.

Financials:

Sherry Bergling has completed April financials and reconciliation and checks are ready to be signed. Dave and Vicky took care of signing this month's checks.

Miscellaneous:

Trustee training was held before the board meeting. Megan Zamperini discussed the role of the Library board and the Friends of the Oberlin Library. She had a Kansas Public Library Trustee Manual for each board member and a note card on each function (see attached). She explained the functions and answered questions. In summary: the Library board is the legal authority. No single person has any power and no contact with the Library staff. The board hires the director and the director deals with staff. The board asks as an advisor to the Library director. The main functions of the board are policy, personnel (director), planning and budget. The Friends of the library are fund raisers for the library and then are to give it to the library. These are independent of each other. Communication is important between the groups. More information on friends can be found at The Friends of Kansas Libraries site.

Elections were held. Nominations: Matt Barnes for President, Linda Dixon for Vice-President, Vicky Ray for Treasurer and Ruth Wolfram for Secretary. A unanimous ballot was cast. Officers will start at the next meeting.

Violet motioned for adjournment and Sharyn seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is May 21, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. (Note time change for this meeting)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
	Smith Family	Smith Family 12pm - Rotary	Smith Family	Smith Family	Smith Family	Smith Family
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		12pm - Rotary	12pm - Townsend	Council Rooms 1 & 2		3:30pm - Graduation
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		12pm - Rotary	9am - Safety 5pm - Metcalf		12pm - Gisick	10am - Gisick
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Gisick Wedding		12pm - Rotary		Council Rooms 1 & 2		Class of 68 @ Rooms
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Richardson Reunion,		12pm - Rotary				