

Light Commissioners' Meeting
April 9th, 2013

Members present were: Dana Blais, Chris Stewart

Employees present were: John Driscoll, Tom Berry

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Dana.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor.

The March 12th, 2013 minutes were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor.

At this time [6:35 p.m.] a roll call vote was taken in the Open Session for the Light Board to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of complying with or acting under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A Section 21 Subsection (a) to approve the Executive Session Light Minutes of February 6th, 2013.

Chris – "aye" Dana – "aye"

Dana announced at this time that the Light Commission WOULD be re-convening in Open Session immediately following the Executive Session.

Old Business:

The Superintendent updated the Board on the status of the Templeton Wind Turbine noise issue within its Jahnel-Kestermann (JaKe) Gearbox which had left the unit out of operation since January 18th, 2013. Earlier that day, he had been promised delivery of the final diagnostic report by JaKe either this day or tomorrow (ended up being tomorrow). This final report would include JaKe's assessment of the minor level of wear on some of the gears inside this gearbox and also have vibration analysis results. Both

the Manager and the Superintendent agreed that if there ended up being a problem within their gearbox then there couldn't have been a better action taken in January than shutting the unit down given the woes of Princeton, MA and of Portsmouth, RI.

The Manager again updated the Board on the status of the Templeton Wind Turbine Cost Certification being worked on by Peter Chatellier, the Principal of Braver, PC. Approximately one (1) before this, Peter had received ALL of the data necessary from MMWEC that he required to complete this certification. As a result of this, the Manager stated that the "ball" was now in his (Peter's) "court". Braver, PC had been 15% complete upon the receipt of this final data from MMWEC and had accumulated a progress billing to date (not yet invoiced) of \$3,500.

When asked by the Manager, Peter had anticipated another \$7,500 in progress billing to project completion. Past years of experience with Braver, PC made the Manager think that this total project cost would likely still end up closer to \$15,000 than \$11,000. The Manager had subsequently e-mailed Peter on whether or not he and the Board could now consider the project 32% complete since \$3,500 was 32% of \$11,000. The Manager had not yet received a response but stated that it really didn't matter since not all project costs were directly attributed to labor hours.

The Superintendent updated the Board on the status of the Baldwinville Road Reconstruction Project. To date the Light Plant had re-located 21 utility poles and had transferred the electric plant on 7 of them. Chris had asked whether or not the old poles would be pulled out of the road prior to its new paving being done, and the Superintendent responded that Comcast had much quicker turnaround times on pole transfers than Verizon did. The Manager added that it would most definitely be Verizon who would be responsible for delaying the removal of the old poles from Baldwinville Road, and added that as of late this problem had become such an issue in other Massachusetts communities that MEAM was actively petitioning both the Department of Public Utilities and the Legislature to intervene.

On the Electric Rate Study issue, the Manager stated that he had been in contact with Bruce Leymaster approximately six (6) weeks ago and sent him all kinds of light plant information such as current rates, terms & conditions, sales summaries, power supply reports, financial statements, etc. The Manager had not heard anything back from Bruce to date, but added that this would be at least a two to three month process from inception to completion. He added that Bruce would want to attend an Open Session Light Meeting to explain his results to the Board after doing the same with the Manager.

New Business:

The Manager had distributed to the Board copies of the latest round of electric rate comparisons for Q1 2013 which were also now available on the TMLWP's Website. The Light Plant had rounded out at 13.35¢ per KWH for residential, 11.35¢ per KWH for

medium commercial, 12.03¢ per KWH for large commercial and 10.31¢ per KWH for industrial. He added that upon completion of the electric rate study that for commercial and industrial customers across the board that their rate per KWH should decrease as their respective KWH consumption increased.

On a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor the Board voted to release the Executive Session Light Minutes of May 1st, 2012, June 5th, 2012 and February 6th, 2013.

Other Business:

The Manager wanted to give the Board a heads-up on the February Power Supply Costs. For January 2013 the Light Plant paid 10.05¢ per KWH for all Purchased Power but would now pay for February 2013 12.30¢ per KWH. This constituted a 22% increase in a single month. The Manager stated the reasons for such an increase related to natural gas distribution constraints due to the cold weather in the first two (2) weeks of February and also the absence of approximately 1,600 MW of baseload generation for most of February from two separate generation resources in New England. It is unknown at this time which two baseload generation resources were unexpectedly unavailable in this timeframe because of the confidential nature of the relationship between ISO New England and its Member Generation Resources.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor the Open Session Light Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll
General Manager