

A Legacy of Service Since 1902

1902

The first electric system to serve the City of Zeeland was put in service.



1915

Electric system was purchased and operated by Consumers Power Co. under two 10-year franchise agreements.

Zeeland purchased the system from Consumers Power, which served about 500 customers. The Washington Ave. Generation facility was constructed in anticipation of meeting this need, providing 500 kW of generating capacity.



1935

1942

City Council established:
"Electric Light and Water Works Commission."

Additional generating units were installed in 1939 and 1941, increasing plant capacity to 1,450 kW.

1940

1938 Statistics:

Energy Sales
1,125 MWh

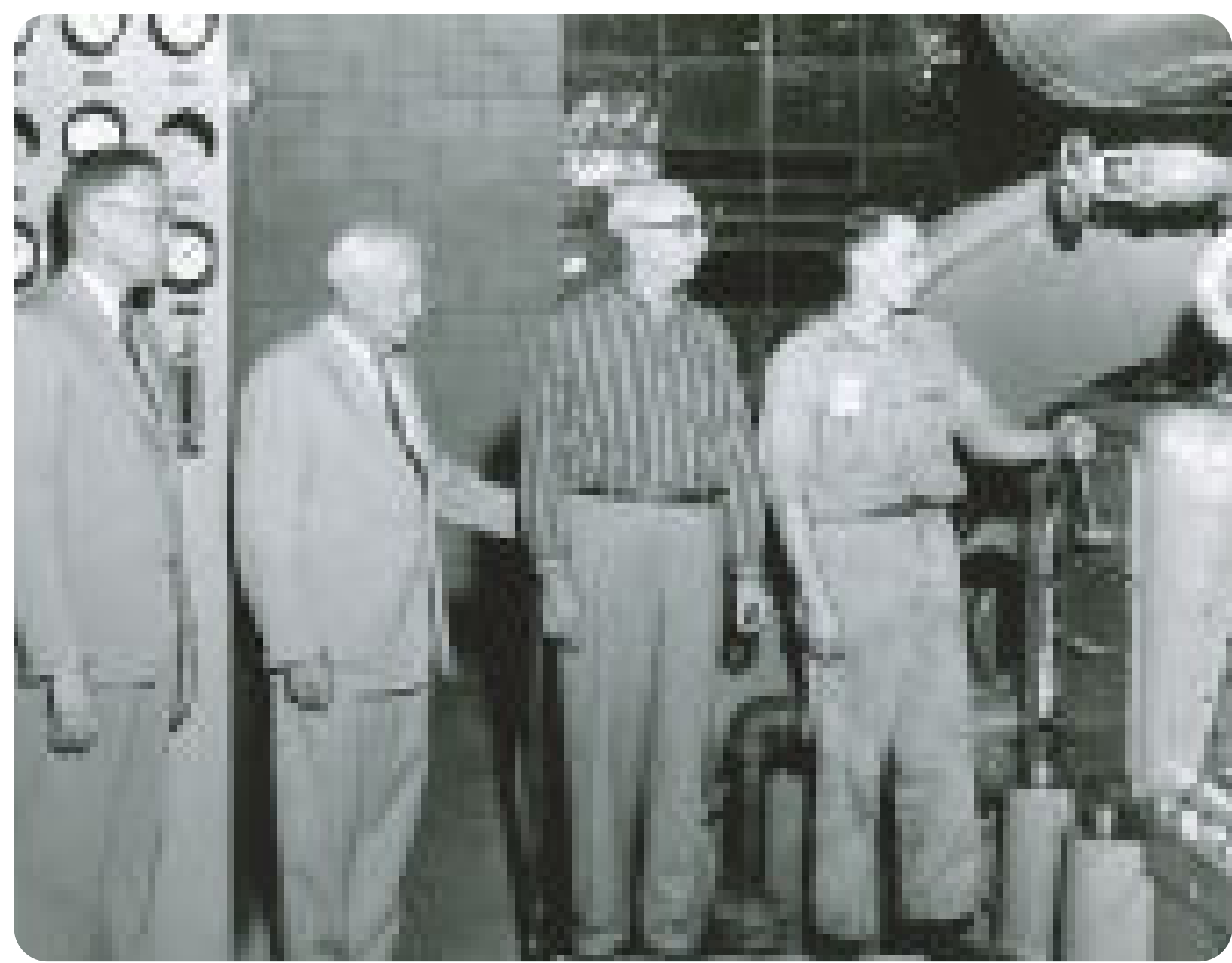
Peak Usage
0.4 MW

Plant Capacity
500 kW



Name was changed to **Board of Public Works (BPW)** while still under City Council control.

1943



The 500,000 gallon Carlton Water Tower was constructed.

1953

1952

BPW became a semi-autonomous five member board.

1957

Interconnected with the REA (Wolverine Power) to provide 500 kW of standby service, marking the beginning of the BPW's connection to the electric 'grid.'



Installed a 20" water main connection to the Holland BPW and constructed Washington Pump Station.

1963

Became a founding member of the Michigan Municipal Electric Association (MMEA).

1958

1958 Statistics:

Energy Sales

12,944 MWh

Peak Usage

3.5 MW

Plant Capacity

6,500 kW



BPW began receiving a larger portion of it's energy from Wolverine Power.

1967

1967-1980

Additional generating units were installed, increasing plant capacity to over 22,000 kW.

1978

Became a founding member of the Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA).

1990

Signed original 99-year wholesale water supply agreement with the Holland BPW.

1983

Purchased an 11.58 MW interest in the Detroit Edison Belle River Power Plant through MPPA.

1991

Constructed Riley St. Substation and Fairview Switching Station, which was converted to a substation in 1994.



Signed franchise agreements with Holland and Zeeland Charter Townships to provide electric utility service for their residents.

1992



1989 Statistics:

Employees

18

Energy Sales

109,787 MWh

Peak Usage

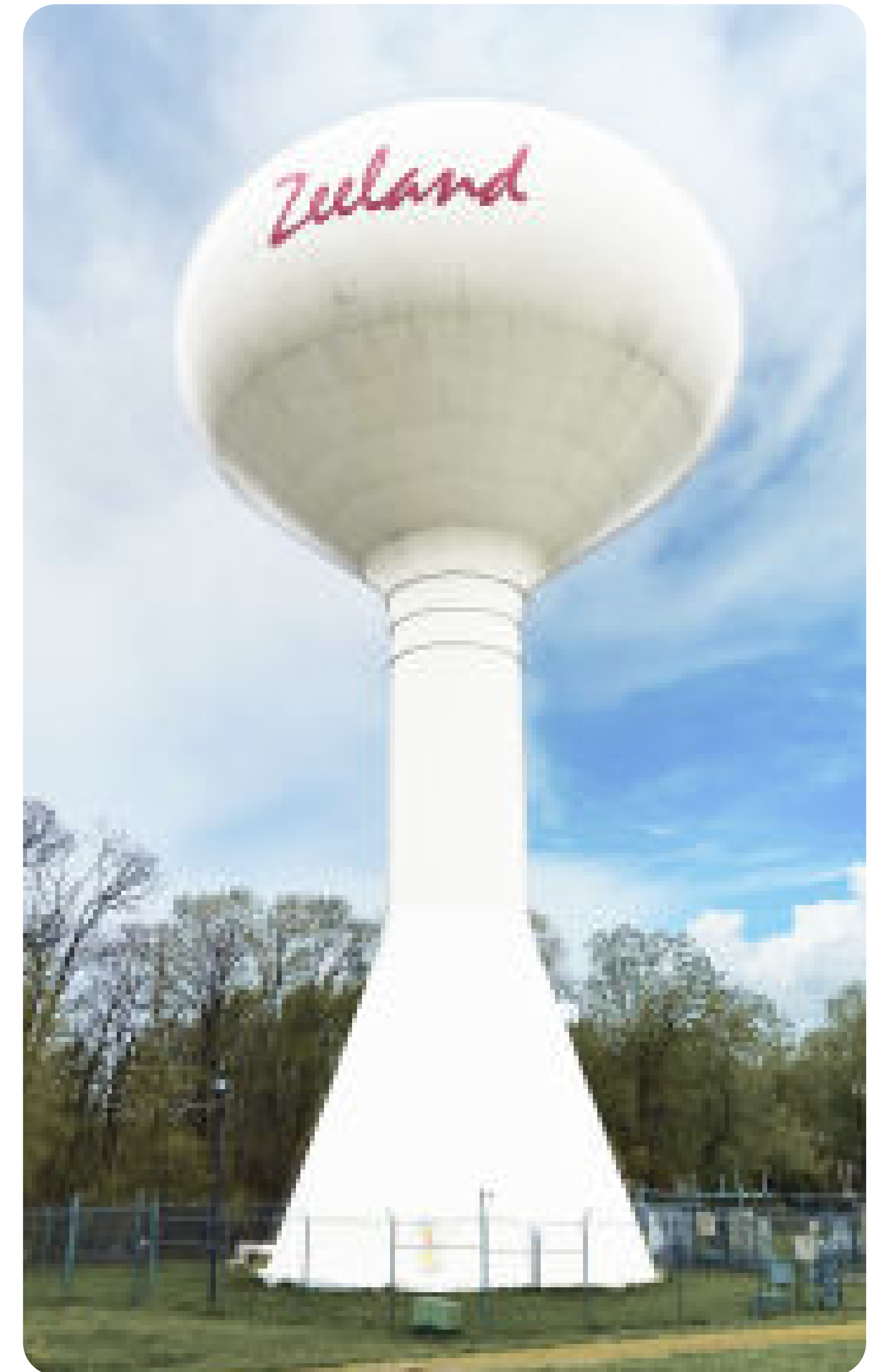
23.9 MW

Water Sold

701.6 MG

1993

Approved Act 425 Water Service Agreement with Zeeland Charter Township to provide water service. The City's water wells were also abandoned.



1994

Constructed 1.5 million gallon water tower on 80th Ave. and the Carlton Ave. Pump Station.

1995

Completed 138 kV transmission line from Wolverine's Blendon Substation to Riley Substation and a 69kV sub-transmission loop connecting the City's substations.

1996

Constructed a new 30" water main to Holland BPW.

2000

Constructed Perry St. Substation.



2008 Statistics:

Employees

24

Energy Sales

329,153 MWh

Peak Usage

62.7 MW

Water Sold

1,397.6 MG



2002

Constructed a 5 million gallon ground storage tank.



2008

Executed a 15-Year Power Purchase Agreement with North American Natural Resources (NANR) for up to 4.0 MW of renewable energy from the Autumn Hills Landfill gas generation facility in Zeeland Charter Township.

Installed two 1,000 kW natural gas generators at West Washington Pump Station followed by five 2,000 kW natural gas generators at Riley Substation.

2002-2006



Executed multiple wind and solar renewable energy Power Purchase Agreements through MPPA with a combined offtake totaling nearly 50MW of installed capacity.

2012-2024

2025

Constructed Northside Substation.



2025 Statistics:

Employees

33

Energy Sales

463,452

Peak Usage

91.7 MW

Water Sold

2,124.6 MG





Delivering customer-focused, superior electric and water utility services that are reliable, safe, responsible, and cost competitive.

BOARD CHAIRS

Fred Langeland	1935
Adrian VanKoevering	1943
Elmer Hartgerink	1951
Ford A. Berghorst	1959
Howard Stephenson	1984
Kenneth VandenBosch	1987
Phil Koning	1990
Ken Hoesch	2008
David DeJonge	2010
Linda Boerman	2011

GENERAL MANAGERS & SUPERINTENDENTS

Peter Baar	1951
Martin Hieftje	1958
Glenn Veldheer/Chuck VanderKolk	1985 (interim)
Ed Staskiewicz	1986
David Walters	1989
Glenn Veldheer	2001 (interim)
David Walters	2002
Don Muller/Chuck VanderKolk	2009 (interim)
Timothy Klunder	2010 (interim)
William Cook	2010
Andrew Boatright	2019
Robert Mulder	2026

