



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: July 5, 2011

To: John Szerlag, City Manager *JS*

From: Timothy Richnak, Public Works Director *TR*

Subject: Smart Meters / Radio Frequencies

Background

The City of Oak Park through resolution is asking the Michigan Public Service Commission to review health concerns of Smart Meters that transmit readings by way of low radio frequencies.

The City of Troy is currently using a radio reading system on its 27,000 plus water meters. At the time of the purchase of this radio read system six years ago there were no health concerns noted.

The most recent study found has been done in California and published in March of 2011. It notes the following.

California Utility Addresses Smart Meter Health Concerns

Utilities throughout the United States and around the world are using smart meter technology, with more than 90 million advanced metering devices deployed worldwide at the end of 2010. The federal government and the international health community, including the World Health Organization, have deemed the low-level radio frequency on which Smart Meters rely to be completely safe. In California, a recent independent study found that Smart Meters meet every known health standard.



City of Oak Park

"The Family City"

Tonni L. Bartholomew, City Clerk

Mayor
Gerald E. Naftaly
Mayor Pro Tem
Michael M. Seligson
Council Members
Angela Diggs Jackson
Paul H. Levine
Emile Duplessis

RESOLUTION

CM-06-178-11 **RESOLUTION TO MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION REGARDING DTE ENERGY SMART METERS - ADOPTED**

Motion by Jackson, seconded by Duplessis, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**: To adopt the following resolution to the Michigan Public Service Commission expressing Council's concern with the installation of DTE Energy Smart Meters and a request to explore the health and safety effects:

CITY OF OAK PARK OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Oak Park, Oakland County, Michigan, held in the Council Chambers located at 13600 Oak Park Boulevard, Oak Park, Michigan 48237 at 7:30 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, on the 20th day of June, 2011

The meeting was called to order by: Mayor Gerald Naftaly

Present: Mayor Naftaly, Mayor Pro Tem Seligson, Council Member Duplessis, Council Member Jackson, Council Member Levine, City Manager Fox, City Clerk Bartholomew, City Attorney Carlson.

Absent: None.

The following resolution offered by Jackson and seconded by Duplessis.

WHEREAS, DTE Energy has begun the installation of new meters to customers in the City of Oak Park, replacing existing meters with so-called "smart meters", that is, electric meters which will broadcast information to the utility company using radio frequencies; and

WHEREAS, Smart meters provide a benefit to utilities by allowing remote meter reading, eliminating the need for someone to go onto each utility customer's property to read a meter; and

WHEREAS, A significant number of persons, including residents of the City of Oak Park, have expressed their concerns to this Council about potential health effects of the smart meters, as well as other concerns regarding their universal deployment in the City; and

WHEREAS, Although the Council is informed that it is without jurisdiction to directly regulate smart meters, exclusive jurisdiction over them residing with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“MPSC”), the Council believes it is appropriate to assist its citizens in obtaining consideration of their issues by requesting careful review thereof by the MPSC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Michigan Public Commission is hereby requested to perform a careful analysis of the potential health and safety effects which may result from the universal installation of smart meters for electric and gas utilities.
2. The MPSC is further requested to consider delaying the deployment of smart meters pending a conclusion by the MPSC, following careful study and review, that such meters are safe and will not have short-term or long-term negative consequences to the health of the citizens of Oak Park and the State of Michigan generally.
3. The MPSC is asked to carefully examine other concerns regarding the deployment of smart meters as may be submitted to them by residents of Oak Park and the State of Michigan, so as to insure that all aspects of the issues are considered before final determination is made with respect to such deployment.
4. The MPSC is further asked to consider requiring public utilities to allow customers with appropriate medical documentation of their individualized risks to opt out of smart meter installation at their homes.
5. All resolutions inconsistent with the foregoing resolution be and the same hereby are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

AYES: Seligson, Duplessis, Jackson, Levine, Naftaly
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


Tonni L. Bartholomew, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City of Oak Park, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting held on June 20, 2011, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.


Tonni L. Bartholomew, City Clerk