

Open Session Minutes of March 26, 2014

Meeting of the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant Board

Present Commissioners: Richard Ahlin, Mark Carlisle & Stan Herriott, Manager
Stephen Smith and Matthew Ide from MMWEC, Ms. Heather Isaacs & Mr. Jim Goulet of
Goulet Salvidio P.C.

Absent: Commissioner Kevin Lashua

Chairman Ahlin called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

Customer or Citizen Comments: We received a letter from a customer concerning an insert we placed in the bills. He is not in favor of this and feels he should not be bothered with the inserts. As a resolution he will receive his bill through e-mail.

Mr. Goulet and Ms. Isaacs arrived at the meeting to review our year end audit. Mr. Goulet and Ms. Isaacs walked through the year end audit which was once again a clean audit. They reviewed the management letter and answered questions from the Commissioners. They also discussed the possible need for a rate increase this year. Mr. Goulet and Ms. Isaacs also discussed the need for an Accounting Manual mapping out the different accounting functions. This could be done by each person creating a step by step log book of their individual daily duties. Manager Herriott said he would take a run at this. Mr. Goulet & Ms. Isaacs exited the meeting at approximately 5:00 P.M.

Stephen Smith and Matt Ide from MMWEC began with their presentation on the financial status of the account held and managed for AMLP at MMWEC. Mr. Smith & Mr. Ide covered the following:

Power

- Objective of the Power Supply Portfolio
- What the Power Portfolio Delivers
- Power Hedging Results
- Ashburnham Energy Mix
- Power Position on Peak/Off Peak

New England Power Markets:

- New England Nuclear Plants
- Gas Powered Markets
- FCA

The REC Markets:

- SREC
- Class 1 REC

Rates:

- Residential
- Small Commercial
- Industrial

The Commissioners also asked MMWEC for help with the possibility of additional solar power on the capped land fill. One of the major questions is, is it a better investment to own the project or to pursue a P.P.A. (Purchase Power Agreement). Mr. Smith and Mr. Ide agreed to work through that question and give us some guidance. Manager Herriott did mention that we had a good P.P.A. with only slight rate changes, since we are working with the same developer.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Smith and Mr. Ide for their review of the AMLP Power Portfolio and the other services provided under our membership agreement. Mr. Smith exited the meeting at approximately 6:30 P.M.

Manager Herriott indicated he would be looking to pre-fund the OPEB (Other Post -Employment Benefits) through MMWEC for the post-retirement healthcare benefit. Post -Retirement Health

Care was recently voted on by the voters of Ashburnham. Mr. Ide said they would begin to put the paper work together to move the funds from the Reserve Trust to the new Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) fund.

Chairman Ahlin stated the December 18, 2013 Minutes could not be voted on because Commissioner Lashua was not present. There was no quorum due to Chairman Ahlin was not present at the December meeting. The vote was once again tabled.

Chairman Ahlin called for a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of February 19, 2014. A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Chairman Ahlin. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Ahlin called for a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes from February 19, 2014. A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Chairman Ahlin. The vote was unanimous.

Manager Herriott stated he had reviewed AMLP's cost to install a pole and anchor as requested by Chairman Ahlin. The current fee listed in the Terms and Conditions was set at \$325.00 for a pole and \$75.00 for an anchor. The new fees will be \$600.00 for a pole and \$150.00 anchor. The Commissioners decided to table any action on the amended Terms and Conditions until the April meeting.

Manager Herriott reported the receipts are running about 1% under projections with expenses running about 1% over projections.

Receipts through February \$953,367.00

Expenses through February \$962,517.00

The next meeting date is scheduled for April 30, 2014 at 4:30 P.M.

The meter replacement project is ongoing. We are currently out of meters, with the next delivery scheduled for July. Manager Herriott stated he is working with Landis and Gyr to get a couple hundred meters before July so we can continue changing meters.

The Comcast billing issues were discussed. Comcast has filed a complaint with the Department of Public Utilities naming Peabody as the defendant. Comcast asserts that Peabody pole attachment rates are unfair. Ashburnham rates and formula for calculating the rates are similar. However, Ashburnham was not named in the suit. Manager Herriott will be contacting our Attorney Nick Scobbo to determine what our next step would be.

We have had to delay the start of the pole replacement for this year. Due to the weather conditions we now estimate we will be starting the middle to late April.

There was some discussion on how to begin the search for a new General Manager to replace Stan Herriott who is retiring at the end of July. The Commissioners will begin looking into a search committee.

Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners the flyer for the upcoming APPA meeting.

There was not a discussion on employee benefit requests.

A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Ahlin. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Carlisle
Secretary