

**TREMPEALEAU MUNICIPAL UTILITY
RESOLUTION #11-2009
RESOLUTION OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL 404**

WHEREAS, the Village of Trempealeau has been served by a community-owned, locally controlled, nonprofit electric and water utility for over 90 years: and

WHEREAS, Trempealeau Municipal Utility has provided low-cost, reliable electricity to the residents and businesses on a not-for-profit basis;

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 404 would prohibit Trempealeau Municipal Utilities from collecting unpaid electric and water bills using the property tax roll; and

WHEREAS, since a municipal utility is owned by the residents of the community, any costs not absorbed through traditional ratemaking and payments for service, must be borne by the community ratepayers and unlike an investor-owned utility, a municipal utility does not have the ability to simply write-off unpaid electric bills; and

WHEREAS, we fully support the current statutes pertaining to the subject of “taxrolling” unpaid utility bills; as current law was the result of discussions nearly 12 years ago and is a compromise for both the landlords and the municipal utilities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Board of Trempealeau pass this resolution in opposition to Assembly Bill 404.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Trempealeau Municipal Utilities encourages all utilities to continue working with landlords on collection methods and communications to keep rates from rising for all customers.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution will be sent to State Legislators, Governor Jim Doyle and the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin.

Dated this 5th Day of October, 2009

Kurt D. Wood, Village President

Ayes _____ Noes _____

Attest: _____
Vicki L. Freeman, Village Clerk