

Edward Lavallee

From: Edward Lavallee
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 6:03 AM
To: Kathleen Weeden
Cc: Lori F; John Veneziano; Judy DiFabbio; Jeffery Snyder; Kathy Millsbaugh; Lori Stelzer
Subject: Re: Electric charging stations

Kathleen / John

If possible it would be beneficial to complete this review and communicate with Mr. Cummings prior to the next City Council meeting.

Edward F. Lavallee

> On Feb 11, 2014, at 3:56 PM, "Kathleen Weeden" <KWeeden@Venicegov.com> wrote:

>

> Ed,

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> I met with both John V. and Finance to discuss the electric charging stations today. John V. is spearheading evaluating the cost of operation/maintenance of the charging stations. Based on an initial review, the city has generated approx. \$200 in revenue from the charging stations and spent this year \$600 for the contract with ChargePoint to operate the stations. This does not include the numerous service calls PW has answered to address operational issues or the charges by FPL for the electric service.

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> - The charging stations were approved by City Council to use the remaining balance of the Energy Grant based on requests by Cathy Cushing. We had approximately 30 days to bid and install the charging stations to meet the grant close-out dates. Charging stations installation was 100% funded by the grant. There was no opportunity for staff analysis of the viability of the charging stations before the installation was approved by City Council.

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> - The rate of \$2/hour was based on teleconference discussions with the County and participating municipalities in the Energy Grant (), the City Manager, the Finance Director and I (the PW Director position was vacant at that time). At the time, the City of Sarasota indicated that they would be charging \$2/hour with some other municipalities either providing for free or hadn't determined a rate yet.

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> - It is appropriate to evaluate the actual operation costs vs. the revenue generated to offset those costs at this time. My initial indication is that we are losing money every year and the cost of tracking the \$200 per year in revenue probably costs us more than we receive. If the rates were to be substantially reduced, then use may increase.

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> - The charging stations do not have a separate meter and are tied into Centennial Park. PW is the contact for ChargePoint and a calculation of the electric used on the statements and can provide information about what we are currently paying FPL for electric that is distributed by the stations.

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> - It was never the intent to make the charging stations a profitable venture, only self-sustaining as to not further drain the General Fund to provide fuel to operation vehicles not owned by the City.

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> -With Sarasota County as an example, they have charging stations that they make available to the public for free at the BOB Building. They also have an extensive fleet of electric vehicles for which they are achieving savings in gasoline. I assume they use these savings to offset the cost of providing the electric for free.

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> The first contact I am aware of was Thursday, Feb. 6th with questions regarding the charging stations. Kathy Millsbaugh and several other staff members spend significant amount of time on the phone with Mr. Cummings including a follow-up call with the status by Kathy on Friday, Feb. 7th. She made Mr. Cummings aware that staff would need some time to further research the rate charged and the expenses to the city and would get back to him early this week. The following day, he contacted the Mayor stating that he had contacted the City in August and they still had not gotten back to him. Staff is working on the evaluation of the charging station rates.

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> Please let me know if you have any further questions.

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> Thanks!

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> Kathleen

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> Kathleen J. Weeden, PE

> City Engineer

> City of Venice

> 401 W. Venice Avenue

> Venice, FL 32485

> 941-486-2626 ext. 25001

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Edward Lavallee

> Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:58 PM

> To: Kathleen Weeden

> Cc: Lori F

> Subject: FW: Electric charging stations

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> Kathleen

> Matthew Cummings is at the Council meeting to talk about the charging station rate. Can you get me some background and update

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Edward Lavallee

> Sent: Sunday, November 03, 2013 6:06 AM

> To: Kathleen Weeden

> Cc: Raeanne Keefe

> Subject: Electric charging stations

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> Kathleen

> Not sure who has the information that is requested - below Matthew Cummings called for an explanation on the cost of using the charging stations. He wanted detail on what makes up the total cost. Apparently he just moved to the island and has an electric vehicle. (941) 484-9909 Please follow up and advise Raeanne of the outcome. Thank you

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> Edward F. Lavallee)

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