

Present: Commissioners Patrick Cannon, David Irwin, Joseph DiVito, Jr., Stephanie Landry and Dan Ciccariello. Also present: Recording Secretary Janis Ford.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Pat updated Joe DiVito on the last Meeting since he was not present. "Last session we came to an agreement that we would negotiate with Phil as a Board. In the tape Chris McCabe made an assumption that there would be 10% discount to the Town. Energy costs for the Town in 2005 were \$420,000. If we go to Phil who is hung up on the 10% and say we all agree \$200,000 is too much and that we have to protect the ratepayers. We can give him 10% going forward with 10% energy the year before. We shouldn't have to go back past 2006 because Hull Wind II was not in operation."

The Board discussed In Lieu of Tax. Joe said it is based on Plant value then add on your upgrades. Dan said that in a private entity we would get a value for depreciation.

Joe said that he loves the approach and asked if Chris McCabe said 10% for everyone. Pat said the Town of Hull. David said the Ratepayers.

Dan said, "I'm not happy that he is not going to be held accountable for the \$400,000 but in an effort to move on I'm willing to go along." Pat said, "You would agree to this strategy as long as it's not rent?" Stephanie asked, "Going forward how do we explain giving more money? How are we justifying this to the public because Phil took our money?" David said, "Because he can that's why I want to change Chapter 8." Stephanie said, "You keep saying it but don't do anything." Pat said that they had to stay focused on the subject. "This is a fair deal for the ratepayers and a fair deal for us. Chris was not our representative." Dan said that this was a compromise he could live with, "This is the best that we can do to get the money back." Stephanie said, "We're not getting the money back." Dan said that he has not forgotten about the money but they can't do anything about it. Stephanie said that she would like to know what he needs the money for. She would like to see a list. Pat said he will use the guilt trip by saying he'll have to close the library. Stephanie said that he couldn't balance his budget. Joe brought up the fact that money was taken from the Sewer Plant one year then not the next. Then Hull Light had \$200,000 one year then \$200,000 the next. Stephanie said that Phil had said that he couldn't take it without permission. Joe told Stephanie that she made an excellent point about explaining the \$42,000. Stephanie said, "Last week we didn't realize they were already getting 10%. I was elected to protect the ratepayers, even with the compromise he is still tucking it to the ratepayers." Dan said, "The beauty of a settlement is that he can call it whatever he wants and we can call it whatever we want. We can negotiate and if we don't agree and he counteroffers, at least he's negotiating." Stephanie wanted to know at what point they would take it to Town Meeting. Dan said that it's not rent, it's a 10% discount. Stephanie said, "First he called it pilot then he called it rent, he hasn't been fair." Dan said, "In order to settle the matter we will say we will give you an additional 10%. If he wants to say it's rent, I won't negotiate on that." Pat said, "If he pushes rent then he has to get it from the Sewer Department." Dan said, "There was never an agreement for rent and you don't just start charging rent. If we leave the question of rent open then we have a better argument." Joe said that the \$150,000 difference is a much bigger hurdle to get over than the language. "If the Board is willing to go with \$5,000 and \$17,000 it's better than \$200,000." Dan said that if the Board has to go to Town Meeting saying that they offered then he is going to have to take the political fallout for that. He said that the Board has the ability to call a Special Town Meeting.

Dan Ciccariello moved that the Light Board conduct negotiations with the Light Plant Manager in an effort to settle the outstanding differences between us regarding the extraction of \$200,000 a year from the Light Plant budget for the last two years by offering in lieu a doubling of the 10% discount rate i.e.

\$16,700 currently for the year 2009. That the Town would hence forth receive a doubling of the 10% discount for each year. This additional 10% is the only monies in addition to the Pilot as outlined in MGL C164. Joseph DiVito, Jr. seconded the motion. Voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Pat said, "Next week we will do this with Phil and we have to agree on a top dollar amount." Dan said that they have to have a majority of three votes. Stephanie said that she would like to think about it. Dan said that it couldn't be discussed outside of a meeting. Pat said, "Whatever happens with the negotiations, say we can't get anywhere then we would all have to agree that we have to do something with Chapter 8 to have more control. Pat said they would have to find out when the next Town Meeting is. David said that Phil would get another \$400,000 before it's settled. Stephanie said that at least the ratepayers would know. Dan said, "We owe it to the Rate Payers and to Phil to do the right thing. If he agrees to it then that would show that he negotiated in good faith." Stephanie said, "If he agrees to this, how do we prevent him from doing it next year?" Pat said that they would have to go to Town Meeting.

The PPA was brought up regarding who has the authority to change it. Dan asked the Chairman to get Jim Lampke's opinion on the subject.

David asked if the Board was going to vote on his amendment. After discussion the Board agreed to make David's changes two separate articles for Town Meeting. Dan moved that the subject be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Adjournment

Dan Cicciarello made a motion to adjourn. Stephanie Landry seconded the motion. Voted 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM