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John M. Driscoll, General Manager

## **Light Commissioners' Meeting** December 15, 2021

Members present were:

Chairman Dana Blais

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 the status of the two construction projects at the light and water office. The garage expansion portion is nearly done as the electrical work is now complete. The transformer storage facility now has a roof on it finally that is nearly complete so that electrical work can begin inside. Construction Dynamics, Inc has a completion deadline of Monday, February 28, 2022.

## **New Business:**

The GM presented to the Board his proposed operating budget for the Light Plant for 2022 of \$7,920,963, a 10% increase overall from 2021. He explained that kWh sales are up about 6% from this year to last year which puts kWh purchased up by at least 6%. Templeton's power supply hedging for 2021 (and 2022) have already been done and it is now too late to secure more pre-paid power at this time. The GM said that any new kWh sold will have to first be purchased off of the ISO Interchange at whatever the real-time cost per kWh might be. He told the Board that the Light Plant's rate for power supply in 2021 was 7.70¢ per kWh compared to just 6.39¢ per kWh in 2020, a 21% increase. The GM was confident that with these new increased kWh sales continuing in 2022 in addition to a higher PPC Adjustment this year (2021 average -0.56¢ per kWh) that the Light Plant would collect enough revenue to support this newer higher operating budget. At this time a vote took place as follows:

On a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor the Board voted to approve the GM's operating budget of \$7,920,963 for the calendar year 2022.

Dana - Aye

Gregg - Aye

Chris - Aye

The LS discussed with the Board the next step to be taken with mPower Technologies, Inc and this was the Outage Management System (OMS). He said that this next OMS stage of the mPower project would



interact with our existing GIS data that had been collected to give us information on power outages when they do occur so that we may achieve (even) faster response times for customers. The Board felt that it made sense to continue on with the mPower projects since implementation had gone so well thus far. The LS was looking for a not-to-exceed amount of \$37,500 to be approved for this next OMS stage of the mPower project. At this time a vote took place as follows:

On a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor the Board voted to approve the LS's not-to-exceed amount of \$37,500 in order to complete the Outage Management System (OMS) phase of the mPower project.

Dana - Aye

Gregg - Aye

Chris - Aye

## **Other Business:**

There were four (4) handouts tonight:

- 1. September/October 2021 Power Supply
- 2. October/November 2021 Sales Summary
- 3. December 2021 Retail Rates
- 4. Q3 2021 MMWEC Rate Comparisons

[The Light Plant came out in 5th place out of 39 electric utilities in MA on residential rates for 750 kWh monthly usage for the 3rd quarter of 2021. The Light Plant came out in 3rd place on average out of 37 electric utilities in MA on commercial/industrial rates for 3,000 to 1,260,000 kWh monthly usage for the 3rd quarter of 2021. Both according to MMWEC's rate comparisons for Q3 2021.]

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor, the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M Driscoll General Manager