



HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

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General Manager

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Board Members

Laura Burns, Chair
 Michael Reive, Vice-Chair
 Joseph Fisher, Secretary

MEETING HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

May 12, 2026
 Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88206103040>

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, Ms. Burns, at approximately 4:00 pm on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

Present:

Board Members: Laura Burns -Chair
 Michael Reive -Vice-Chair
 Joseph Fisher -Secretary

HMLP: Thomas Morahan -General Manager
 Mark Fahey -Asst. General Manager
 Stephen Girardi - Engineer 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.

Ms. Burns opened the meeting by welcoming the newest board member, Joe Fisher.

HMLP Reliability Project Next Steps

On April 28, 2026, Article 28 (Hingham Municipal Light Plant Capital Improvements) was withdrawn before the Town Meeting considered it.

Ms. Burns stated that the Advisory Committee requested greater transparency regarding the impact of the Reliability Project on electric rates. She emphasized that the Board wants to ensure voters have the information necessary to make an informed decision. Because the rate study currently underway will not be completed until July 2026, the Board decided to postpone further discussion until the study is available. Ms. Burns reiterated the urgency of receiving a draft of the rate study as soon as possible.

Mr. Morahan explained that delaying Town approval would postpone both the procurement of equipment necessary for the project and the bidding process.

Mr. Fisher committed to meeting with Tom Mayo and Liz Klein to discuss the timing of a Special Town Meeting and related bonding issues. He also emphasized the importance of keeping the Advisory Committee informed throughout the process.

Election of Officers

After the town elections every year, the Board entertains nominations for the officers.

- Mr. Reive nominated Ms. Burns to Chair and Mr. Fisher seconded the motion.
- Ms. Burns nominated Mr. Reive for Vice Chair and Mr. Fisher seconded the motion.
- Ms. Burns nominated Mr. Fisher for Secretary and Mr. Reive seconded the motion.

Ms. Burns asked for a vote in favor of the nominations.

Mr. Fisher: “Aye”

Mr. Reive: “Aye”

Ms. Burns: “Aye”

Approve Meeting Minutes

The agenda only shows three sets of meeting minutes to be approved; however, Ms. Burns would like to add the meeting on April 28, 2026 in which the HMLP Board recommended to the Select Board that the Hingham Municipal Light Plant Capital Improvements article be withdrawn from the Town Meeting. The April 28, 2026 minutes cannot be approved because they were not listed on the agenda for this meeting so they will be added to the next agenda.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from March 10, 2026, April 8, 2026, and May 5, 2026.

Mr. Reive: “Aye”

Ms. Burns: “Aye”

Ms. Fisher: “Abstained”

Mr. Fisher abstained from voting on the meeting minutes because he wasn't a board member during the original meetings.

Financials

month/year	kwh sold	revenue	expenses	net income
Feb-26	17,507,802	3,275,026	3,638,993	(363,967)
Feb-25	18,214,673	3,485,102	3,665,021	(179,919)
Feb-24	17,247,671	3,374,919	2,983,721	391,198
Year to date				
Feb-26	37,895,218	6,710,895	6,151,210	559,684
Feb-25	36,353,101	6,855,767	6,474,742	381,025
Feb-24	32,301,925	6,088,262	5,452,558	635,704

Mr. Morahan stated that kilowatt hour sales went down despite the cold weather in February, which resulted in a negative net income of \$363,000. There also is large Watson Plant payment due every February which contributes to the negative net income. Year-to-date, HMLP is slightly below where we expected to be, but in line with the budget. Mr. Reive questioned the Watson payment and the considerable volatility in the cost of oil and gas, to which Mr. Morahan explained that summer operations on gas and oil typically are not problematic.

Updates: Capital Projects & Rate Study

Rate Study:

Mr. Morahan stated that he is meeting with UFS (Utility Financial Solutions) every two weeks and he will provide the Board with an update after the next meeting as to when to expect a draft of the study.

Capital Projects:

Mr. Girardi reported that the Elm Street reconductoring project is in progress. The poles are all "in" and framed with composite cross arms and the wires will be in within a week. The composite arms are "expected to last 100 years". Ms. Burns questioned what happens when the pole fails before the arms. Mr. Girardi stated that "if a wire jumps off the insulator, it is not going to cause an outage or burn down and it is very resilient." These composite arms are all part of the reliability of the system and they can be taken down and reused on a different pole.

Mr. Girardi also reported that four (4) new reclosures will be installed within the next two weeks to isolate small pocket outages throughout the system and once connected, we will have access to them via our SCADA system for remote control.

Mr. Reive questioned the older shorter poles that still have fiber and cable on them and whether there is a plan to clean them up. Mr. Girardi explained that all the pole information is the NJUNS software that communicates with all other departments, such as Verizon and Comcast so that everyone is aware of what needs to be removed and/or transferred.

Mr. Girardi reported the plan to convert the entire three-phase system to 500-amp wire should be completed by 2029.

Mr. Reive questioned the proposed battery project in the industrial park. Mr. Morahan stated that he is waiting to hear back from New Leaf Energy.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Fisher: "Aye"

Ms. Burns: "Aye"

Mr. Reive: "Aye"

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm