

## **Light Commissioners' Meeting May 7, 2013**

Members present were: Dana Blais, Gregg Edwards, Chris Stewart

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 Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

The April 9, 2013 minutes were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

### **Old Business:**

The Manager explained that there were no new maintenance updates on the wind turbine since it had begun to operate again in April; the agenda item had been left on the May agenda errantly. The Manager revised the delivery date from Peter Chatellier at Braver, PC from the previous June 30, 2013 to July 30, 2013. Peter had to have a final meeting w/ MMWEC Staff on July 22, 2013 to bring his portion of the wind turbine cost certification to a close.

The Superintendent again update the Board on the status of the Light Plant's portion of electric utility relocation on Baldwinville Road as part of the reconstruction project. The Superintendent stated that beyond the URD Riser at Sunrise Drive and the utility poles that had been relocated closer to the road in the 600 block, the Light Plant was progressing quite well. Comcast had thus far been responsive to the transfer of the cable facilities but this was not the case for Verizon and phone facilities.

The Manager informed the Board that he would be meeting w/ Bruce Leymaster next week to get an update on where the electric rate study results stand. The Manager had thus far provided Bruce with all the necessary data to provide for the light Plant a good cost of service model looking ahead thru 2018.

### **New Business:**

The Manager had submitted to Matthew Ide of MMWEC (replaces Jay Klein) copies of the most recent actuarial studies done by Primoris for the 10 light plant employees. MMWEC was putting together a proposal so that the Board and the Manager could know

what additional costs would be involved in establishing an OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Trust in order to better prepare the Light Plant for any upcoming retirees or new hires. As the study was submitted only a week prior, no results had been available as of May 7, 2013.

The Manager and Superintendent updated the Board on the status of Truck #28, the 2008 Ford Escape Hybrid 4x4 used by the Meter Technician. Having been used for barely 5 years the vehicle was in need of serious front-end repairs to the tune of \$4K. The current depreciation schedule outlined a replacement for Truck #28 in the fourth quarter of 2013, and both the Manager and the Superintendent felt that to spend this amount of money on a vehicle not even worth it to only to drive it for 6 more months was not a good idea. The Manager asked the Board if it would be alright to "push up" the purchase of a new Truck #28 from December 2013 to June 2013.

The Board agreed with this approach presented by the Manager and the Superintendent and inquired as to whether or not another hybrid vehicle should be purchased. The Superintendent felt that given the conditions of some roads in town and the hybrid vehicle's many inadequacies in the winter months a conventional pickup truck should replace the hybrid SUV. The Board agreed and supported the ordering of a replacement vehicle for the Meter Technician 6 months earlier than the depreciation schedule had laid out.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 3-0 in favor the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll  
General Manager