

Regular Meeting
Hingham Municipal Light Plant Board
Tuesday June 22, 2004

Board Members:

Kevin Bulman, Chairman
John Stoddard, Secretary
Walter Foskett

General Manager:

John Tzimirangas

Call Meeting to Order 7:00 PM

Kevin Bulman called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Review and Approval of previous Board Meeting Minutes

The April and May Board meeting minutes were issued for comment in their new format. The Board was asked to review the minutes and make any comments necessary to the minutes and approval of these minutes will be voted on at the next Board meeting.

Update on MMWEC Issue

The Board of MMWEC has decided that they would hire an attorney to intervene in the US Generating loan plan submitted by the State. Several North Shore municipal utilities have hired Duncan and Allen on their own, to provide legal representation in this matter. Several of the GM's (including Hingham) have sent letters to the MMWEC Board stating that we will not pay any invoices regarding this issue. HMLP does not have a stake in this matter and should not participate monetarily in the legal costs.

Managers Report

Gus Bregnard has been hired as a field engineering technician to take care of some of the day to day work for Panos. Gus has been doing this type of work since he came back from his accident. We have back filled his 1st class lineman's position with Kevin Mock who will be starting Monday; he is a 5 year first class lineman formally from Halpin Line Construction.

The Abington Street cutover is planned for late summer/early fall. We have had some issues contacting National Grid to execute the transfer. A formal letter needed to be submitted by HMLP to National Grid requesting the cutover of those customers to the HMLP system. Sharpe Street conversion will follow the Abington Street project after we acquire the customers and system from National Grid.

The transmission line "hot spot" has not been completed as of this time. It has been rescheduled with the line contractor and we are in the process of scheduling the outage with REMVEC and NSTAR to take the line out of service.

Laurie Heffron is still reviewing the energy supply contracts that we are proposing to go out to bid with for the new energy requirements for HMLP. Her final review should be completed in the next two weeks.

We are viewing the SAP system at Taunton Light as a potential system to replace our existing office system. This would be the third major system that we are looking at to identify the fit for HMLP. We are planning to make a decision on the system we desire in September. We would have to run both systems parallel for a period of time. My goal is to have the system up and running for 2005.

ACRT is a company out of Ohio that helps create Tree Trimming programs. They create a profile of the town; check on conditions and tree population, review system line work and work load survey. They will present their findings to the Board. At this time we do not have a means of collecting data to evaluate existing work crews and we do not specify to those crews what we want done. We pay approximately \$140,000.00 per year for our tree trimming services. ACRT would help us with the bid process as well. The cost is \$5,000.00 to do a statistical survey of the entire town. ACRT has worked with NSTAR and Mass Electric, where they profile every circuit, talk to customers and audit the crews that are working on those systems.

CSE out of Hopedale will be taking a look at expanding Hobart Street; we want the maximum capacity for the space to be able to handle the switch gear, bus work and existing equipment. This review should take about a month for them to complete their survey and make recommendations on the best course of action. In a couple of years we are going to have to build a new station elsewhere in town, and turn it into a split feed.

Draft agreements have been sent out to Erickson to review for the circuit feeders to their property. This would be a modified agreement to the HMLP present policy regarding line extensions. The new circuits need to be in-service by the spring of 2006 in order to meet the Erickson build out for their residential buildings and community centers.

The PGET energy company is bankrupt and they claim that we owe them \$700,000.00 for the balance of the energy contract. Their termination letter in January did not state they were terminating the contract, only that they were not going to supply us energy. There is a settlement conference being set up with them to address this issue. Our opinion is that they would owe us the difference in market price that we needed to purchase power to supplement the amount of power HMLP needed to purchase to replace their contract.

The first newsletter of the year will be going out in the next two weeks. We are pushing the direct payment option to educate our customers on the options they have to pay their HMLP bill.

The new website should be launched in mid-September with a complete new look and several new options that allow customers to sign up for service on line, report an street light outage on line, and find out more about the company and public power right from their computer.

Motion to Adjourn

Kevin Bulman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 PM and Walter Foskett seconded the motion.

John A. Stoddard Jr., Secretary