



86 Bridge Street, P.O. Box 20, Baldwinville, MA 01436-0020

TEL: 978-939-5323

FAX: 978-939-4309

John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

**Commissioners' Meeting
January 3rd, 2012**

Members present were: Dana Blais, Gregg Edwards, Julie Farrell

Employees present were: John Driscoll, Tom Berry

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Dana.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Dana, seconded by Julie, 3-0 in favor.

The December 13th minutes were approved on a motion by Julie, seconded by Dana, 3-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager presented the Board with their copies of the new National Grid Service Agreement and also the Termination Notice that accompanied it; both signed by John Driscoll and Bill Malee of National Grid. The first installment of \$288K is due to National Grid on 2-1-2012 and the second on 8-1-2012. The Manager had anticipated a late March completion of the construction end of this project.

The Manager informed the Board that the new Truck #23 would be delivered to Templeton Light by July or August of 2012. The Board had previously decided not to trade the old Truck #23 in to Kiley for \$2K, but instead hold onto it and attempt an as-is, best-offer type sale of the vehicle. Dana made a suggestion to make the old Truck #23 a surplus vehicle for the town via the Board of Selectmen, as had been done with previous pickup trucks and one aerial lift in the early 1990s. On a motion by Dana, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to turn over the old Truck #23 to the Board of Selectmen as a surplus vehicle.

The Manager informed the Board that the new Truck #29 would be delivered to Templeton Light the following week of 1/9 – 1/13. He advised the Board that they would see a vendor warrant to Smith Electronics for a radio for the new Truck #29 since the existing radio won't be compatible with the interior design of the 2012 F-150.

The Manager resurrected the issue of the Stonybrook III pro-formas and board vote to renew all of the construction & environmental permits in Ludlow. A roll call board vote was required to be ratified by the clerk for Templeton Light to allocate a minimum of \$4,828 and a maximum of \$6,035 for its portion of Stonybrook III (3.5 MW for PDA, 2.5 MW for PPA). The Board expressed concern at allocating any more funds to MMWEC on this project since nothing of substance had been thus far received since its inception in 2006. The Manager agreed with the concern, but added that forcing this new board vote onto all of the managers would in effect tell MMWEC who was in and who was out, once and for all. He informed the Board that the reason for the second not-to-exceed amount of \$6,035 was in case of a withdrawal of several of the participants.

The Manager also felt that if the withdrawal of participants was greater than expected, and the \$6,035 would now no longer cover the commitment, then several of the managers would suggest selling the generation asset to another entity; most likely a private generation company. On a motion by Gregg, seconded by Julie, 3-0 in favor the Board voted (Gregg - aye, Julie - aye, Dana - aye) to allocate the not-to-exceed amount of \$6,035 toward continued 2012 development of the Stonybrook III Project.

The Proposed 2012 Light Budget was once again discussed for the purpose of bringing it to an approval vote by the Board. Dana inquired as to the decrease in power supply costs for 2012 as opposed to 2011. The Manager explained that Berkshire Wind would be generating for the entire year in 2012 as opposed to just 7 months in 2011. Also, with more of the Templeton Wind issues worked out with alarms & errors, more output is expected from it in 2012. The purchased power from Miniwatt & Winchendon Hydroelectric will go away on March 1st of 2012 for \$70 per MWH and be replaced by market power for \$52 per MWH. The Manager also noted that this market power is now down in the same level as the power purchased via the hedging program and Jay Kline at MMWEC.

Gregg inquired as to the disappearance of any 548 or 549 account expenses for generator maintenance. Upon review, the Manager remembered that after speaking with Tom berry about 2012 wind turbine maintenance, most of the items to be purchased would be capital expenses rather than maintenance. He also relayed that whoever is engaged with Templeton Light in 2012 over a maintenance agreement will have costs covered through the wind cooperative, which is in power supply costs.

Dana couldn't locate the \$5K to be paid to NRSD each fiscal year for the lease of land for the wind turbine; the Manager couldn't locate it either and admitted that it was an oversight. He will revise the proposed light budget for 2012 to include the \$5K payment

in June. On a motion by Dana, seconded by Julie, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to accept the fourth draft of the proposed light budget for 2012 with the assumption that the \$5K is added to the budget.

Other:

The Manager advised the Board about Solar City, a private solar generation company who had been approaching Templeton residents for installation of solar arrays on house roofs. This company and others like it had been engaged in these sorts of proposals which were a clear violation of MGL Chapter 164 Section 47a regarding the sale of electricity. What had begun as the direct sale of wholesale electricity by solar companies to Templeton residents had now changed to residents leasing solar equipment and "sharing the savings". Mike Lynch of MMWEC had inquired of Nick Scobbo of FSR to draft an opinion for the member managers to clarify this issue once and for all. The Manager had received the opinion and will have it in the board packages for the February meeting.

The Manager also informed the Board of a Templeton BOH meeting he had attended with a "Borrego Solar Co." the prior week. Phil Leger, the new health agent, is interested in utilizing the Templeton Landfill area as a solar array site. The Manager stated that the buildable site is only 4.5 acres, barely large enough for a 1 MW system. He had informed both the BOH and Borrego that as long as they could come to an agreement with Templeton Light on PPA terms and conditions that Templeton Light would be involved in this project. The Manager did express to them the Board's non-interest in covering interconnect costs and property taxes.

There being no other regular session business to discuss at this time, on a motion by Dana, seconded by Julie, 3-0 in favor the light board meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll
General Manager