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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

Light Commissioners' Meeting

July 28, 2021

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
Business Manager (BM) Jennifer Belliveau

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Dana.

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

Old Business:

The LS gave the Board an update on construction status of the garage expansion and the new storage building. The walls for the storage building are supposed to ship mid-September. The garage expansion is more on-track with the schedule and the electrical wiring has begun. To date, the GM stated that the Light Plant has paid Construction Dynamics \$929,118 toward this project.

The GM re-visited with the Board the discussion on our retirement of the WRECs for 100% of Templeton Wind and 5.5% of Berkshire Wind that the Light Plant owns. The Light Plant was 47% for non-emitting kWh sales to our customers for the year 2020, and this a good place to be considering the 50% milestone for 2030 that the filed MEAM legislation requires. But with capacity and energy revenues for wind power down historically since 2011 it doesn't make a lot of sense to do this retirement now. Giving up the WRECs for 2021 and beyond would only yield us an additional 4% in our non-emitting status, and the state is not offering any incentives for MLPs to reach their milestones sooner than required. The GM will discuss this idea further with MMWEC before bringing it to the Board again.

The 2020 Light Audit by Melanson was complete. The Light Plant's net income for last year was \$64,508 compared to \$1,170,945 the year before. The GM stated that the reason for the decrease in net income year to year was primarily due to our paying off ALL of our MMWEC power bills that were in arrears past 30 days. This cost the Light Plant around \$750K in a short amount of time. We also paid around \$82K to implement the GIS system for our electrical distribution system AND paid Tri State Truck Center around \$84K for a new cab & chassis for the Truck #23 replacement aerial lift. Retail rates were only 11.04¢ in 2020, down from 11.75¢ in 2019 (down by 6%). Light Plant revenues had decreased by \$385,260 from 2019 to 2020.

New Business:

The Light Plant had been recognized by the Massachusetts Legislature for its efforts and achievements in providing clean energy resource choices to our customers over the last few years. The GM shared this news with the Board on their award presented to the Light Plant by Representative James O'Day, 14th Worcester District. There should be more of these to come as we were already at 47% for 2021 to meet our 50% goal for 2030.

The GM discussed with the Board our load for June 2021. This year's capacity peak thus far was set on June 29 for Hour 18. The Light Plant's actual load was 12.089 MW for this hour, but we had 1.600 MW taken off by the battery system and another 0.918 MW by the solar array. Our network load for the hour was just 9.571 MW. The battery system had saved us \$131,346 in capacity and transmission costs and the solar array had saved us \$75,514 in the same.

Other Business:

There were three (3) handouts tonight:

1. June 2021 Power Supply
2. June 2021 Sales Summary
3. August 2021 Retail Rates

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor, the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M Driscoll
General Manager