

From: [Jim Dyer](#)
To: ["Anne Harper"; Laura Cavendish](#)
Cc: [Village of Northport Treasurer](#)
Subject: RE: Finance Comm. Agenda 2-12-25, 10 a.m.
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 2:02:00 PM

Anne,

Unfortunately, the Finance Committee scheduled for February 12 will be cancelled. Jane Gale is no longer serving, and Chris McAnn is out of town and unavailable. As an alternative, I will present your email (as well as the list questioned streetlights you provided to me earlier, if you wish) to the Village Council for information at its meeting on February 13th. I would also be happy to discuss this with you in greater detail, particularly how you think this analysis should be undertaken. I can say though that I would consider this a matter for staff study and review, rather than a committee of the Village Council. The objective of that study would be a report to the full Council for action. I think that would achieve the same policy result.

Of course, any cost benefit analysis must first define the benefit to be evaluated. It is my perception that there is a very wide range of opinion concerning the benefit of streetlights generally, and opinions about specific streetlights are even more strongly held. And unfortunately, cost is not the sole consideration for, and in some instances the Village is not the sole governmental entity to weigh in on, the placement of a streetlight.

I would be available Thursday afternoon before the Council meeting, and Friday afternoon, if you would like to discuss this further.

Thanks for your email.

Jim Dyer, Village Manager
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-----Original Message-----

From: Anne Harper <harperconsulting@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:01 AM
To: lcavendish@villageofnorthport.net
Cc: Jim Dyer <manager@villageofnorthport.net>; Diana Simons <treasurer@villageofnorthport.net>
Subject: Finance Comm. Agenda 2-12-25, 10 a.m.
Importance: High

Hi Laura and Jim,

I would like to ask the Finance Committee to review the monthly and annual cost of the streetlights in the Village that are owned and operated by Consumers Energy, but paid for by Village tax dollars. As part of the annual budget process, these costs should be made transparent to the public and a cost-benefit ratio studied by the Finance Committee and staff for the consideration of the Village Council.

I realize that these charges have been challenging to assess in the past, but I believe that the Village, as a customer of Consumers Energy, has the right and obligation to ask CE to offer us transparent billing.

If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anne

404-242-5999

Anne Harper
harperconsulting@gmail.com