

FILE

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

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09-391-WS-AIR

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2009 SEP 16 PM 12:25
Resolution No.

300

Passed

9/7

2009

PUCO

A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO AND OPPOSING THE PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE FILED BY OHIO AMERICAN WATER WITH THE OHIO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, certain residents of the Village of Prospect, Marion County, Ohio receive water service from the Ohio American Water ("OAW"); and

WHEREAS, June of 2009, OAW filed a request with the Ohio Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to substantially increase rates for all of its residential customers in Ohio, including numerous residents of the Village, over a four year period as follows: 24.63% increase in April 2010; 22.30% increase increase in April of 2011; 6.82% in April of 2012; and 5.77% increase in 2013, resulting in a total increase of approximately 72%; and

WHEREAS, the request by OAW is their third rate increase request in three years and, if granted, will result in an approximate increase of 240% in water rates since 1999 to these Village residents; and

WHEREAS, the PUCO mission is to "assure all residential and business consumers access to adequate, safe and reliable utility services at fair prices, while facilitating an environment that provides competitive choices;" and

WHEREAS, Village residents receiving OAW water service already pay a substantially higher and unfair rate for such service when compared with residents of surrounding jurisdictions that receive such service from other utility providers; and

WHEREAS, due to the current difficult economic times and previous rate increases granted to OAW, the Village Council believes a rate increase of 72% for water service is unjustified and will result in many Village residents not being able to afford water service; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council believes it is in the best interests of the Village and its residents to oppose the proposed OAW water rate increase filed with the PUCO and to further urge the Commissioners of the PUCO to reject OAW's proposed rate increase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Prospect, Marion County, Ohio that the following Resolution be, and it hereby is adopted:

Section 1. The Council hereby objects to and opposes the proposed OAW water rate increase as filed with the PUCO in June of 2009. The Council believes that OAW's requested increase is unfair, excessive and incapable of justification. The Council further agrees to support, assist and work with other governmental jurisdictions affected by the proposed OAW water rate increase in opposing the increase.

Section 2. The Council hereby requests that the Commissioners of the PUCO reject the proposed water rate increase as filed by OAW and secondarily requests that should PUCO grant an increase to OAW, that any increase be based on fair and responsible calculations. ~~This is to certify that the images appearing hereon are accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.~~

Technician Sm Date Processed SEP 16 2009

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Section 3. The Council hereby authorizes and directs the Village Fiscal Officer to file and/or forward a copy of this Resolution to the Docketing Division of the PUCO, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel ("OCC"), and each of the respective state legislators whose legislative districts encompasses the village.

Section 4. The Council authorizes and appoints each of the following persons to appear and speak on behalf of the Council at any meeting and/or hearing to be held by the PUCO in its review of OAW's water rate increase proposal: each member of the Council, the Village Fiscal Office; and/or such other village persons as each Council member may deem necessary or desirable.

Section 5. The Village Council encourages all Village residents to contact the PUCO, the OCC, and their state legislators through letters and phone calls voicing their opinion on OAW's proposed water rate increases.

Section 6. All formal actions of this Council, concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution, were adopted in an open meeting of this Body, and all deliberations of the Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: 9/7/2009 ~~2009~~

Jim Millisor
Jim Millisor, Mayor

Ben O'Dell
Ben O'Dell, Council Member

Harold E. Stiffler
Harold Stiffler, Council Member

Dorothy Boswell
Dorothy Boswell, Council Member

Doug Shultz
Doug Shultz, Council Member

Deb Good
Deb Good, Council Member

Jeff Ferrall
Jeff Ferrall, Council Member

Attest and Certified

Teri Duprey
Teri Duprey, Village Fiscal Officer