



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 Herral, Secretary

MEETING HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

January 29, 2026
Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027789174>

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 Thursday, January 29, 2026.

Present:

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

HMLP: Thomas Morahan -General Manager
Mark Fahey -Asst. General 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 2026 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.

Income Adjusted Rate (IA)

Mr. Reive explained that his proposed changes to the IA Rate are threefold:

1. Waive the Customer Charge
2. Increase the Discount
3. Increase Incentives for electrification

His proposal would also require IA customers to complete an annual energy audit to ensure they understand available options to reduce heating costs and pursue electrification. Mr. Morahan and Ms. Bennett noted that HMLP does not currently require audits at any set frequency. Ms. Bennett added that because home conditions typically do not change significantly year to year, and given the \$350 cost of an audit, requiring one annually may not be worthwhile.

Ms. Burns proposed waiving the Customer Charge, which would increase the cost of the IA rate from \$15,000 to \$40,000. She explained that all customers must pay capacity, distribution, and transmission costs. For that reason, she prefers discounting the fixed Customer Charge, as it is more transparent and easier to track. Mr. Herrald agreed with her reasoning.

Mr. Reive stated that he believes more could be done for IA customers. Ms. Burns cautioned that while additional changes could be made later, it is difficult to “roll back a credit” once implemented.

Mr. Reive made a motion to waive the Customer Charge, retain the 15% discount on the Cap, Dist, and Trans rate, and revisit the rate every few months. He also questioned whether the Energy Charge should be included in the IA rate. Mrs. Griffin explained that the Energy Charge is adjusted through the PCA (Power Cost Adjustment). If IA customers were treated differently, a separate PCA and Energy Charge would need to be created specifically for them, which she said would not be practical.

Ms. Burns calculated that the total monthly cost of the proposal would increase to \$54,000, as the average cost per IA customer would rise from \$8 to \$21.

A vote was taken on the motion to waive the Customer Charge and retain the 15% discount on the Cap, Dist, and Trans rate:

Mr. Reive: “Aye”

Mr. Herrald: “Aye”

Ms. Burns: “Aye”

Ms. Bennett will research income-adjusted rebates offered by other municipalities for consideration in a future proposal.

Mr. Morahan asked the Board to review the information from the rate study so that he can prepare a formal proposal.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Herrald: “Aye”

Mr. Reive: “Aye”

Ms. Burns: “Aye”

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm

Next meeting will be February 10, 2026