

Light Commissioners' Meeting
January 16, 2025

Members present were: Dana Blais, Chairman
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 9:23 a.m. by Dana.

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

The minutes from October 29, 2024, were approved, on a motion by Chris seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The GM told the Board that the new agreement between the TMLP and Local 104 Union had been signed by both parties.

The GM told the Board that the 2023 Light Audit was finally completed in December 2024 and was available for them if they'd like a copy of it.

New Business:

The GM discussed with the Board the FY2026 PILOT to Town. Steve Castle from TCTV was in attendance to review the list of items submitted to the GM they could use for their Town program. Mr. Castle separated the list of items with Capital Needs, Sponsor/Partner Opportunities and Miscellaneous Equipment, \$30,000 in ARPA funds were received in December to help with their FY2026 needs. Dana asked how many viewers they currently have since cable is dying in homes, being replaced by YouTube, Fire Stick, etc. Mr. Castle said he had 48,000 viewers this year. He does state the requirements constantly change for regulations and server contracts. Mr. Castle explained some of the media content they run on TCTV. Community Media shows events slides, advertising slides, information about the Senior Center and economic development to name a few.

Mr. Castle addressed the capital needs on the list first. He explained that he does have a \$15,000 budget for equipment, and the items listed exceed his budget. Gregg was not in favor at this time and requested seeing a written plan, something that would identify how these would be used. Dana is willing to do something this year, but would like more information on this non-profit that TCTV is looking into crossing over to. Gregg also agrees. Mr. Castle will provide those to the Commissioners soon. He goes onto explain that the cloud storage has increased up to \$10,000/year right now, but \$50K for 2026. He also explains that it is complicated because currently they receive no money from the Town, only the ARPA funds and the Town Administrator, Adam, is trying to budget \$50K for FY2026. Chris wouldn't mind this year because they are part of the Town, not everyone uses Facebook or YouTube. Dana asked him if he was to put up the \$50,000 digital sign if TCTV would receive money from the advertising?

The GM shared with the Board two year-end reports that focused on power supply expenses and kWh sales and revenues for 2024.

The GM distributed reports to the Board on power supply expenses for September 2024 thru November 2024.

The GM distributed reports to the Board on sales and revenues for October 2024 thru December 2024.

The distributed gave a rate report to the Board for January 2025 showing Templeton Light being 50% lower than National Grid for residential rates.

The GM shared with the Board the Q3 2024 Rate Comparisons done by MMWEC showing Templeton in 24th place out of 40 for residential rates and 10th place out of 40 for commercial/industrial rates.

Other Business:

Dana brought up the new Vietnam Memorial that is being proposed for construction in the vicinity of the old Town Hall at #9 Main Street in Otter River. He said that Jim Brehio was in charge of the project and felt it would be a worthwhile cause to contribute Light Plant funds to support. After some board discussion and the sharing of a preliminary site plan showing what was taking place on site, a board vote took place as follows:

"On a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board vote to contribute ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to this Vietnam Memorial project on Main Street in Otter River to be overseen by Jim Brehio."

Dana – Aye

Gregg – Aye

Chris - Aye

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 3-0 in favor the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll

General Manager