

**From:** Peter Weldon  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 12, 2022 3:21 PM  
**To:** sgdeciccio@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Winter Park City Commission Members  
(MayorandCommissioners@cityofwinterpark.org)  
**Subject:** Electric Rate Increase Nonsense

Ms. DeCiccio,

You are misrepresenting the facts to your constituents. Here is an example of what you are telling them:

Thank you for your email. I have posted an article from the City that details the reasons for the slight increase:

<https://conta.cc/3oxMEwW>

Briefly, the City wants to stay on track to complete the undergrounding by 2027, so that all customers experience the reliability and aesthetic improvements that come from a fully undergrounded system. Reliability has improved dramatically with all of the undergrounding that has been done to date.

Additionally, while burying the utility lines, the City is burying a conduit for fiber which will provide much more reliable internet services to your home. It will be up to the fiber companies to bury the lines from the street to your house depending on which company you choose.

Even with a minor rate increase, Winter Park rates remain at the very lowest levels in all of Central Florida.

Sincerely,  
Sheila

The "slight increase" is 8% for a typical small home using 1000 kWh per month totaling about \$650 over five years.

Please tell all retirees living on a fixed income, young people renting an apartment, and those renting low-income housing that this money is a "slight increase." Be sure to let all these electric customers (about 3500) know that the rate increase is used to subsidize private property owners who decline to assume responsibility for undergrounding their own private overhead electric line.

Next, also tell all homeowners who already paid to underground their private overhead electric line (another 4500) that the rate increase pays to subsidize private property owners who decline to assume responsibility for undergrounding their own private overhead electric line.

Now to the facts as they pertain to your assertions above.

Subsidizing the undergrounding of private overhead lines will not impact the undergrounding schedule in any measurable way. Your assertion is NOT TRUE, yet you repeat it over and over.

Reliability improvement, if any, from undergrounding a private overhead electric line only accrues to the owner of the private property, who is responsible for the decision to underground the service line. Per the city's Director of Electric Utilities, there is no impact of a downed private overhead line on the reliability of neighbors. Your assertion is NOT TRUE, yet you repeat it over and over.

What exactly is an "aesthetic improvement" and why should the two thirds of residential electric customers whose service lines are already underground pay to satisfy your notion of "aesthetic improvement?"

Improvements to reliability from undergrounding to date has nothing to do with the rate increase.

Laying conduit for prospective fiber optic lines has nothing to do with the rate increase.

The rate increase DOES NOT put Winter Park at "the very lowest levels in all of Central Florida." Your assertion is NOT TRUE, yet you repeat it over and over. Here are the relevant current rate structures:

	Current Winter Park <u>Utilities</u>	Rate Increase Winter Park <u>Utilities</u>	Orange Utility Commission <u><a href="#">Orlando</a></u>	Duke <u><a href="#">Energy</a></u>
Customer Charge	\$16.98	\$16.98	\$15.00	\$12.45
First 1000 kWh	\$0.06624	\$0.07524	\$0.06758	\$0.08301
Above 1000 kWh	\$0.08840	\$0.09740	\$0.09358	\$0.09188

Carefully consider the implications of misleading your constituents. Your effort to hide behind un-truths and irrelevant nonsense makes it clear you already know your vote in support of the rate increase was a mistake. Stop with the excuses and lead.

Please look clearly at the reality of this unfair and unnecessary electric rate increase. Bring it up at the next commission meeting and reverse your vote. Your constituents will have more respect for you for doing so.

Regards, Pete Weldon