



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Pioneer Community Energy - Community Choice Aggregation Program (CCA) for the City of Grass Valley

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That Council 1) approve Pioneer Community Energy to procure the necessary energy to serve the City of Grass Valley starting in January 2024, and 2) adopt a Resolution 2023-09 authorizing the Mayor to appoint City Council Members to the Pioneer Board of Directors.

Prepared by: Timothy Kiser, City Manager

Council Meeting Date: 03/30/2023

Date Prepared: 03/23/2023

Agenda: Consent

Background Information: Pioneer Community Energy (Pioneer) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) formed between the Counties of Placer and El Dorado, the Town of Loomis, and the Cities of Auburn, Colfax, Lincoln, Placerville, and Rocklin.

Pioneer is a Community Choice Aggregation Program (CCA) authorized under Assembly Bill 117 (2002). The CCA provides local control over the electricity supply with a primary goal of providing stable and competitive electricity rates to the residents and businesses within its member jurisdictions.

Pioneer purchases the electricity supply and PG&E transmits and delivers the power through PG&E's infrastructure (poles and wires). PG&E continues to own, operate, and maintain its distribution infrastructure. PG&E also continues to provide meter reading and billing services for Pioneer's customers.

On January 25, 2022, the Pioneer executive team gave a presentation to the City Council. This presentation was a general introduction to a CCA and Pioneer. At this meeting, the City Council authorized staff to proceed with an Impact Assessment Study.

At the September 15, 2022, Pioneer Governing Board meeting, the Board received results of the Impact Assessment Study and unanimously approved a resolution authorizing Pioneer staff to begin the process of amending the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to allow the City of Grass Valley and Nevada City to join the JPA.

At the October 11th, 2022 City Council Meeting, the City Council approved Resolution No. 2022-77 requesting membership in Pioneer Community Energy, and authorizing the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 5 to the Amendment and Restated Joint Powers

Agreement. At that meeting, City Council also introduced and conducted first reading of an ordinance authorizing the establishment of a CCA program in the City. Pioneer's Board of Directors to took action on the Amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement, allowing the City to join Pioneer as a member.

The final steps in this process is to request Pioneer Community Energy to start procuring power to serve the City in January 2024. Additionally, City will need to appoint members (primary and alternate) to Pioneer Community Energy Board of Directors. Staff is proposing City Council approve Resolution 2023-09 providing the Mayor of Grass Valley the ability to appoint a Council Member to the Pioneer Board of Directors, which would then be added to City appointment list.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

The adoption of the Resolution does not constitute a project and is therefore exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Section 15378(b).

Council Goals/Objectives: The item executes portions of work tasks towards achieving/maintaining Strategic Plan - High Performance Government and Quality Service.

Fiscal Impact: There is no risk to the general fund related to joining of Pioneer and approving an ordinance to institute a CCA program in the City. The cost to serve the new members is funded through Pioneer rates. Overall, by joining Pioneer the City should save money on our yearly energy cost compared to PG&E.

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: City Manager

Attachments: R2023-09,