

Light Commissioners' Meeting November 13th, 2012

Members present were: Dana Blais, Gregg Edwards

Employees present were: John Driscoll, Tom Berry

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Dana.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor.

The October 9th, 2012 minutes were approved on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager informed the Board as to the status of the destroyed King Phillip Trail recloser. The unit had been in the possession of Thomas & Betts plant in NJ for analysis for nearly four weeks now, and they had come up with nothing. The only certainty was that the recloser couldn't be repaired; it could only be replaced due to the extent of damages. The Manager and Superintendent were very dissatisfied with the manufacturer's lack of a meaningful response on this since the Light Plant is utilizing an identical unit on Baldwinville Road.

The Superintendent had scheduled United Power Group to come to the office on November the 16th to do a full dielectric test on the Baldwinville Road recloser in an attempt to pick up any levels of failure in the insulation. The Manager felt that these test results would give the Light Plant an indication of what their next move should be; replace the King Phillip Trail unit only or replace the Baldwinville Road unit as well. Gregg asked the Manager how much money a similar replacement recloser unit would

cost these days; the Manager thought that \$20K each was a fair estimate. The Board will be updated on the matter in December.

The Manager gave copies to the Board of National Grid's two invoices for the transmission tap work and had included a summary of the entire project cost. At its worst point, this project was estimated to cost the Light Plant \$1.5M and the final cost ended up at \$626K. There was no significant effect on Templeton's purchased power cost or to its ratepayers' electricity cost.

The Manager discussed with the Board the status on the TMLWP website starting up. The first estimate received in August was for \$5K in start-up cost and \$170 monthly web hosting costs. The second estimate received in September was for \$2.2K in start-up cost and \$20 monthly for the same; much more in-line with TMLWP's expectations. The Manager added that he was seeking a third and perhaps final cost proposal from another NH website designer who had previously designed the website for Littleton's Light & Water Departments. The Board expressed a lot of interest in moving swiftly towards getting a website up and running, if for no other reason than immediately to post meeting agendas and minutes online.

New Business:

The Manager distributed to the Board copies of the 3rd Quarter residential, commercial & industrial electrical rate comparisons that were done by MMWEC. Templeton Light was at \$0.1400 per KWH for residential usage, \$0.1288 per KWH for commercial (aggregate) usage and \$0.1106 per KWH for industrial usage. The temporary reduction of National Grid's generation charge of \$0.06718 per KWH had ended and was now up at \$0.07314 per KWH. This puts Templeton Light at only 0.87% higher than National Grid for residential usage.

A Draft Light Budget for CY13 was completed by the Manager for the Board to review...a vote is anticipated at the December meeting. Two notable differences would be the upward adjustments of Accounts #549 and #561; these are due to the new transmission tap line and unplanned wind turbine maintenance respectively. Gregg had asked the Manager to re-check the light vehicle insurance figure of \$4K stating that it seemed low; the Manager would do that.

The Manager gave the Board copies of the accepted MMLDWECC Budget for CY13 that was voted on at the previous week's cooperative meeting in Princeton, MA. Monthly capacity payments from Templeton Light to the MMLDWECC had decreased from \$34,324 to \$29,765, resulting in an annual reduction of \$54,708. The Manager stated that the two reasons for this are the re-financing of the \$994K Loan from 5.5% to 4.0% and the elimination of the maintenance contract with Solaya.

The Manager informed the Board of the arrival of the Light Plant's new 53' Aerial Lift the previous week from James A. Kiley Co. The old 53' aerial lift had already had the insurance and registration cancelled and had been delivered to Templeton Highway as a surplus vehicle per the Board of Selectmen.

A brief report of the extent of the trouble due to the Hurricane Sandy event was given to the Board by the Manager. The Light Plant had crews out until about 11:30 p.m. chasing various problems, the most significant of which were a broken arrester primary tap tripping to lockout the 1302A circuit followed by a tree into a primary cutout tripping to lockout the 1302 circuit. The Manager described his shock to the \$4,425 in emergency tree crew costs of which \$750 was their cost to sit in the Light Plant's break room for 5 hours. The Manager and the Superintendent shall have a discussion on how to handle the securing of emergency contractors prior to the next storm event.

The total after-hours expense of Hurricane Sandy to Templeton Light was \$9,470 and this cost had been submitted to Richard Curtis who will submit it to MEMA for the purposes of hopeful reimbursement to the Light Plant.

There being no other regular session business to discuss, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor the light board meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll
General Manager