

**Hingham Municipal Light Plant
Thursday, December 14, 2006
Town Hall**

Attendees:

Walter Foskett, Chairman
Kevin Bulman, Secretary
John Stoddard, Commissioner
John Tzimirangas, General Manager

Agenda

1. Call meeting to order
2. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes (November 28)
3. Manager's Report
 - a. General Business
 - b. 2007-2010 Capital Plan
 - c. 2007 Operating Budget
4. REACH Wind Committee Update (if available)
5. Other Business
 - a. Warrant Signatures
 - b. Correspondence
6. Executive Session
 - a. A motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing trade secrets and strategy with respect to litigation
 - b. A motion to end executive session and adjourn regular meeting
7. Motion to Adjourn

1. Call to Order

Chairman Foskett called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting

Chairman Foskett noted a typographical error in minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting for September 28, 2006, with minor changes.

3. Managers Report

A. General Business

Holiday Brunch

General Manager announced that a holiday brunch will be held at 9:00 a.m. on December 22, 2006 at Black Rock.

REACH Wind Committee Report

The General Manager received notification for REACH Wind Committee that U-Mass had submitted costs of installing anemometers and analysis of gathered data. The final price was \$30,000.00 per unit. If the project is put through with U-Mass it would take place in 12 to 14 months. The General Manager inquired what the Board is comfortable spending on the project. Secretary Bulman stated that additional information is needed from the REACH Committee. Chairman Foskett suggested that a full scale business plan is needed from the REACH Committee. Chairman Foskett inquired how much a wind system would add to present supply. General Manager said it would provide about 1% of total power supply, and he stated that incorporation of wind system is not meant as a major portion of supply, but it is a small portion of a larger portfolio. The General Manager stated that he will request from the REACH committee a long-term plan.

B. 2007-2010 Capital Plan

The General Manager asked the Board if there were any questions regarding handout from November's meeting. Secretary Bulman referred to page 7, heading Switch Replacement, and inquired as to when it is planned for. The General Manager stated that the plan to physically move the switch was abandoned, and instead has sought information from a Canadian switch company with regard to replacing the old switches and moving the controls to a different location on the existing pole. The new system would be controlled remotely as well as manually.

Underground Program

The General Manager made an inquiry to the Board with regard to setting aside a budgetary number with the idea that underground utilities will be forthcoming. It was noted that as construction is taking place in the town, it would be economically astute to begin now, rather than re-digging these same areas in the future.

Secretary Bulman stated that they could begin with small areas, for example the downtown area, where they will be digging anyway.

The General Manager suggested that there are other mechanisms for funding, such as Chapter 166, which collects from rate payers.

Antennae System

Chairman Foskett inquired about the antennae system. The General Manager replied that a plan is in place to negotiate with National Grid Wireless to buy and install, and that he would like to see two carriers on the antenna. The General Manager also noted that there could be multiple uses for such a system.

Cushing Street

Secretary Bulman inquired about the amount of money budgeted for the Cushing Street project, and if it was sufficient. The General Manager stated that the funds allotted are for first phase planning. The General Manager stated that he is investigating land area in the vicinity of Cushing Street. A report regarding this and other parcels of land in the town will be forthcoming

Industrial Park

Chairman Foskett inquired about industrial park feeders, and if there was any area available on Sharp Street. The General Manager stated that there is not an easement for the area. Alternatively, another feed may be installed over the highway. Panos Tokadjian, Chief Engineer, explained design possibilities. Secretary Bulman asked if money should be budgeted toward that end. The General Manager stated that at this point in time it would be premature, given that there is potential in the area for new industry and new users.

Capacitors

Secretary Bulman inquired about capacitor installation. The General Manager stated that there are two spare circuits, and this new money would go toward adding to the existing ones.

Wireless Warehouse Bar Coding

Secretary Bulman inquired why money is budgeted for 2009. The General Manager stated that a new warehouse is needed, and the wireless bar coding system can be tied into the new computer system.

Automatic Meters

Chairman Foskett inquired whether automatic meter reading is in progress. The General Manager stated that at this point, there are very few, and he does not recommend a changeover right away, but would rather wait until new technology allows them to have greater capabilities than they have at this time.

Motion

General Manager asked the Board if there were any further questions. The Board moved to accept the capital plan for 2007.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the Capital Plan for 2007.

C. 2007 Operating Budget

General Manager gave brief summary of operating revenues and expenses.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the Operating Budget for 2007 as presented by the General Manager.

4. REACH Wind Committee Report

The REACH Committee was not represented at the meeting.

5. Other Business

A. Warrant Signatures

Warrant Signatures were provided by the Board members

6. Executive Session

A motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing trade secrets and strategy with respect to litigation was made by Mr. Stoddard at 7:40 PM.

A roll call vote on the motion was taken:

Mr. Bulman “aye”

Mr. Foskett “aye”

Mr. Stoddard “aye”

A motion to adjourn the executive session was made by Mr. Stoddard at 8:15 PM.

A roll call vote on the motion was taken:

Mr. Bulman “aye”

Mr. Foskett “aye”

Mr. Stoddard “aye”

Upon a motion made by Secretary Bulman and seconded by Chairman Foskett, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular meeting 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Bulman, Secretary