At public power utilities, governance begins at the ballot box and is carried out through the city or town council and utility board. Business is conducted in the open and citizens know where their power comes from and how and why decisions affecting their utility bills are made.

Public power utilities serve their customer owners, not remote shareholders. With no profit motive and only the community’s best interests at heart, they keep electricity rates reasonable through a transparent process.

When customers need help, their calls are answered locally and the utility can respond to outages faster. For public power communities, providing the highest quality service to its customer owners has always been the No. 1 priority.

The local utility is headquartered in town and creates local jobs for customer service representatives, lineworkers, engineers, mechanics, and administrators. Kids growing up in public power communities can find a career right in their hometown. Each dollar of a public power employee’s paycheck circulates through the local economy up to an estimated four to five times.

City officials and utility managers often work together to create economic development programs. Many public power communities are proud to offer special rates that entice businesses to set up shop.

Cities with successful public power utilities often receive large deposits into their coffers. This money comes from the utility’s profitable, smart services. Cities reinvest this money into their communities.

*Each dollar of a public power employee’s paycheck circulates through the local economy up to an estimated five times.