

Present: Commissioners Patrick Cannon, David Irwin, Joseph DiVito, Jr., Stephanie Landry and Dan Ciccariello. Also present: Town Manager, Philip Lemnios, Operations Manager, Richard Miller and Recording Secretary Janis Ford.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Manager's Report

Dick handed out a copy of the Newsletter for the Board to look at. Phil asked if rate comparisons could be included. Dick said that he would put on the backside and that it should be in April's billing.

Dick reported that HMLP is 100% off the Turtle System now and has been using the new utilicorders since February. He said that he would run an ad in NEPPA to see if there is any interest in old equipment. Jim Churchill from Woods Hole will be doing a study down at the gut in June, the harbormaster will be taking him out on his boat for the study. There will be 5 to 6 people that will be put up at the Clarion for one night and it will be a 24-hour study, from tide to tide.

Andy Stern installed software into HW 2 1/2 and showed Kris Nixon how to read it.

Old Business

Offshore

Phil gave a brief update on the Offshore Project. He said that he will be meeting with State folks involved with alternative energy effort in early April. "We are going to put the ball in their court to see if they will take meaningful action instead of just cheerleading." He said there are two hurdles to overcome. Permitting is one with 14 different agencies with conflict amongst the agencies; there is a time and cost element. "There are no ships or rigs here to build turbines, they are all in Europe. The Jones Act makes it so that these ships cannot operate in U. S. waters. Pat said the only way is if you tagged along with Cape Wind. Phil said, "I am going to put the question to them that you keep saying this is a good thing. They have to make changes in their permitting process. Not sure if State is ready, they are talking out both sides of their mouths. Some State agencies saying they love wind and others saying but not at that location. This is their way of killing the project. Delahunt's office has been involved, we can do what we can at the Federal level but if the State doesn't want it, it's up to the State. The purpose of the meeting is to say Hull Light doesn't have the resources to do this alone." Dan asked if it was a timing issue and asked if Phil thought he would have run into all these obstacles before. Phil said that it's not a time issue but a cost issue. Phil said there is no more MTC money unless Hull Light agrees to join them. Jim Manwell is getting the implications that they're moving away from offshore projects – towards underwater.

Light Board Duties

David said that he gave a handout at the October 2009 meeting but there wasn't much discussion on it and he wanted to have further discussion. He read the handout to the Board:

Light Plant Commissioner duties that should be expanded under Chapter 8

1. All leases, rents and pilots should be discussed and then voted on by Light Plant Commissioners (majority vote) and become binding.
2. All future alternative energy projects must have a cost analysis performed before proceeding with any such project.
3. Light Plant Commissioners must be presented an annual budget by Light Plant Manager and vote to accept such budget.
4. Light Plant commissioners will review rates annually and have a rate study performed every three years.

Dan said the first one has to go to Town Meeting and the other ones can be voted on by the Board.

Approval of Minutes

Pat said due to the fact that the Board Members hadn't had a chance to read the Minutes; they should be put off until the next meeting.

New Business

Solar Streetlights

Phil said that a person from Cohasset approached him with a request. Last December they had a display of solar streetlights and asked Hull to loan one of its truck to see potential energy rating. Dick reported that Hingham has three different types of energy streetlights and Panos will share his knowledge with Hull.

Methodist Church Lighting

Dan said that someone asking him about the Methodist Church Lighting, which is out and asked if it could be turned back on. Phil said to be careful because there have been occasions in the past where they have reinstalled streetlights and have had people saying they were great and others saying that they were marring their view. Dick said that he would look into it by getting in touch with the Village Association to see if it was on their dime or HMLP's. Phil wants to know why it was shut off.

Halpin Contract

David asked when Halpins yearly contract expires; he feels that it should be put out to bid. Dick said that it's an annual renewal. Dick told David that you won't get much of a bargain because of prevailing wage laws and you may get linemen at a slightly lower rate but not as knowledgeable about Hull.

Stonybrook 3

Pat reported that he and Dick went out to Ludlow three weeks ago to view Stonybrook 3 Project and said that it was very interesting.

Turbine Tours

David asked Dick if he was still giving Turbine tours and suggested that there be a documentary put together that could be viewed at the Estuary Building. Dick told the Board about his interview with a NPR European radio that filmed a nice video of Hull. Dick asked Pat to forward the video to the other Commissioners.

Public Input

A Newport Road resident who writes for Energy Central out of Memphis asked about smart meters. Phil gave an explanation of MMWEC and how they are power aggregators for 42 municipalities. MMWEC has taken the ball to investigate smart grid technology. Dick said that he piggy backs with Hingham and Braintree. Phil said that the \$100,000 stimulus money isn't trickling down to small towns. The money is going to the bigger investor owned Nstar.

Items for Discussion

There were no Items for Discussion.

Adjournment

David Irwin made a motion to adjourn. Dan Ciccariello seconded the motion. Voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM