



HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

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General Manager
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John P. Ryan, Chairman
Laura M. Burns, Secretary

REGULAR MEETING HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

February 23, 2022

Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/8jhiCiO8Ft2dBrYiZ8VUY04SnwQ-CsSQdl8_Hb_BJMEYIJdWVw_4IWzhScLLouU.PxnExlUZUc1ctVV2?startTime=1645618793000

Meeting Called to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant (HMLP) was called to order at approximately 0748 on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, via Zoom.

Present:

Board Members: John P. Ryan, Chairman
Laura Burns, Secretary

HMLP: Tom Morahan, General Manager
Mark Fahey, Assistant General Manager
Steve Girardi, Engineering Manager

Other: Members of the Public

Minutes from 1/23/2022

Mr. Ryan requested comments to the minutes for the meeting on January 25, 2022. Ms. Burns requested a minor change.

Motion: Ms. Burns moved to adopt the minutes as amended. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and all voted in favor of accepting. Said minutes were unanimously approved.

CES vs Maine Class II RECs

Mr. Morahan shared a presentation prepared by Ken Stambler, ENE, entitled "Clean Energy Standard – Expansion, An Alternative to Maine Class II." He explained that HMLP is considering an opportunity to buy Clean Energy ("CE") Standard RECs instead of ME Class II RECs. ME Class II RECS involve fuel cells, tidal, solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, biomass, municipal waste and recycling. CE Standard RECs involve nuclear and hydro. CE Standard RECs trade for less than ME Class II.

Mr. Ryan asked Mr. Morahan for advice on the appropriate thing to do. Mr. Morahan reiterated that CE Standard RECs are trading at a lower cost than ME Class II RECs. CE Standard RECs are at roughly \$4.50 while ME Class II is \$9. HMLP needs 26,000 carbon-free RECs. The savings associated with purchasing CE Standard RECs is about \$110,000. There was additional discussion about this. Mr. Morahan noted that the purchase is for the 3rd quarter. Ms. Burns indicated that she would like to have a better understanding of the matter and offered to call Mr. Stambler to discuss. Mr. Ryan asked about the timing for the decision. This was discussed.

It was agreed that Mr. Morahan would reach out to Mr. Stambler and ask him to come to the next meeting. If a decision on the matter is needed prior to then, Mr. Morahan will arrange a special meeting for this purpose.

HMLP Annual Report for Town Meeting

Mr. Ryan requested comments regarding Mr. Morahan's draft statement for the Annual Report for Town Meeting. Ms. Burns made some suggestions.

NYPA Recipient's Designated Voting Representative

Mr. Morahan noted that HMLP must submit a form designating its voting representatives for New York Power Authority (NYPA) matters.

Motion: Ms. Burns moved that the Board (i) appoint Mr. Morahan, General Manager, to serve as the Designated Voting Representative on the NYPA Recipient's Committee and (ii) appoint Mr. Fahey, Assistant General Manager, to serve as the Alternate Voting Representative. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Burns asked Mr. Morahan about a credit that appears on HMLP's financial statements with regard to NYPA. Mr. Morahan noted that he would provide an explanation of that credit at the next meeting.

Updates: battery storage, additional transmission line and new substation, landfill, EV chargers, choice connect, municipal solar, website, HMLP Solar

Mr. Morahan provided the following updates:

Battery Storage. The battery is performing. During the month of January, the battery hit a peak. Although there have been issues with the battery, it is now functioning as designed.

Mr. Ryan asked about the benefit(s) of the battery. Mr. Morahan explained that HMLP has netted \$2,500 on the battery. This is less than expected because they missed the transmission peak(s). They will have a better idea of the benefit from the battery this year. Mr. Ryan noted that the battery should save HMLP about \$200,000 per year.

Additional Transmission Line and New Substation. HMLP's recently conducted a presentation on the project before the Select Board. HMLP will be presenting to the Advisory Committee on March 1. The Select Board seemed supportive of the project and the use of the land at the transfer station. Mr. Morahan anticipates that the Town will enter the MOU for the land.

Ms. Burns congratulated the HMLP team for a job-well-done. She noted that HMLP's presentation to the Board was excellent.

Landfill. No updates.

EV Chargers. HMLP received grants for level II chargers for 3 locations: Station Street, the Country Club and Carlson Field. HMLP also received grants for level 2 chargers for 2 locations: Station Street and Lynch Field. HMLP is working with the Town with regard to the level 2 charger locations. Zoning

approvals are needed for the County Club and Carlson Field due to the loss of a parking spot. The matter will go before the Planning Board.

Ms. Burns noted that she received an email from the Chief of Police who is interested in pursuing EVs for the force. Their capital plan allows for the purchase of three EVs for next year. If appropriate, they would like to move forward with the purchase. However, the police department will be located at Town Hall until the new public safety facility is built, and there are no charging stations at Town Hall. Ms. Burns noted that there may be a grant opportunity to pursue the EV chargers for employers. However, they need to figure out a location for the chargers at Town Hall. Ms. Burns suggested putting Brianna in touch with the Police Chief to discuss the matter. Mr. Morahan noted that HMLP previously approached the Town about putting EV chargers at Town Hall and the Town declined this due to parking constraints. This was discussed. Ms. Burns suggested that the back of the building might be a feasible location for chargers. Mr. Morahan stated that they would work with the Police Chief and Tom Mayo to find a spot.

Choice Connect. The system is up and running. There are still some locations that are not ideal for cell phone connection. This is being worked on.

Municipal Solar. Ms. Burns noted that this is being worked on.

HMLP Website. The website is up and running. Ms. Burns noted that she has some suggestions/ideas/questions for the website. Mr. Morahan stated that he would ask Brianna to reach out to her about that.

HMLP Solar. HMLP received responses from two companies to the RFP. There will be a process to qualify the vendors.

Mr. Morahan also noted that the financials were not yet available and were being worked on.

Other New Business; Other Business

None.

Executive Session: Local 369 Contract Negotiations

Mr. Ryan asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

Motion: Ms. Burns moved (i) that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss Local 369 contract negotiations, specifically strategy with respect to collective bargaining and/or litigation so as not to have a detrimental effect, and (ii) that the Board not return to public session after Executive Session. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion: Mr. Ryan moved to (i) end executive session after discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining which is ongoing. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor. The motion was unanimously approved.

List of Documents Provided to Board Members for the Meeting

- Meeting Agenda
- Draft minutes for Board meeting on 1/25/2022

- Email from Ken Stambler, ENE, to Thomas Morahan, HMLP, re An Alternative to ME Class II, with attached ENE presentation entitled “Clean Energy Standard – Expansion, An Alternative to Maine Class II” and Firstlight presentation entitled “Northfield Mountain and Alternative Energy Credits, Overview for ENE, January 20, 2022.”
- Draft HMLP Report for Town Meeting
- Memo from Heather R. Santaniello, MMWEC Administrative Services Coordinator, to NYPA Project Recipients, dated February 9, 2022, re NYPA Recipient’s Designated Voting Representative

Documents Shared During Meeting

- ENE presentation entitled “Clean Energy Standard – Expansion, An Alternative to Maine Class II”