



## HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

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John P. Ryan, Chairman  
John A. Stoddard Jr., Vice-Chairman  
Roger M. Freeman, Secretary

### REGULAR MEETING HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

January 12, 2021  
7:30 A.M. – Meeting via Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/oXHXaHSEY2ziMnWuzsgGgM3l\\_jYHMvjxuFTTOSXJEBJ3oqT9c1wAkEAIMJurflIW.D3I6M3qWYqTMx0\\_q?startTime=1610453661000](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/oXHXaHSEY2ziMnWuzsgGgM3l_jYHMvjxuFTTOSXJEBJ3oqT9c1wAkEAIMJurflIW.D3I6M3qWYqTMx0_q?startTime=1610453661000)

### MEETING NOTES

#### **Meeting Called to Order:**

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant (HMLP) was called to order at 0735 on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 via Zoom.

#### **Present:**

John P. Ryan, Chairman; John A. Stoddard Jr., Vice-Chairman; Roger M. Freeman, Secretary; Paul Heanue, General Manager (GM); Tom Morahan, Assistant General Manager (Assistant GM); guests Laura Burns, Jenny Hook and Brenda Black, Hingham residents.

#### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

The GM presented the meeting minutes for the October 27, 2020 meeting to the Board for their consideration.

#### **MOTION**

**A motion was duly made by the Secretary to accept the minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting. The Vice-Chairman seconded and they unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting.**

#### **Financials**

The GM presented the Board with financial statistics for October 2020.

- kWh sold in October 2020: 14.9m kWh, October 2019: 14.1m kWh and October 2018: 14.2m kWh.
- Revenue for October 2020 was \$2.5m, October 2019 was \$2.4m and October 2018 was \$2.2m.
- Expenses for October 2020 was \$2.1m, October 2019 was \$2.1m and October 2018 was \$2.7m.
- Net income for October 2020 was \$387k, October 2019 was \$231k and October 2018 was \$(437k).
- YTD kWh sales for October 2020 was 162.1m kWh, for 2019 was 162.7kWh and 2018 was 171.6m kWh.
- Revenue YTD October 2020 was \$26.3m, \$26.3m for 2019 and \$24.3m for 2018.
- Expenses YTD October 2020 were \$22.4m, \$23.6m for 2019 and \$24.2m for 2018.
- Net Income YTD for October 2020 was \$3.9m, for 2019 was \$2.7m and for 2018 was \$95.5k.

The GM presented the Board with financial statistics for November 2020.

- kWh sold in November 2020: 13.9m kWh, November 2019: 15.0m kWh and November 2018: 15.1m kWh.
- Revenue for November 2020 was \$2.3m, November 2019 was \$2.5m and November 2018 was \$2.4m.
- Expenses for November 2020 was \$2.6m, November 2019 was \$1.5m and November 2018 was \$2.5m.
- Net income for November 2020 was \$(245.8k), November 2019 was \$985.6k and November 2018 was \$(169.3k).
- YTD kWh sales for November 2020 was 176.0m kWh, for 2019 was 177.7m kWh and 2018 was 186.7m kWh.
- Revenue YTD November 2020 was \$28.6m, \$28.8m for 2019 and \$26.6m for 2018.
- Expenses YTD November 2020 were \$25.0m, \$25.1m for 2019 and \$26.7m for 2018.
- Net Income YTD for November 2020 was \$3.7m, for 2019 was \$3.7m and for 2018 was \$ (73.8k).

## **Updates**

### **Additional Transmission Line**

HMLP is proposing to build a 3 ¼ mile underground transmission line to address reliability and capacity needs. Currently the Town is served by two (2) transmission lines on a single set of structures. The new line will be a second independent feed. Construction is anticipated to commence in 2023 with initial operations beginning in 2024. The GM met with the Town of Hingham Conservation Commission and discussed the various spots in Hingham where the substation may be constructed. The desired location is around Hobart Street to keep it near the existing substation. The GM also met with Eversource and discussed where HMLP would like to tap the transmission line in Weymouth. The plan is to go to Town Meeting this spring to get authorization for a bond offering. HMLP and Eversource have not yet finalized a dollar amount yet. The deadline to submit bond articles January 20<sup>th</sup>. The Secretary requested that Daniel Crotzer of Fractal Energy Source Consultants present to the Board whether the new transmission line and substation have the reliability and capacity to support one hundred percent of HMLP's customers going electric or what those requirements will be. The GM will ask Daniel Crotzer to present the commercial implications of going 100% electric at the next Board meeting.

## **Updates**

### **Battery Storage**

The structural engineer inspected the concrete pad at the HMLP building to confirm it was 4 feet deep as believed and discovered that it was not 4 feet deep all the way around. This has caused substantial delays in completing the project. Additionally, damaged battery containers have been delivered twice. The manufacturer is now repairing the second battery container and will re-deliver. The new completion date is scheduled for early February.

### **Meter Read System**

Part of the ability to correctly figure out what is needed for the distribution system is a 24/7 meter reading system. The GM received an agreement from the vendor a week ago and the contract should be finalized and signed by the parties shortly. With the new meter read system, HMLP will have the ability to read the meters 24/7. It will also help out with outage recoveries and allow HMLP to see the entire circuit load by transformer.

### **Landfill**

At the January 11<sup>th</sup> Planning Board meeting, the developer laid out the plans for the solar array at the landfill. Approximately 40 residents virtually attended. The residents of Ridgewood Crossing (the property at foot of landfill) were able to ask their questions and express their concerns (i.e. wind, plantings, etc.). The Planning Board asked the developer to meet with the homeowners and take pictures at their property and present renderings at the next meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers**

There are state grants available to install electric vehicle chargers throughout town. The Assistant GM and Town Planner are looking into viable locations throughout Town.

#### **HMLP Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)**

The GM sold the RECs through June 2020, bought replacement RECs and netted \$600k. The GM is waiting on the monies, but once the various fees are deducted, HMLP is receiving in excess of \$400k. Between the 2019 and 2020 REC sales and repurchases, HMLP netted approximately \$1m.

#### **Status of SB 2995 – An Act creating a next-generation roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy**

The GM provided the Board with a summary of Bill SB 2995 - An Act creating a next-generation roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy. Among other things, the Bill aims to reduce emissions to net zero. Bill SB 2995 passed both houses of legislature and is waiting for the Governor's signature. The Governor has until January 15, 2020, to sign, veto the Bill or do nothing.

#### **COVID-19**

To date, no HMLP employees have tested positive for COVID-19.

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

**On a motion duly made by the Vice-Chairman and seconded by the Secretary it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 0840.**