

Minutes of June 28, 2007

Meeting of the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant

Present Commissioners: George Ainsleigh, Kevin Lashua and Richard Ahlin

Stan Herriott, Manager

The Meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

Chairman Ainsleigh called for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Ahlin and seconded by Commissioner Lashua, the vote was unanimous.

Chairman Ainsleigh called for a motion to approve the Minutes of May 16, 2007. Commissioner Ahlin pointed out that he was not present for the last meeting so he could not make the motion to approve. A motion was then made by Commissioner Lashua and seconded by Chairman Ainsleigh, the vote was unanimous. Chairman Ainsleigh signed the Minutes of the May 16th Meeting.

Manager Herriott reviewed the financials and pointed out that both receipts and expenses were running about 3% over projections. There were no particular changes to the budget through May. While the cash is stable receipts are slow and there have been a great number of shutoffs this year. We still have over 26 properties shutoff for greater than three weeks. We will eventually collect these monies as the banks and mortgage companies take them over.

Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners for their review a Housing Survey by the Town Planning Board, to be included as an insert for the September billing period. The Commissioners reviewed the insert. Chairman Ainsleigh mentioned that these will be included if we have room. Manager Herriott said the Light Department Business comes first so if we needed to put something in they would have to change the date.

Manager Herriott pointed out the fact that we had recently received over \$9,000.00 in refunds from National Grid and over \$50,000.00 refund from our RMR settlements.

Manager Herriott showed the Commissioners a chart representing funds remaining in the Select Buyout Agreement. MMWEC has suggested that we could reduce the monthly withdrawal about \$3,000.00, that would allow the monies to be depleted at the same time the contract had it still been in affect would have expired. At the rate of withdrawal today and assuming a 5% interest rate the monies will be depleted about 8 months sooner which will be May of 2011. The Commissioners agreed to continue at the present rate of withdrawal which averages about \$28,000.00 a month, which in turn reduces our power bill by the same amount.

The Manager informed the Commissioners that the Flush of Funds to this year is projected to be in the area of \$52,000.00. Manager Herriott explained that these monies are collected to cover an unexpected expense and if not needed they are refunded to the departments.

Manager Herriott presented his expenses for reimbursement for \$620.44. These expenses included the NERC training in New York, they were approved.

Under old business Manager Herriott brought up the fact of the 100th Anniversary Celebration. The Manager reviewed the plan for the 100th Anniversary Celebration for Commissioner Ahlin who was absent last month. The Manager stated his idea was to get as many of the local support groups involved in the process as possible, and have it in conjunction with the Ashburnham Downtown Days 2008. The Commissioners agreed that this would be an appropriate way to have the event.

The Downtown Lighting is still progressing. We have finally received from Verizon their expected cost which is over \$34,000.00 dollars. This cost just covers the cost of the splicing and

installing the cable. AMLP still must install a manhole and conduit for them. Commissioner Ahlin was concerned that the other two phases were going to be too costly to complete. He suggested that we should do a little further research on the project and inquire as to what the remainder of the project would cost. Manager Herriott said that we have time to do this because he had not planned to start this until later in the Fall. He said that he would try to get the information from the Telephone Company and let the Commissioners know the results.

The Northern Data computer system upgrade is scheduled for the end of July. With this upgrade we will be able to start to use the reduced mailing costs, as well as getting on the most current version of the software.

Manager Herriott gave an update on Dave Goodall's situation. Manager Herriott reported that he had heard from Dave today. Dave told him that he had an appointment scheduled for today and the doctor for some reason had rescheduled it for July 10th. He had no further update for the Commissioners at this time.

The MASSPOWER case is still on going, the Municipal participants have sent a demand letter to them requesting a must run status of the unit. They have 45 days to resolve this situation in one of two ways. First, they can improve their capacity factor to a level above 60%, which it is generally believed they can't do. Second, they can run the unit which we believe they will not do for two reasons. One because they are buying spot gas and it will be far too costly to them to must run. Second we do not believe the unit is in good enough shape to run for any length of time. Assuming that they do not comply with our request our plan is to stop payments to them and place the payments in escrow. Then let the court once again have an opportunity to intervene. At this point there is nothing further to report.

Manager Herriott mentioned that the Gardner Chamber Outing was coming up the 1st of August and wanted to know if anyone is interested in going. The Commissioners said they would let him know.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Ahlin

Secretary