

# Meeting Minutes- February 14, 2018

MEETING WITH NH ELECTRIC CO-OP

LOCATION: COOLIDGE OFFICE

TIME: 9:00 AM

---

## **Participants:**

- Danielle Black- CHA
- John Prokos (via telephone)-CHA
- Stratton Smith- CHA
- Richard Feldman- CHA
- Bill Johnstone, Business Development Executive, NH Electric Co-op

## **Objective of meeting:**

1. Overview of current accounts
2. NH Electric Co-op offerings
3. Survey of property
4. Recommendations

## **Discussion notes:**

- Coolidge Falls currently has 7 accounts that are either metered or a flat monthly rate
- The street lights are flat monthly rate. They are on sensors. The 3 components that make up the flat monthly rate include:
  - Energy use
  - Type of fixture
  - Maintenance
- Currently Coolidge has 7 street lights that are LED 67W. The balance of the street lights either are older mercury vapor or high-pressure sodium. The LED 67W meets the “dark sky” criteria. This means they are flat fixture, down lights and cast an elliptical pattern of light on the street and virtually no light behind the fixture.
- NH Electric Co-op is in the process of gaining approval for a new LED street light for residential street use with lower watt requirements (32W) and a warmer color light closer to a traditional incandescent bulb. It is estimated these new light fixtures will be approved and purchased by the NH Electric Co-op for installation around May 1, 2018.
- The new rate schedule for the monthly flat rate is May 1, 2018. Although rates have not been set yet, it is anticipated the monthly rate per fixture will be less than the current rates.
- The recommendation by NH Electric Co-op has been made to upgrade the lights around the office/dumpster area to LED light fixtures with sensors and increase power from low to high

with motion sensors. This is not a service offering of NH Electric Co-op and a private electrician can provide installation. The LED lights will provide significant savings as these lights are on a meter. Additionally, better lighting will improve camera views at night.

- Further recommendation is to change the office light bulbs to LED (soft/warmer light) and replace the incandescent and fluorescent spiral bulbs. These can be purchased thru the Co-op for \$1.49 per bulb.
- After the snow clears, a review of various electric meters should be done to determine if any can be eliminated and possibly use a small solar panel to provide lighting for Christmas lights as an example. One of the meters for instance is for the water pump so that meter is required. The rate for a meter is \$29.00 per month so eliminating just one meter is \$348.00/year or \$1,740 over a 5-year period.

### **Action items:**

1. Replace the mercury vapor and high-pressure sodium lights (14 in total) as soon as the NH Electric Co-op gains approval and have the new LED32W fixtures that are similar to the current LED67W “dark sky compliant” but use less energy and have a warmer light color. The estimated time line is May 2018. No additional installation costs are incurred for this change.
2. Re-install the light fixture on the empty pole on Flume Rd. The installation will be with the new LED32W fixture and also have an extension arm to bring the light closer to the street. The light pole at this location is set a bit further back than others. The installation will be done when the other lights are replaced. It was agreed a light for this section of Flume Rd. is required for safety. Homeowners have requested the lighting.
3. Estimates will be requested from local electricians to replace the lighting fixtures in the office and dumpster area with the previously mentioned fixtures. Danielle will get quotes for Board review.
4. Danielle is to follow up with Bill Johnstone at the end of April or first week in May to make sure Coolidge is on the schedule. This assumes lighting fixtures are approved and procured by the NH Electric Co-op.
5. Danielle will also determine status of waterfall and sign lighting fixtures when the snow clears. Coolidge will either replace broken fixtures/wiring or replace bulbs with LEDs.
6. Bill Johnstone to review current accounts to validate billing is correct with an account that has no usage but a monthly fixed rate is being charged.

### **Conclusion:**

The meeting was successful in discussing how Coolidge Falls can:

1. Reduce energy costs and drive addition savings to members
2. Improve street lighting for enhanced visibility and safety

3. Be environmentally responsible (discontinue use of mercury bulbs and reduce light pollution with better technology)