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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

Light Commissioners' Meeting

September 29, 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 **\$1,128,530** toward this project.

The LS updated the Board on the progress of the Houghton Park status as it related to the Light Plant assisting the Town with some much needed maintenance on it. He had attended a meeting on-site with Dana Blais, Bob Scozik, John Henshaw, Adam Lamontagne, Jackie Prime and Sheila Pelletier:

[John H stated that that the Town's CPC funding can be used for the rehabilitation of recreational areas such as Houghton Park. Sheila P stated that she had a concept for a "Heroes Park" in the area near the road and already had an ADA-compliant preliminary design. Adam L suggested that she bring this design before the CIC and added that the Town was awarded a \$7,500 grant to buy benches, tables and trash containers for Gilman-Waite and Houghton Park. Dana B suggested that this site first be surveyed and have an "as-built" developed; all agreed. John H stated that he would ask the CPC for funding up to \$3,000 toward this as-built design. Dana B said that if it ended up more than \$3,000 then the TMLP could possibly pay the remainder of the bill. Adam L will each out to Szoc Surveyors for cost and availability. It was agreed that upon completion of a survey there should be an architect hired to design the newer park and include Sheila P's concept. Bob S said that drainage will be needed all around the site. In the immediate future he will get quotes to repair the underside of the gazebo roof and Dana B said that the TMLP will look into pressure-washing the brickwork and capping brick walls. There was

some discussion on the flooding of a portion of the field to have a skating rink for part of the winter but the details are still up in the air.]

New Business:

The GM gave the Board a breakdown of the transmission savings that the Light Plant had enjoyed for July, August and September of 2021 due to the 1.5-MW battery and 3-MW solar array:

Month	Battery Savings	Solar Savings	Total Savings:
Jul-21	\$19,047	\$13,190	\$32,237
Aug-21	\$17,690	\$7,333	\$25,023
Sep-21	\$15,237	\$4,594	\$19,831
Totals:	\$51,974	\$25,117	\$77,091

He stated that as of August 2021 the Templeton BESS had generated revenues of **\$859,000** against expenses of **\$310,000**. (He had no equivalent figure for the solar array at Farnsworth Rd at this time as this would have taken much longer to ascertain going back almost 7 years.)

The GM gave the Board a synopsis of this new CEPP (Clean Electricity Performance Program) that was being discussed at the federal level for energy policy. He stated that this program would interfere with the MLP's recently enacted legislation dealing with greenhouse gas emissions, essentially stretching the **2.5%/year** reduction in emissions to **4%/year**. The GM figured out that if made into law, Templeton residents would see rates increase by **10%** from 2021 to 2030 after penalties were assessed on them. This 10% would be in addition to any increase that these customers would already see in order to reach the MLP's goal of 50% non-emitting by 2030 (MMWEC had assisted the GM with this analysis). The GM stated that this proposed legislation made no sense in a region such as New England that was already looking at potential rolling blackouts because of the retirement of coal- and oil-fired power plants replaced by acres of solar panels operating only **15%** of the year. He would follow the progress of this and MMWEC will advocate on the TMLP's behalf at the federal level in order for us to retain local control of our own power supply mix, which was already close to **50%** non-emitting.

The GM gave the Board copies of the Light Plant's information that was to be placed in the Town's FY2021 annual report in May 2022.

Other Business:

The TMLP placed as follows for the eight (8) categories of MMWEC's quarterly electric rate comparisons amongst the Central MA MLPs (Ashburnham, Boylston, Groton, Holden, Hudson, Littleton, Paxton, Shrewsbury, Sterling and West Boylston):

Residential 750 kWh	6th	Commercial 100000 kWh	2nd
Commercial 3000 kWh	4th	Industrial 190000 kWh	2nd

Commercial 10000 kWh 2nd
Commercial 36000 kWh 1st

Industrial 350000 kWh 2nd
Industrial 1260000 kWh 1st

There were four (4) handouts tonight:

1. July/August 2021 Power Supply
2. July/August 2021 Sales Summary
3. September/October 2021 Retail Rates
4. Q2 2021 MMWEC Rate Comparisons

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