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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

**Light Commissioners' Meeting
November 18, 2020**

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

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m. by Dana.

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

The minutes of October 6, 2020 were approved with a motion from Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The General Manager (GM) explained to the Board that he was unable to log onto the Zoom meeting for MEAM this week. He didn't imagine that too much would be going on at this time given the season, but he will email Bob Rodophele to check on this.

The GM and the Board discussed the TMLP Operations Garage Expansion and the TMLP Transformer Storage Facility. Paul Lieneck from Haynes, Lieneck and Smith had a conference call into TMLP's meeting. Mr. Lieneck recommended that the construction bid be awarded to Construction Dynamics, formerly known as Double D Construction, out of Acton. The bid needs to be awarded by November 20th. Mr. Lieneck said there were 7 bids in total, with 5 within 10% of each other. Construction Dynamics bid came in at \$1.383M. Mr. Lieneck explained that the company can start construction in December 2020 with a possible completion date at the end of May 2021. If there were delays it could be completed later in June 2021. Dana asked when they would be pouring the concrete floor; Mr. Lieneck said that they will most likely do it first, but they will not do if the ground is frozen. Dana was concerned with the ground being frozen or wet, but Mr. Lieneck is not worried. He said they would have blankets to keep it covered. The Light Superintendent (LS) asked who got the plumbing and electrical bids; Mr. Lieneck said that it was Royal Steam out of Gardner for \$29,950; Charles Moran Plumbing & Heating came in \$5,000 lower

than Royal Steam but Paul was recommending using Royal Steam by paying the mark up to the lower bid, which is 6,099 or 7%. At this time a vote took place as follows:

On a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to accept Construction Dynamics bid of \$1,383,000 with the provision of accepting the Royal Steam Heater difference of \$6,099 (7%), with the new total of \$1,389,099.

Dana – Aye

Gregg – Aye

Chris – Aye

Mr. Lieneck will email Construction Dynamics in the morning and mail the originals to them. He said that they may start as early as November 30.

The GM updated the Board regarding the Poles on Ross Road. The residents, Furr, Lisenbees and Sheridan from Ross Rd were in attendance tonight. Furr provided copies of their deed, 2 Rights-of-Way and a lot plan for #3 Ross Road. He stated that he received a Cease & Desist order from one of the Chrusciels' lawyer last week. The Lisenbees had copies of their lot plan as well which had different information than Furr's. Mrs. Lisenbee said did state that if TMLP's crew came onto their property at #1 Ross Rd to move the poles into the easement to the right of it then she would call the police. Chris suggested waiting to see how the lawyers were going to handle this before TMLP moves any poles. The Board thanked the parties for coming. Dana suggested checking into the easement to the right side of the property at #1 Ross Rd. Gregg was confused about the deeds being changed. Chris asked if the poles could be moved from one side on the stone wall to the other side; the LS responded that this was possible. The TMLP would not move any Ross Rd electrical plant until our legal counsel found out what deeds/easements were currently in existence at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds.

The GM discussed with the Board the re-starting of the HELPS residential energy audits. Joseph Coles emailed the GM about starting the audits again. The audit cost would increase by \$25 due to the auditors purchasing masks and gloves for the employees to enter homes. The GM told them (MMWEC) to resume normal residential energy audits if the gloves and masks were the only new requirements.

New Business:

The GM explained to the Board about Baldwin Crane & Energy invoices from 2019. Baldwin Crane and Energy does our wind turbine maintenance, and had not sent any invoices to us since early 2019. They just sent us \$77,000 worth of multiple invoices owed from 2019. The GM did say he thought the turbine account #549 was low for 2019, but did not realize why until now. The LS stated that Baldwin Crane broke off from Baldwin Energy when invoicing customers so this caused no generation of any invoices at all to their customers. The TMLP has 8 more invoices for 2020 as well. The LS is will review them all before submitting them for payment.

The Manager had four handouts tonight:

1. September 2020 Power Supply
2. October 2020 KWH Sales Summary

3. November 2020 Retail Rates
4. Q3 2020 Rate Comparisons/MMWEC

The GM stated that for Q3 of 2020 the TMLP was in first, second or third place:

Residential 750 kWh 3rd @ 11.07¢
Commercial 3000 kWh 2nd @ 11.63¢
Commercial 10000 kWh 1st @ 10.37¢
Commercial 36000 kWh 1st @ 10.79¢

Commercial 100000 kWh 3rd @ 10.94¢
Industrial 190000 kWh 1st @ 7.96¢
Industrial 350000 kWh 1st @ 8.14¢
Industrial 1260000 kWh 1st @ 8.33¢

Other Business:

The GM said he had a conference call meeting for Berkshire Wind. Dana asked about Berkshire Wind and if they were all still running, the GM said they have 1 turbine that is not running but he was not sure what was going on with it.

The LS discussed with the Board the Light Plant Truck #24. He said that the 1-ton dump truck with the plow was a 2011 with maintenance issues. He has gotten a quote of \$55,392 from Colonial Municipal Group for the same as what we have. Dana asked how many miles on current truck; the LS was not sure. The Water Superintendent (WS) was interested in keeping the old one for the Water Plant. The GM asked what kind of condition it was in generally; the LS said it was 10 years old and starting to rust, and it's been having some issues with staying in DRIVE and Mathieu Ford could not diagnose it. Dana said to the WS that they can use the new one but the WS said it is not always accessible to them due to the Light Plant using it. Chris asked if were still waiting on the new aerial lift Truck #23; the LS said it should arrive in 2020. The LS also stated that the new Truck #24 would have a 17-week lead time (Chevrolet from Colonial) and would have a 52-week lead time (Ford from MHQ) and cost \$1,000 more. At this time a vote took place as follows:

On a motion by Dana, seconded by Chris, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to purchase a new Truck #24 for \$55,392 from Colonial Municipal Group.

Dana - Aye

Gregg - Aye

Chris - Aye

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 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll



General Manager