



HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

31 Bare Cove Park Drive
Hingham, MA 02043
(781) 749-0134 FAX (781) 749-1396
www.hmlp.com

General Manager

Thomas Morahan
tmorahan@hmlp.com

Board Members

Laura Burns, Chair
Michael Reive, Vice-Chair
Tyler Herrald, Secretary

MEETING HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

August 14, 2025
Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85285064558>

Meeting Called to Order

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant (HMLP) was called to order by the Board's Chair, Laura Burns, at approximately 4:00 pm on Tuesday, August 14, 2025.

Present:

Board Members: Laura Burns -Chair
Michael Reive -Vice-Chair
Tyler Herrald -Secretary

HMLP: Thomas Morahan -General Manager
Mark Fahey -Asst. General Manager
Joan Griffin - Business Manager
Brianna Bennett - Sustainability Coordinator

Ms. Burns read the following disclaimer into the record:

This meeting is being held remotely/or in person as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.

Solar Credit Calculation for 2025/2026

Below are the solar credit calculations provided by Mrs. Griffin.

- Credit > 20kW = \$0.0404 kWh (2024-2025 = \$0.036 kWh)

- Credit < 20kW = \$0.0997 kWh (2024-2025 = \$0.096 kWh)

Mrs. Griffin explained that the calculation of the solar credit is total power costs less RECs. There are two sources of customers, those that have systems less than 20 kilowatts and those greater than 20 kilowatts. She stated that there are less than ten (10) customers with the larger system and they use everything that they generate at the time of generation. Ms. Bennett confirmed that there are approximately 120 smaller units (less than 20 kW). Ms. Burns asked for further clarification on the calculation and Mrs. Griffin explained the following calculations:

Larger units: (Renewables - REC revenue / Total Kilowatt Hours Sold)

Smaller units: (Power costs - REC revenue/Total Kilowatt Hours Sold)

There was a conversation regarding the interest costs being included in the solar calculations, so Mrs. Griffin is going to investigate this further and report back to the Board.

Credit Card Charges

Mrs. Griffin stated that HMLP paid approximately \$113,000 in credit card fees last year. She found that it is almost a 50/50 split between the payment methods of checks (35,000 transactions) and credit cards (39,000 transactions). There are two different charges for credit card fees; (#1) fee to Invoice Cloud to process the transaction at \$1.60/credit card transaction and \$0.30/check transactions. The only time that this charge is different is if it is a security deposit which they charge 1.1% plus \$1.50/credit card transactions. (#2) Bank fee for every credit card which averages 3% per transaction. Mrs. Griffin stated that we do not take American Express because it has the highest charges. She said that the 15% prompt payment discount definitely helps with the monthly revenue collection. Mrs. Griffin reported that Invoice Cloud had not charged HMLP for the ATM transactions last year, so they will begin charging us in January so that will add another fee of approximately \$12,000. Mr. Herrald responded that perhaps the Board should think about what the town does for taxes - they charge everyone a fee for ACH or credit card. Mrs. Griffin spoke with Invoice Cloud and they suggested that we charge the same amount as the town. Mrs. Griffin presented the Invoice Cloud service fee structure. Mr. Reive stated that he was uncomfortable offering people a discount on their bill when we are incurring larger fees for processing it and would like to see customers use ACH to lower overall costs. Mrs. Griffin responded that we do not have the technology to discount by method of payment. Mrs. Burns would like to have more information regarding how much HMLP has paid this year in fees to determine the average cost per transaction. Mrs. Griffin agreed to complete an analysis of the fees from January 2025 through July 2025 for the Board. Ms. Burns asked if the staff could think about various ways that we may be able to recover the costs of the fees and then the Board can revisit this item in a later meeting. Mr. Morahan offered to ask the Town how they arrived at the fee that they currently charge to customers.

General Manager Performance Goals

Mr. Morahan had sent out a copy of the performance goals for the Board to review. Ms. Burns asked for clarification on "Develop a method to measure revenues from electrification". Mr. Morahan responded that it would be a report on increased revenue as a result of incentivizing and encouraging people to move to EVs, heat pumps, and other electric technologies.

Motion to approve General Manager Performance Goals for the next two years.

Mr. Herrald: "Aye"

Mr. Reive: "Aye"

Ms. Burns: "Aye"

Vote on Public Power Week Proclamation and Public Power Week Event

Public Power Week will be celebrated from October 4-11, 2026. Ms. Bennett has shared the proclamation with Art Roberts and he will present it to Tom Mayo. Promotion will be done through email, the HMLP website as well as on the town calendar.

Motion to approve the Public Power Week Proclamation.

Mr. Reive: “Aye”

Mr. Herrald: “Aye”

Ms. Burns: “Aye”

Approve Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Minutes 6/10/25

2. Meeting Minutes 7/8/25

In the June 10, 2025 minutes, Ms. Burns asked that the \$220,000 salary for the General Manager should be added as it is the only legal record of having made the change.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from June 10, 2025 and July 8, 2025.

Mr. Herrald: “Aye”

Mr. Reive: “Aye”

Ms. Burns: “Aye”

Financials - June 2025

month/year	kwh sold	revenue	expenses	net income
Jun-25	13,995,673	2,755,267	3,043,933	(288,667)
Jun-24	15,223,553	2,953,991	2,635,130	318,862
Jun-23	14,772,548	2,810,015	2,189,947	620,068
Year to date				
Jun-25	93,032,258	19,437,883	17,084,097	2,353,786
Jun-24	88,486,366	16,826,021	14,588,167	2,237,854
Jun-23	87,260,519	16,883,739	14,971,994	1,911,745

Mr. Morahan presented the financials for June 2025. He stated that lower kilowatt sales and higher energy costs lead to a net loss of \$288,667. Year-to-date net income was \$2.35 million which raised concerns about the 8% revenue target. Mrs. Griffin is going to adjust the PCA (Power Cost Adjustment) and Energy Charge starting in the month of August. The adjustment to these two items was necessitated because of the \$438,000 revenue surplus and a \$380,000 solar refund application. The PCA will be reduced to zero for the remainder of the year and the Energy Charge will decrease to \$0.0771 from \$0.0923. Mrs. Griffin explained that the solar rebate for the canopy has to be recognized as revenue. Mr. Herrald inquired as to why net income was down when there was an extremely hot week at the end of June. Mr. Morahan explained that HMLP paid some capacity performance penalties due to the fact that the balancing ratio was greater than one. Since the hot weather clearly affects the PCA, Mr. Reive would like to see this calculated on an annual basis rather than having it be adjusted monthly.

Updates: Transmission Line Project, Capital Projects

- **Transmission Line Project**

The second round of questions from the Electric Facilities Siting Board have been received and answers are due by September 3, 2025. There will be an upcoming virtual meeting with the Siting Board in late September or early October, which would involve expert testimony and likely be open to the public.

Mr. Fahey explained that for the insulator change-out portion of this project, a contractor has been hired, the contract is finalized and we have a notice to proceed. There will be coordination with the MBTA and work should begin in September and should take two to three weeks to complete. There will be speed limitations in the work zone.

- **Capital Projects**

Work is still being done on Pleasant Street and Elm street where we are still waiting for Verizon pole sets. 90% of the pole sets are ready for emergency situations.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Herrald: "Aye"

Mr. Reive: "Aye"

Ms. Burns: "Aye"

Meeting adjourned at **5:02 pm**