

**Hingham Municipal Light Plant  
Tuesday, November 29, 2005  
Town Hall**

**Attendees:**

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

**Agenda**

1. Call meeting to order
2. Review and Approval of previous Board Meeting minutes (October)
3. Manager's Report
4. 2006-2010 Capital Plan Discussion
5. Executive Session
6. Motion to Adjourn

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Stoddard called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. Review and Approval of previous Board Meeting Minutes**

**Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of October 26, 2005, with minor changes.**

**3. Manager's Report**

The General Manager updated the Board on the following projects:

- a. Hobart Street Substation
- b. French Street/Ward Street duct bank
- c. Recent Energy Presentation (Library, Senior Center)
- d. Wireless Carrier Access Bill
- e. ISO News Release regarding winter rolling blackouts

**4. 2006-2010 Capital Plan Discussion**

The General Manager presented the Board with a draft 2006-2010 Capital budget plan. The projects discussed included:

### Automated Meter Reading

The cost/benefit of the project for the residential customers is about 7 years. If the entire system was done, including the commercial customers the payback of the project increases to between 7-9 years. The project would not be completed just based on payback, but other intangibles. This would help with billing cycle, cycles would read and billing in an on going manner, rather than all bills prepared at the same time.

Commissioner Bulman inquired as to the percentage of customers that utilize HMLP electronic fund payment. The General Manager stated over 1,200 customers use this service and 25-27% use some form of on-line communication with the company.

### Wireless Warehouse

The goal would be to have stock scanned rather than hand counted when received or inventoried. This will also save time when stock is pulled for jobs and save manual work.

### Vehicle Replacement Program

The General Manager suggests that vehicle purchases be spaced out over a period of time, in order that purchase of replacement of vehicles is staggered. For the large line trucks, the replacement criteria are based on run-time and age, not mileage. The proposal in the plan calls for initiation of a rolling program of vehicle purchases. Chairman Stoddard inquired as to expected life of vehicle. The General Manager replied that it depends on type of vehicle, age, mileage and the run-time.

### Future Sub-Station

An additional location for a future substation is being addressed in the Capital plan which could cost upwards of \$10 million at today's dollars. Approximately two acres of land would be an ideal parcel of land for this project. The need for a station is not a question of if, but when station will be necessary based on the present projections of growth.

## **Question from the Public**

Ms. Collins, 166 North St., inquired as to possibility of installing underground cable on North Street, in the area of Star's restaurant. The General Manager suggested a new estimate can be done. This area has been looked at in the past.

Tom Maloney, Hingham CPC, has requested an estimate for ornamental lighting from Queen Anne's Corner all the way down Rt. 228 to Central Street to the Square.

Panos Tokadjian stated that there are numbers available for both requests, and he will give information to the General Manager.

**6. Motion to Adjourn**

**Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bulman and seconded by Secretary Foskett, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the regular meeting 8:06PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Walter A. Foskett, Secretary**