



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

TEL: 978-939-5323

FAX: 978-939-4309

John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

Light Commissioners Meeting

May 11, 2023

Members present were: Chairman Dana Blais
Clerk/Secretary Chris Stewart
Member Gregg Edwards

Employees present were: General Manager (GM) John Driscoll
Light Superintendent (LS) Thomas Berry

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

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

The minutes of March 8, 2023 were approved, on a motion by Chris seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The LS explained to the Board that the Cybersecurity Assessment is done and Vertikal-6 is now working with us to develop and/or change new/existing policies in order to be in compliance. The LS said because we have no policies in place, we will need to create most of them rather than develop. The policies they are suggesting are disaster recovery, data privacy and templates. Vertikal-6 has prioritized these categories for us so we know where to start.

The LS informed the Board that the new LED fixtures have been ordered (and received) to be installed in place of the existing HPS ones used for our private area lighting customers.

The GM updated the Board on the Gardner Airport situation as it applied to their retail electric rates versus our own costs to National Grid to feed the 16 customers located there. He said

that for January thru April of 2023, on average, the airport customers have been using electricity at the rate of 36.20¢/kWh. For the same interval, we have been paying National Grid for our usage at the rate of 35.36¢/kWh. The GM says that we are now out of the red with the airport till at least November 2023 when the Constellation Energy PPA expires. At that time the GM will look over the next supply rate for the Gardner Airport and adjust our rates to them accordingly. Dana said that he would like to actually make some money off of the airport rather than just barely breaking even. The GM will take this into account the next time the airport rates are to be adjusted.

New Business:

The GM told the Board that the TMLP has gotten all of our employees with company-paid phones new iPhone 12 units and also has changed wireless carriers from Verizon Wireless to AT&T. There have been numerous coverage issues in town along with dropped calls in our service area here under the Verizon Wireless plan. The LS spoke with both the DPW and the Police in town and both have moved their cellular services from Verizon Wireless to AT&T. The GM said that not only will we now pay AT&T less than we are paying Verizon Wireless, but we have received credits for all of our older iPhone 10s and 11s that we traded in for the newer iPhone 12s.

The GM gave the Board a report on the TMLP's wind generation resources for January thru April of this year. Because of the high market energy prices (mostly in January and February) the TMLP did quite well by its three wind resources Berkshire Wind, Hancock Wind and Templeton Wind:

Aggregate Wind	January	February	March	April	Totals:
Net Revenues	\$35,789	\$327,432	\$20,657	(\$30,394)	\$353,484
kWh Generation	371,469	435,933	538,186	352,874	1,698,462
Net Rates	9.64¢	75.11¢	3.84¢	(8.61¢)	20.81¢
Capacity Factors	20 %	26 %	29 %	20 %	24 %

The GM gave the Board a quick report on what has been going on with Berkshire Wind over the last year or so. He claimed that on average there had been only 7 of the 10 wind turbines available to generate at the same time for Phase 1 membership. Templeton has an 823 kW share of the 15,000 kW of Phase 1 of Berkshire Wind, and for the past year that 823 kW had actually been more like 576 kW. The GM stated that maintenance issues were to blame for this lengthy non-availability of an average of 3 wind turbines at any given time. These GE wind turbine units were now 13 years old and all went commercial at the same time, so overlapped

maintenance tasks were anticipated. He said that when a wind turbine was taken out of service for scheduled maintenance, often some unscheduled maintenance would come along with it. The GM would soon be in contact with engineering staff at MMWEC who oversee and schedule the wind turbine maintenance to get a better understanding of the lack of availability of the entire wind farm.

The GM had a discussion with the Board about the Mystic power plant in Everett, MA and its recent Reliability Must Run (RMR) contract with ISONEs. In 2018, Constellation had begun telling ISONE that they intended to shut down the power plant because they couldn't make its operation cost-effective anymore. At the beginning of FCA#13, June 2022, Constellation began receiving payments from all the ISONE market participants, and they will continue to receive such payments thru May 2024. MMWEC is actively working with the NEPOOL process and with Spiegel & McDiarmid in order to mitigate the effects of this Mystic situation on the municipal ratepayers in New England. MMWEC has submitted a request to ISONE for more detailed reporting from Constellation on Mystic's profits and losses going back to June 2022. The GM stated that to date, the TMLP has paid Constellation \$250,820 in RMR charges since June 2022 and estimates that we will have paid another \$250,000 by May 2024.

The GM informed the Board that the auditing firm we'd been using since 2017, Melanson-Heath, then just Melanson, is now part of Marcum, a much larger accounting group. He did say that all of the same people that we are used to working with now are remaining and will continue to be the ones handling our light audit.

At this time there was a vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Ch 30A Sec 21a to discuss trade secrets...

Dana – Aye

Gregg – Aye

Chris – Aye

[The GM and the Board had a discussion about the MMWEC Special Project 2023A in Executive Session which required a subsequent vote in Open Session.]

I, the Clerk of the Municipal Light Commission of the Town of Templeton, Massachusetts, certify that at a meeting of the Commission held on May 11, 2023, for which meeting all members of the Commission were duly notified and at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, the following vote was passed by a vote of 3 to 0, all of which appears in the official records of the Commission in my custody:

It is voted:

1]. That the Town of Templeton, as a member of the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company ("MMWEC"), acting by and through its municipal light department, hereby agrees to participate in MMWEC's Special Project 2023A; and

2]. That the Town of Templeton, acting by and through its municipal light department, hereby agrees to pay its pro rata share of the monthly costs for carrying out Special Project 2023A pursuant to the scope of work and budget for such Project as developed by MMWEC and received by the General Manager of the municipal light department; and

3]. That the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to make payments to MMWEC calculated on the basis of the Town of Templeton's pro rata share of the expenses as set forth in the budget for Special Project 2023A; and

4]. That the General Manager is hereby authorized to and directed to execute the Participation Acknowledgment, a copy of which has been presented at this meeting and is filed with the permanent records hereof; and

5]. That the Power Purchase Agreement with MMWEC for Special Project 2023A, is hereby approved substantially in the form of the Power Purchase Agreement ("PPA") presented to the Commission at this meeting and made part of the record of this meeting; and

6]. That the General Manager is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the PPA, substantially in the form of the PPA presented to the Commission at this meeting, with such changes and amendments thereto as the General Manager, may deem necessary or appropriate, without need of further approval or action from this Commission; and

7]. The actions previously taken by the General Manager which are consistent with the purpose of this vote are hereby ratified and confirmed; and

8]. The General Manager is hereby authorized to execute any other documents he deems necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this vote without need of further approval or action from this Commission.

Chairman Dana Blais – Aye
Clerk Christopher Stewart – Aye
Member Gregg Edwards – Aye

I further certify that the above vote was taken at a meeting open to the public; that notice stating the place, date, and time of the meeting was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof was posted in the office of the Town Clerk or on the principal official bulletin board of the Town at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to such meeting, excluding Saturdays, Sundays,

and legal holidays, and remained so posted at the time of the meeting; that in connection with the above vote, no deliberations or decisions were taken in private or executive session; and that the official record of the meeting was or will be made available to the public, all in accordance with MGL Ch 30A Sec 18-25, as amended.

Dated: May 11, 2023

Clerk Christopher Stewart

Other Business:

The GM gave the Board copies of the MMWEC rate comparisons for the 1st quarter of this year, 2023. He said that Templeton was in 8th place for residential rates in the state for 755 kWh of usage, even after our 12.5% rate increase. For March 2023 a Templeton electric bill would be \$114 compared to a National Grid bill for \$370. The GM stated that the same comparisons for commercial/industrial customers are not available yet.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Driscoll