



# 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  
September 5, 2019  
7:30 A.M. – HMLP offices  
**MEETING MINUTES**

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

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant (HMLP) was called to order at 0733 on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at the Hingham Municipal Light Offices at 31 Bare Cove Park Drive, Hingham, Massachusetts.

### **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); Tim Hebert of Energy New England; Laura Burns, Hingham resident, former Selectman and current Senior Intern to Representative Joan Meschino; Turner Bledsoe, Hingham resident and two unidentified females.

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

The GM presented the meeting minutes for the August 1, 2019 meeting to the Board for their consideration. The Secretary asked that if a Board makes a policy decision to buy 100% renewable energy, does that guide the GM's purchase decisions. The GM will ask HMLP's counsel for the legal answer to that question.

### **MOTION**

**A motion was duly made by the Vice-Chairman to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2019 meeting. The Secretary seconded and they unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2019 meeting.**

### **Legislation, H. 2863**

In January 2019, the Municipal Electric Association of Massachusetts (MEAM) met and wrote a piece of proposed legislations which would require municipal light plants (munis) to have to follow the same percentage carbon free requirements as Investor Owner Utilities (IOUs), but also be able to count existing contracts and nuclear, continue to sell Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and pay a fine if the percentages were not met (the "MLP bill"). Upon the Secretary's request at the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, HMLP's attorney prepared an "Attorney Client Privileged Communication" comparison between the MLP bill H. 2863 and a bill proposed by Rep. Joan Meschino H. 3893. The GM presented the Board with that analysis. The GM pointed out that the biggest difference between the two bills is that under the Meschino bill, while the DEP regulations classify nuclear as non-emitting, there is a cut off for contracts signed prior to December 2010. Therefore, under the Meschino bill, HMLP cannot count Seabrook and Millstone's output as non-emitting. HMLP currently receives almost 30% of power from our existing nuclear contracts, and it is non-emitting. The MEAM bill allows long standing non-emitting contracts to be recognized.

After reviewing the comparison between the MLP bill and Meschino bill, the Secretary expressed concerns and the deficiencies with both bills. The Secretary will write a letter to the drafters of both bills expressing the

Board's concerns regarding the bills and asking for adjustments. The GM will present the draft to the Board for review prior to sending.

### **HMLP strategy re carbon free energy**

In November 2017, the Board voted to take the steps necessary to allow HMLP to be able to describe all of its supply as carbon-free. HMLP voted to retire Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) it "owns" and to buy replacement RECs to cover the rest of its fossil fuel supply. In its 2017 action, the Board also voted to revisit this decision in 2019. Tim Hebert of Energy New England (ENE) presented to the Board the options of how to be 100% carbon-free. The Board decided to continue to retire RECs and have ENE conduct an analysis of how to spend \$225k (cost for HMLP to be carbon free in 2018) to bring the Town's carbon emissions down.

### **Financials:**

The GM presented the Board with financial statistics for July 2019.

- kWh sold in July 2019: 16.7m kWh was lower than both July 2018: 18.3m kWh and July 2017: 19.0m kWh.
- Revenue for July 2019 was \$2.7m, July 2018 was \$2.7m and July 2017 was \$2.5m.
- Expenses for July 2019 was \$2.4m and July 2018 was \$2.2m and July 2017 was \$2.2m.
- Net income for July 2019 was \$275k, July 2018 was \$491k and July 2017 was \$305k.
- YTD kWh sales for July 2019 was 108m kWh, for 2018 was 114m kWh and 2017 was 112kWh.
- Revenue YTD July 2019 was \$17.5m, \$15.3m for 2018 and \$16.6m for 2017.
- Expenses YTD July 2019 were \$16.7m, \$15.9m for 2018 and \$14.8m for 2017.
- Net Income YTD for July 2019 was \$795k, for 2018 was \$(618k) and for 2017 was \$1.7m.

### **Updates:**

**Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):** Beginning in January 2019, government agencies are required to follow OSHA rules. HMLP hired a consultant used by several munis to observe our workers and analyze our practices to ensure we are in compliance. HMLP was inspected and the consultant largely found us to be in overall compliance with OSHA rules and we will work on the issues that need to be resolved.

### **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 0910.**

