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**TOWN OF WAYNETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RATES & CHARGES  
WAYNETOWN ELECTRIC UTILITY MINUTES  
JUNE 10, 2025**

**BOB COX**

**Call to Order**

Bob called the public hearing to order at 6:00 P.M. at the Waynetown Christian Church.

**Roll Call**

Bob Cox, Randy Phillips, Doug Harris, Aaron Bengel and Barry Lewis were present.

**Agenda**

There was no agenda.

**Information Handed Out**

As people signed in Sandy gave them page 11 and 12 from the Electric Rate Study.

Page 12 shows the current electric dollar amount for Residential at 500 kWh and 1,000 kWh and then shows what the amount would increase to with Option 1 or Option 2 or Option 3.

Page 12 shows the current electric dollar amount for Commercial at 2,000 kWh and 5,000 kWh and then shows what the amount would increase to with Option 1 or Option 2 or Option 3.

Page 12 shows the current electric dollar amount for Three-Phase at 10,000 kWh and 20,000 kWh and then shows what the amount would increase to with Option 1 or Option 2 or Option 3.

Page 11 shows the current charge per kWh for Residential, Commercial and Three-Phase and lists the increase per kWh for Option 1 or Option 2 or Option 3.

**Public Hearing Meeting Information**

Bob said this Public Hearing Meeting is to inform the Citizens about the 2025 Electric Rate Study and is required to be held by State Statute so they will know what their electric rates could go up to.

Bob said Jarrod Hall of Krohn & Associates did the 2025 Electric Rate Study for Waynetown and Waynetown heard about Krohn & Associates from Barry Lewis, who is Waynetown's IMPA Commissioner. Bob said Barry is the one that kept trying to open the other Town Council Members eyes to our problem and we have kicked this down the road for as long as we can.

Barry said we are here tonight because our electric utility fund is not where it needs to be and that is because the electric rates have not been raised in 22 years. Barry nor any of the Town Council Members know how much to raise the rates but they do know that every month we are losing money. Barry said we went from a healthy utility a few years ago to having under \$100,000 in the electric fund now. Barry said if we had a big storm come through Town it could easily deplete all of our funds. Barry said raising rates is not something we want to do; it is something we have to do.

Barry introduced Jarrod of Krohn & Associates and said he has spent the last couple of months going over the Town's information to do an Electric Rate Study for Waynetown.

Jarrold said he wanted to make it clear that he does not work for IMPA, who the Town purchases their electricity from, he works for Krohn & Associates and they have been around since 1986 and they are a CPA Consulting Firm.

Jarrold gave the Town Council a complete copy of the Electric Rate Study and went over it page by page. People in attendance were a little upset they could not see all of the data being discussed.

Jarrod mentioned at the end of 2022 there was \$277,000 in the Electric Fund and at the end of 2023 it was down to \$165,000 and in 2024 it is down to \$78,000. Jarrod says you are operating a utility that spends around \$700,000 a year on a balance of \$78,000. Jarrod said this is a sign that things are not good and we all know costs are going up on everything.

Jarrod explained there is a tracker factor that changes every quarter, and it appears to be working correctly. This is basically like a fuel surcharge because the price of electricity is constantly changing.

Jarrod said the Town's Line Loss was at 15%, which seemed a little high.

Jarrod said if the Town goes with Option 1, which is around a 9.1% increase the Town would not be losing any money, but it is not going to be making any money either. Option 2, which is around a 14.9% increase would make us around \$40,000 a year. Jarrod said you would want at the least around 2 months' worth of operating costs as a cash balance, which would be around \$125,000 to \$130,000. Jarrod also mentioned unexpected purchases like transformers, poles, etc. that you need a cash balance to purchase. Option 3 would make us around \$100,000 a year.

Jarrod said the Town has not increased its rates since 2003, or 22 years.

Barry said he heard the Town should have 12 months of revenue as a cash balance and Jarrod said that would be ideal, but the bare minimum would be 2 months. Jarrod mentioned the Town's current situation and said 12 months would be a long-term goal.

Jarrod said he thinks the plan is for the Town Council to Adopt Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3 at the regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting tomorrow night. Bob said if the Town Council adopts an Ordinance tomorrow night then the rate would be effective on the August 1, 2025 Utility Bill.

Bob mentioned that the Town used to have an Electric Lineman but as time went on and once they were trained, they would move on. Now the Town has an Agreement with Crawfordsville Electric Power & Light (CEL&P) and their rates are very reasonable. Doug said the Town could not hire a Lineman for what we pay 2 of our employees.

**Meeting Opened Up for Public Comment**

There were 11 people present and several of them spoke. Brad Eads mentioned if the Town could figure out where the 15% Line Loss is going then the rates would not have to be raised so much. Discussion ensued and Jarrod mentioned old meters, multiplied meters, and unread meters.

Sandy asked Jarrod if he took into consideration the Town Accounts where the meters are read so we are tracking consumption, but we are not billing ourselves. Sandy said she does not think the problem is because the meters are older.

Katheryn Eads knows how much the Town pays to IMPA for electricity. Katheryn wanted to know how much IMPA pays for the electricity they sell to the Town. Katheryn said she could not find out on line how much IMPA's CEO made and wanted to know why and said she did not want to pay for a \$15 million dollar CEO. Jarrod said he is stepping out of his league but said that IMPA is probably the cheapest wholesale provider and Katheryn asked if we had anyone to compare that with.

Dwayne Hill said Katheryn asked how much IMPA's CEO is getting paid versus all of the others and if it is not public record why is it not public record. Barry said because IMPA is a private organization and Katheryn asked if there was any competition and asked if we could shop around for our electric provider and Barry said no that the Town is in a 50-year contract with IMPA, which is a standard procedure.

Bob asked Leo Current if he remembered when Waynetown signed on with IMPA but he did not. Bob said as long as he can remember it has been IMPA. Barry said there are 62 IMPA Communities throughout Indiana. Barry said locally you have Ladoga, Darlington, New Ross, Crawfordsville and Veedersburg.

Dwayne asked where the power from the IMPA Solar Park goes and Barry said it is offset on the Town's Electric Bill from IMPA.

Jarrod mentioned that IMPA is a Co-op, and they have 62 voting members on their Board unlike other Electric Companies. Jarrod said Waynetown does have a representation on what IMPA is doing.

Bob said at the June Town Council Meeting Sandy had a list of what everyone's electric consumption was and the dollar amount they were charged. Bob said the rate increase is going to depend on how many kWh of electricity you use.

Bob mentioned a few years ago our Water Fund was in horrible shape and we had to have a rate study done because of the loan for the new Water Treatment Plant and the rates went up a lot, but today water fund is no longer one of our worries.

Katheryn asked Bob what is going to determine which Option the Town Council goes with and Bob said it will be whichever one they choose. Bob said he can only speak for himself but he liked the idea of building up the cash reserves as quickly as we can, which would be Option 3. Bob said he thinks they need to decide if they want to go with Option 3 where you are getting hit all at once or Option 2 for a year and then going to Option 3.

Bob mentioned if we get some Economic Development going the more businesses and homes you have paying for electricity it helps with the financials.

Bob said he has been on the Board longer than anyone and he said the Board failed by not looking at the raising the rates sooner.

Katheryn asked how many people are struggling to pay their bills and Sandy said you have the same 20 to 30 people every month and Bob asked if they are slow pay or never pay and Sandy said they have to pay or they are shut off.

Sarah Kessinger asked if there was any way to go with Option 2 and reduce the electricity the Town is using that is not getting billed to itself. Sarah asked if this is something that the Town Council could look into instead of jumping the gun and going with Option 3. Bob said unfortunately we do not have too much time to waste. Someone suggested going with Option 2 now and next year look at what is being wasted and try to reduce it so we do not have to go to Option 3. Katheryn said they are asking to go with Option 2 but also commit over the next year you will try to figure out where the Line Loss is.

Bob said when you raise rates it has to be done by Ordinance, and if we go with Option 2 then it would have to have a due date on when we would go to Option 3.

Jarrod suggesting adopting an Ordinance and between now and then we find this unaccounted for electricity and if there is a way to not use it, but not using it is not going to change, because if you are not using it you are not going to be buying it, so it is kind of like a wash. Jarrod said if we can find it and start charging for it then that would change things and mentioned a million kWh.

Jarrod was texting his boss and found out the electricity that the Town is using and not paying for was NOT included in the 15% Line Loss calculation.

Doug asked what the difference is on Residential 1000 kWh between Option 2 and Option 3 and the answer was \$11.00. Doug asked if the average household uses 1,000 kWh's and the answer was no it is 720 kWh.

Dwayne Hill said 1,000 kWh is \$126.87 and Option 3 is \$159.25 and that is 30 something dollar increase per household.

Sandy said you could do Option 2 now and then if you want to raise the rates higher in the future you could go to Option 3 but that would require another Public Hearing.

Brad asked about the rates and Sandy said we advertised in the newspaper Option 3, which is the highest rates. Sandy said we could go with Option 2 and then go to Option 3 but it would have to have a date that Option 3 would start.

Jarrold said if you go with Option 3 and then find out where the Line Loss is you could always go back and adopt Option 2. Katheryn said couldn't we go with Option 2 and then raise it and the answer was yes.

Rick Brown said he thinks Option 3 is the way to go but no one wants a rate increase but understands it has to happen.

Doug said the Town's electric infrastructure is in pretty good shape and other than a squirrel or a fuse he does not remember the last time our power was out in Waynetown because of Waynetown. Normally, when the Town losses power it is because of Duke. Doug said it takes money to keep the electric utility infrastructure strong.

Sandy said the Town has not raised the electric rates for 2022 years and said why we are in the situation we are in today, just think about what wages were being paid out 22 years ago and what health insurance costs then versus today. Sandy said the Town changed their health insurance company to lower the rates. Sandy said everything costs a lot more today than it did 22 years ago and we have not been charging you more.

Jarrold said there is \$480,000 the Town uses that we do not bill for and said it should have been put in the Electric Rate Study as accounted for. Jarrold said that lowers our Line Loss down to around 7 1/2 %, so it is still a little high but within parameters.

Someone mentioned Christmas in the Park and Sandy said the Town covers the electric bill for the entire Park. Sandy said she does not think the electric usage at the Park is the problem and she thinks that the benefit that you get from all of the people coming into Town is more than the expense.

Brad said you can tell exactly when the increase is and said it is the Pool in the Summer and Christmas in the Park in the Winter.

Sandy said every meter in Town is being read and we generate a bill and enter the figures on a spreadsheet to track the consumption and then delete the bill out of the billing system. Sandy said there is probably 30 meters around Town and the Water would pay the Electric and the Electric would pay the Water and the Sewer would pay Electric. The Town Council voted not to bill itself for its own Utilities, but we still track the consumption.

Bob said he thinks everyone agrees that something has to be done but the question is the dollar amount. Katheryn said one of their bills is going to go up \$1,200 a year and that is just one of their many bills.

Sandy had brought a report to the Public Hearing and was able to give several people their electric consumption amounts and the dollar amount they were being charged.

Doug said he wishes there was a way we could give a break on Industry, but he knows there is not.

Kathryn mentioned Business in a small Town are limited on how much they can sell their products like pizza and ice cream for before they are priced out and people cannot afford to go there. Therefore, they are limited on how much they can increase their prices to offset the increase in the electric bill.

Dwayne did say we have to be thankful that the electric prices were not raised for 22 years.

Bob said by State Statute the Town Council cannot make the decision tonight on the electric rates so it will be done tomorrow night at the Regular Town Council Meeting.

Bob told everyone that he appreciated them coming and understanding the problem. Bob said there is a lot of people in Town that have no idea this discussion is happening even though the Notice was published in the newspaper and posted around Town.

Randy said the electric rate increase is going to affect everyone on the Board because their bills are going to go up too.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

Bob closed the Public Hearing at 7:15 P.M.

The following page is a copy of the sign in sheet.

Bob Cox - Town Council President



Sandy Proctor - Clerk-Treasurer

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**TOWN OF WAYNETOWN  
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED RATES & CHARGES WAYNETOWN ELECTRIC UTILITY  
JUNE 10, 2025**

**THIS MEETING IS BEING RECORDED**

**SIGN IN SHEET**

**Town Council & Clerk-Treasurer**

1. Bob Co
2. Bobby Lee
3. David Jones
4. [Signature]
5. [Signature]
6. Sandy Proctor

**Please Sign Your Name**

7. Loren Stephens
8. Teresa Stephens
9. Linda Ciment
10. Leo Ciment
11. Jarrod Hall
12. Amanda Stelp
13. Kathryn Eads
14. Brad Eads
15. RICK BROWN
16. Sarah Kessinger
17. [Signature]
18. Wayne Hill
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