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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

### **Light Commissioners' Meeting August 8, 2017**

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

Employees present were: General Manager John Driscoll  
Light Superintendent Tom Berry  
Business Manager Jennifer Belliveau

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 p.m. by Dana.

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

The minutes of June 14, 2017 could only be approved by Dana and Chris, 2-0 in favor (Gregg abstains).

#### **Old Business:**

The General Manager (GM) brought the Board up to date on the Eaton AMI metering system. The GM provided the Board with the purchase orders that have been sent for the meters, which are 16 – 22 weeks out. The bulk of the meters will not arrive until after Thanksgiving or Christmas. Street Light photocell adapters cost \$127 each. We will order 4-60' poles to place the Gateways on; the Light Plant bucket trucks are equipped to set poles up to 65' in length.

Dana asked where we are funding this project from. The GM explained we have approximately \$800K in Depreciation and another \$200,000 will be added in before the meters arrive. They will be stored at TMLWP. The Light Superintendent (LS) explained to the Board that there will be a meter test performed 39 residential and 11 commercial customers in November/December 2017. With the information we received from this program will be great. There will be an Eaton AMI Project Kickoff meeting during the week of August 28, 2017 (per Eaton, all Elster polyphase meters expected late November 2017, all Itron single-phase meters expected late January 2018!!!).

The GM discussed the 2016 Light Plant Financial Statements. Tom Martin from Goulet, Salvadio & Associates, PC said Jim Goulet wanted to attend a meeting with the Board. Jim did call the GM on August 7, 2017 to discuss the qualified opinion in their package regarding the GASB pension. The GM was not sure if Jim would make the meeting or not on such short notice (Jim Goulet mentioned a sporting event he needed to attend on August 8 at 6:00 p.m. so he was not a definite). The Board would move back to this agenda item if Jim arrived.

The GM talked about the property at 11 ¾ Elm Street again. He had called Chris Pera from Pera Surveying to survey the property, nothing back as of yet. The GM suggested that we go out for Bid/RFP in the local newspaper. Dana will check in with Chris Pera first. The GM said he would also call Chris Pera back.

The GM spoke about the Electric Service Limiters, offering his feelings that the TMLP may be beating a dead horse here. He informed the board the customer (Matthew Currier) who filed the initial complaint about these limiters with the MA DPU had lost his house to bank auction on July 14, 2017. The GM and the MA DPU had another meeting scheduled but had to reschedule to August 18, 2017 due to this customer (Matthew Currier) not being able to make the meeting. He told the Board he would keep them up to speed on any new developments on this new limiter front.

### **New Business:**

The GM discussed replacing Light Plant Truck #27, a 53' aerial lift/material handler. This truck is on a 2007 chassis and is approaching 11 years of age. Alan Mayo, DPW Superintendent, had attended our June 14, 2017 meeting with a request to hopefully have the Light Plant donate this truck to the Town. Gregg asked what the estimated value of this truck, and the GM stated we could receive low 6 figures, \$110K to \$125K. The old Truck #25, a 45' digger-derrick was sold on Municibid.com for about \$40K, and the GM added that the old Truck #25 had a lot of maintenance issues, and Truck #27 did not. Gregg suggested that we offer a conditional contribution in that the Town would once again resume paying for their own electricity upon the Board's donating this vehicle to them. There was no visual disagreement with Gregg's suggestion; however no vote took place at this time.

The LS provided 2 different chassis packages to the Board; regular cab unit and one extended cab unit. Tom did reference the difference in the heights; Tim Kiley stated that the extended cab chassis is approximately 6 inches taller than the regular cab one. Dana asked why TMLP is looking at Freightliner and not International for this chassis. The GM stated that there are more electrical and pollution emissions problems with International than with Freightliner. The cost to upgrade from a regular cab unit to an extended cab unit was only about a \$5K difference. The total cost for the truck will be about \$300K. Dana wanted to know the warranty period, whether it is the time it is placed into service or when it's complete.

*"On a motion by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to purchase the Chassis with extended cab only"*

*Dana – Aye*

*Gregg – Aye*

*Chris – Aye*

The GM discussed the ISONE Peak Loads for June & July 2017; the annual peak looked to be on June 13, 2017 Hour 17. He commented on the uncommon nature of an annual peak in June which is not usually a peak load month. If June 13, 2017 Hour 17 ends up being the annual peak for FCA-12, the total savings for the Light Plant will be \$232K. This would be mostly due in large part to the solar array output on Farnsworth Rd of 1,906 KWH for that hour saving us \$215K. It would be due lesser in part to the 148 KWH of load shedding from the Water Plant for that hour savings us \$17K. The last two weeks of August 2017 were supposed to be hot, the GM explained, so all of this could change.

The GM informed the Board that the Mass DEP had proposed to promulgate a new GHG (Greenhouse Gas) initiative/regulation. He had compiled two charts for them with the long-term effects on 22 MA power plants that would be adversely affected by this proposal (including Stonybrook). The GM felt this to be quite an overreach by an unelected regulatory agency that was in danger of being signed into MA Law by the Legislature and by the Governor. He indicated that this would likely be a huge issue to be taken on by MEAM at their September 2017 meeting.

The GM indicated the NEPPA Annual Conference is coming up and asked who is attending. Dana will be there, Gregg will get back to GM, and Chris is not attending.

The Manager had four handouts tonight:

1. May & June 2017 Power Supply
2. June & July 2017 Wind Generation
3. June & July 2017 Kilowatt-Hour Sales/Revenue
4. July & August 2017 Residential Electric Rates

### **Other Business:**

The GM informed the Board that MMWEC will be sending a check to us for approximately \$566K for MMWEC Project Surplus Funds this month. TMLP has overpaid for Seabrook Project 6 bond reserve fund by approximately \$466K which is now being refunded to us, in addition to the normal amount that we receive against this project, another \$80K to \$100K. The GM suggested paying some of the past due Non-PSA power invoices owed to MMWEC, which is approximately \$700K, and also to put \$193K into the OPEB Trust at MMWEC. An OPEB Trust spreadsheet calculator he'd prepared showed, based on the FY2015 actuarial study results, that without any additional funding our UAAL would be fully funded in 21 years. He stated that with the additional funds of \$193K, the term goes from 21 to 11 years. These figures were representative of the most updated actuarial results available to the TMLP; Odyssey Advisors will do the actuarial study for the Light Plant for FY2018 but cannot begin till January 1, 2018. Dana was concerned with the amount of past due monies owed to MMWEC, and he was concerned that it had been this way for several years (the GM thought it went back to when the consolidated billing format started at MMWEC).

Gregg had concerns about risk management of the OPEB Trust, as far as who is actually keep an eye on the TMLP funds day to day. He (Gregg) that the last time the stock market took a hit in 2009 the effects were quick and long-lasting. The GM stated that maybe it was time to have Matt Ide and/or Steve Smith attend a commissioners' meeting to explain how the OPEB Trust fund is doing and what the associated risks are with MMWEC's investment model of 50% equity/stock market, 40% fixed/bond market and 10% liquid/cash.

Dana asked about the payoff of the two Wind Turbine loans; if there was a penalty associated with an early payoff. The GM stated that he would look into this. Gregg suggested that the Board hold off on any decisions with the \$566K till next meeting time.

The GM had a handout illustrating expenses and revenues for the Templeton Solar Array on Farnsworth Rd. It went online in December 2014. The peak savings month for the TMLP to date was June 2017 at \$247K. After 32 months of solar generation the total of savings to TMLP was \$759K at \$0.0565 per KWH. The GM stated that this solar array was performing magnificently as a savings mechanism for the Light Plant, especially since out only cost was the PPA preparation.

The GM handed out a 2017 Budget to Actual report for January 2017 thru June 2017. The load dispatching (acct #561) cost for June of 2017 was \$24,667, considerably higher than the normal \$2,525. The GM said that this was due to a true-up process which National Grid performs at the end of each load dispatching year. On the bright side, the monthly \$2,525 charge had been reduced to \$2,390. The total amount of annual budget already spent was right around 50%.

At this time (7:50 p.m.) a roll call vote was taken as follows:

*"A motion was made by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 3-0 favor for the Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss Salary Adjustments for FY2018."*

*Gregg – Aye*

*Chris – Aye*

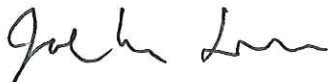
*Dana - Aye*

[After the Board entered into Executive Session, Jim Goulet and Adam Borbone from GS&A walked into the meeting room. They had in their possession seven bound copies each of the Light Plant's 2016 Financial Statements, DPU Report and Internal Controls Report. The GM had stated that Jim had previously shown interest in attending a board meeting to go over the audit results face to face, and that the GM thought that not to be a good idea. He had told Jim that the Board, the GM and the BM had been pretty unhappy with their firm lately for a number of reasons, and that the TMLP really just wanted the edits made to these reports so they could be done with this 2016 audit. Jim and the GM had spoken on the phone briefly the day before, but nothing was left permanent as far as an appearance by GS&A tonight.

The Board apologized to Jim but explained to him that they were in Executive Session, and they had posted this light department meeting such that the only other Open Session business after Executive Session was to adjourn the meeting procedurally. The Board COULD NOT speak with Jim after the closed session as it was an OML violation. Jim was visually not pleased with this decision and stated to the Board at this time that he had made several attempts previously with the GM to get to a commissioners' meeting. The GM later clarified this point to the Board stating that it made no sense for Jim to spend time here at a meeting with them explaining why there were so many unusual findings in GS&A's draft audit. The GM and the BM had already covered this at a previous meeting.]

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Driscoll  
General Manager