

NIAGARA POWER COALITION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017 – 12:30 p.m.

Niagara County Department of Economic Development
6311 Inducon Corporate Drive, Suite One
Sanborn, New York 14132

1.0 Call to Order

Chairperson Wallace called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Ms. Melloni performed roll call:

Representatives Present:

Mark Laurrie, Superintendent	Niagara Falls City School District
Paul Casseri, Superintendent	Lewiston Porter School District
Thomas Burgasser, Chairman, NC Legislature	Niagara County
Scott Hapeman, Esq.	Niagara Wheatfield School District
Lee Wallace, Supervisor	Town of Niagara
Steve Broderick, Supervisor	Town of Lewiston
Thomas O'Donnell, Esq.	City of Niagara Falls

Alternates/Guests:

Jackie Siegmann	Town of Niagara
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Staff Present:

Mary Melloni, Secretary
Stan Widger, Esq., NPC Counsel, Nixon Peabody

3.0 2018 NPC Budget

Mr. Hapeman explained that the 2018 Budget carries forward most expenses from last year. One exception is that the current web site maintenance/hosting company will be dissolving their business. At this time \$1,000 will be budgeted in anticipation of increased fees associated with the choice of a new host. Proposals will be requested and the Finance Committee will review and present recommendations in the near future. With regard to legal fees, Mr. Widger submitted a narrative of the cost of legal fees for the 2018 calendar year, estimated to be approximately \$37,000. The Audit/Finance Committee reviewed the estimates and revised the amount to \$30,000. The reduction was in the cost of contingencies, which can be considered if they arise in the future. The Committee is also recommending a 3% cost of living raise for the Administrative Assistant, and is suggesting the \$200 yearly mileage allowance be rolled into her salary. This is to cover travel expenses when checks require signatures, as she will be traveling to the Town of Niagara and City of Niagara Falls to acquire those signatures.

Mr. Hapeman stated that the final budget for 2018 will be \$53,900, or \$1,925 per quarter for each entity, an increase of only \$4.00 per quarter over 2017.

Mr. Casseri raised a concern about the division of monies contributed by each entity towards the yearly budget. He asked if the Committee could look into why those receiving lesser percentage of funds are paying the same amount as those who receive a higher percentage. Mr. Burgasser explained that this goes back years ago when all entities worked equally hard to negotiate with the New York Power Authority for the funding and to make sure it happened. There are other considerations that would make it difficult to change the current division of budget contributions. Mr. Widger stated he will look into this and get back to the membership.

Mr. Massaro made a motion to adopt the 2018 Budget as presented, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell. Motion passed.

A copy of the approved 2018 budget will be attached hereto and made a part hereof these minutes.

4.0 Other Matters

5.0 Next Meeting – To be Determined

6.0 Adjournment

Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Burgasser. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary P. Melloni

Mary P. Melloni
Secretary