



**EMERGENCY MANAGER
CITY OF FLINT
GENESEE COUNTY MICHIGAN**

ORDER No. 5

SPECIAL STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT FOR FY16 AND FY17

BY THE POWER AND AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE EMERGENCY MANAGER (“EMERGENCY MANAGER”) FOR THE CITY OF FLINT, MICHIGAN (“CITY”) PURSUANT TO MICHIGAN'S PUBLIC ACT 436 OF 2012, LOCAL FINANCIAL STABILITY AND CHOICE ACT, (“PA 436”); GERALD AMBROSE, THE EMERGENCY MANAGER, ISSUES THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Pursuant to PA 436, the Emergency Manager has broad powers in receivership to rectify the financial emergency and to assure the fiscal accountability of the City and its capacity to provide or cause to be provided necessary services essential to the public health, safety and welfare; and

Pursuant to PA 436, the Emergency Manager acts in place of local officials, specifically the Mayor and City Council, unless the Emergency Manager delegates specific authority; and

The City’s General Fund cannot support the cost of operating, maintaining, and improving street lighting. The provision of street lighting provides essential benefits with respect to the public safety and general welfare of the City, its residents, and property owners. If the City stopped providing street lighting, it follows that crime would increase; the fear of crime would increase; there would be more accidents; and the quality of life and value of property would suffer; and

The City has authority to specially assess for the cost of operating, maintaining, and improving street lighting under the Home Rule City Act, act 279, Michigan Public Acts of 1909, as amended, MCL 117.1 *et seq.*; and

Pursuant to Emergency Manager Order No. 32, adopted June 27, 2012, a special assessment district was established for street lighting, against which at least part of the cost of providing said service is to be assessed.

The Emergency Manger has caused to be prepared plans and cost estimates for the continued provision of street lighting.

Under the city-wide special assessment district, for FY14, an assessment of \$67.87 per parcel was enacted.

It is hereby ordered:

Effective July 1, 2015, the cost of operating, maintaining, and improving street lighting, as contemplated by MCL 117.4d, shall be assessed against the special assessment district to provide for the operational costs of the current system, and to enable upgrades and improvements to street lighting throughout the City. The assessment will be collected through the property tax bill for all property owners. The amount to be assessed will be adjusted annually to reflect the projected cost for the operational, maintenance and improvement costs, and the number of property owners.

The FY16 budget contains an appropriation of \$2,824,202 for street lighting expenses. There are estimated to be 37,986 parcels in the City subject to this assessment. There were 11,292 streetlights, according to the most recent audit conducted by the City in collaboration with Consumers Energy. The cost of operating, maintaining, and improving street lighting will be spread equally to all parcels in the City, since all property owners' benefit from a well-lighted city. There are funds collected from prior assessments which have not been fully disbursed. Therefore, the cost per parcel for the July tax bill will tentatively be set at the current assessment of \$70.94 per parcel.

The proposed annual cost of \$70.94 per parcel is unchanged from the current assessment.

It is further ordered:

Effective July 1, 2015, the cost of operating, maintaining, and improving street lighting, as contemplated by MCL 117.4d, shall be assessed against the special assessment district to provide for the operational costs of the current system, and to enable upgrades and improvements to street lighting throughout the City. The assessment will be collected through the property tax bill for all property owners. The amount to be assessed will be adjusted annually to reflect the projected cost for the operational, maintenance and improvement costs, and the number of property owners.

The FY17 budget contains an appropriation of \$2,825,426 for street lighting expenses. There are estimated to be 37,986 parcels in the City subject to this assessment. There were 11,292 streetlights, according to the most recent audit conducted by the City in collaboration with Consumers Energy. The cost of operating, maintaining, and improving street lighting will be spread equally to all parcels in the City, since all property owners' benefit from a well-lighted city. There are funds collected from prior assessments which have not been fully disbursed. Therefore,

the cost per parcel for the July tax bill will tentatively be set at the current assessment of \$70.94 per parcel.


The proposed annual cost of \$70.94 per parcel is unchanged from the FY16 assessment.

All funds will be used exclusively for the purpose intended – for the payment of costs permitted under MCL 117.4d(2)(b), including engineering, financial, legal, administrative services, and operation and maintenance of the street lighting system.

This Order shall have immediate effect.

This Order may be amended, modified, repealed or terminated by any subsequent Order issued by the Emergency Manager.

Dated: 4-28-15

By: 

Gerald Ambrose
Emergency Manager
City of Flint

xc: State of Michigan Department of Treasury
Mayor Dayne Walling
Flint City Council
Inez Brown, City Clerk

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