

TAUNTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

MINUTES OF MEETING

TIME: Tuesday, February 1, 2022

4:00 PM – 5:13 PM

PLACE: Office of the Commission

PRESENT: Chairman Blackwell, Commissioner Corr, Commissioner Hebert, Manager Goulart, Ms. Holmes, Attorney Pollart (KP Law), Mr. Foley, Ms. Davine, Mr. October, Ms. Silveira, Ms. Britland, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Melanson, Mr. Irving, Mr. Bell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Worthington, Ms. Ready, Mr. Bell, Mr. Boucher

Chairman Blackwell called the meeting to order.

Chairman Blackwell stated I would like to introduce our new Commissioner Mr. Timothy J. Hebert. He was sworn in on January 31, 2022.

Both Commissioner Blackwell and Commissioner Corr welcomed Mr. Hebert.

Chairman Blackwell called for a roll call.

Present

Commissioner Hebert
Commissioner Corr
Chairman Blackwell

Absent

MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve. Unanimous.

REGULAR WARRANT OF JANUARY 13, 2021

REGULAR WARRANT OF JANUARY 20, 2021

REGULAR WARRANT OF JANUARY 27, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve. Unanimous.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS:

Interoffice Communication from Bill Strojny to Ken Goulart dated January 14, 2022: Subject: Request to Seek Quotes for Meter Reading Software and Handheld Meter Devices

Manager Goulart read the following memo into the record:

Our current meter reading software and handheld meter devices are no longer supported by the provider as of December 31, 2021. The software is over twenty years old and handhelds are nine years old. Although currently running smoothly, an issue would pose a problem as we have no service or support.

With that in mind, I am asking permission to seek quotes for the purchase of six handheld meter reading devices and software. We estimate the cost to be in the vicinity of \$50,000. Thank you.

22-013

22-014

Motion by Commissioner Corr seconded by Commissioner Hebert to authorize the request to seek quotes for meter reading software and handheld meter devices for a cost estimate of approximately \$50,000. Unanimous. 22-015

AWARD OF SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS:

Interoffice Communication from Tom Worthington to Brett Baker dated January 24, 2022: Subject: Request for Approval to Procure ESRI Software

Manager Goulart read the following memo into the record:

MIS is requesting approval for procurement of an ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) GIS (Geographic Information System Mapping) software solution. This software package is needed to support three major systems for TMLP. First, T&D is finishing its major project with MPower Innovations, collecting GIS information of all TMLP assets in the field. Secondly, ISG has a major project with Magellan Advisors to design a territory-wide fiber build-out. Lastly, as part of the Cogsdale Major Project, MIS will be implementing a DataVoice Outage management solution. Therefore, MPower, Magellan and DataVoice will all need the ESRI solution as a foundation for their software packages.

Description	Qty.	Unit Price	Total
Small Utility Term Enterprise License Agreement	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Administration Workflows at ESRI Training	2	\$2,460.00	\$4,920.00
Configuring a Base Deployment at ESRI Training	2	\$1,640.00	\$3,280.00
Professional Services - 20 hour block	1	\$6,700.00	\$6,700.00
		Total	\$39,900.00

Although ESRI is a registered reseller on the Massachusetts state bid list, not all line items in the table above are available through the state bid list. MIS is requesting to purchase directly from ESRI of Redlands, CA.

Please approve the procurement of the ESRI software agreement, training and professional services directly from ESRI of Redlands, CA for a total of \$39,900.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve the request for procurement of the ESRI software agreement, training and professional services directly from ESRI of Redlands, CA for a total price of \$39,900. Unanimous. 22-016

COMMUNICATIONS:

Major Project Request – South Walker Street (Taunton) Summer Street (North Dighton) Re-Conducting

Manager Goulart read the following Major Project Request into the record:

Project Title: South Walker Street (Taunton) Summer Street (North Dighton) Re-Conducting

Project Description: Re-conductor South Walker Street and Summer Street from Winthrop Street (Taunton) to Spring Street (North Dighton) replacing mainly bare open wire with 477 kcmil spacer cable. Project will include removing all old wire and cross arms and installing 477 kcmil spacer cable with

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022

bracket hardware on new poles set by Verizon and converting the voltage from 4kV to 13.8kV. Existing 4kV line is 72 sections, roughly 1.5 miles long and would require 8,000 circuit feet of cable with new spacer cable hardware and insulators.

Project Justification: This area is served only by Station 8 and Station 12 and is separated from the majority of the 4 kV system. All of this customer load cannot be served by a single station if there were to be a failure at one of the two substations. This area is also overloaded in the summer time and subject to voltage issues. Converting the area to the 13.8kV system will increase reliability, quality of service and reduce the feeder losses by roughly 100kW. Strategic Planning Committee has approved this project.

Alternates Considered: None considered at this time.

Budget Estimate: Project Start Year: 2022

Total Amount Requested: \$750,000

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve the Major Project Request for the South Walker Street (Taunton) Summer Street (North Dighton) Re-Conducting for a budget estimate of \$750,000. Unanimous. 22-017

Major Project Request – Substation #18 Upgrade

Manager Goulart read the Major Project Request into the record:

Project Title: Substation #18 Upgrade

Project Description: To replace the original T#1 transformer at the substation with 36/48/60MVA transformer and upgrade all mechanical relaying with electronic type.

Project Justification: The substation was constructed in 1988 and serves as a backbone supply to Myles Standish Industrial Park and surrounding parts of our service territory. The existing transformer 25/33/42MCA is at full capacity when allowed to feed Station #18 by itself, during emergency conditions, exposing 115KV Line "ET", putting reliability at risk, as well as the distribution system. The relaying panels and mimic board inside the substation are electro-mechanical vintage and need to be upgraded to electronic type to extend the life of the substation. Strategic Planning Committee has approve this project.

Alternates Considered: Leaving existing transformer is a reliability risk going forward especially if load growth continues around the North Taunton area, especially in the Industrial Park. No alternatives considered.

Budget Estimate: Project Start Year: 2022

Total Amount Requested: \$1,600,000

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve the major Project Request for Substation #18 upgrade for a budget estimate of \$1,600,000. Unanimous. 22-018

Interoffice Communication from Sonja Britland to Ken Goulart dated January 26, 2022: Subject: TMLP's 125th Public Power Week Open House Celebration

Manager Goulart read the following memo into the record:

The purpose of this memo is to request approval from the TMLP Commission to host a 125th TMLP Anniversary celebration in conjunction with our Public Power Week open house. Due to security and NERC concerns it is not possible to host the event at the Cleary Generating Station. It is therefore proposed to hold the event at 55 Weir Street, like in the pre-pandemic years, to celebrate our 125th year of business and Public Power Week which is the first full week in October. Due to the combined event and consistent with our 100th Anniversary celebration we are proposing the below budget which is reflective of additional costs to recognize and celebrate the milestone.

The proposed date would be Saturday, October 1, 2022 with a rain date of Sunday, October 2, 2022. In addition to the educational and interactive displays we typically offer at our open house, we would also like to recognize and celebrate with our customers the achievement and milestone of turning 125.

As an integral part of the local community, TMLP has continued to offer reliable, competitively priced services in an environmentally sensitive and customer centric manner. Our history in the community is one of maintaining a successful business model while keeping our customers best interest in the forefront. As such, we are planning to commission a historical commemorative book about TMLP's 125 years. Additionally, there will be displays, 125th logo imprinted giveaways and other information and education items to celebrate.

We would also anticipate serving hotdogs, popcorn, snacks, birthday cake, coffee, soda and water. The expected materials budget cost for this event is \$74,000, not including internal labor costs.

For your consideration.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve TMLP's 125th Public Power Week Open House Celebration for an estimated budget of \$74,000 not including internal labor costs. Unanimous. 22-019

Letter from the Taunton Retirement Board to Kenneth Goulart dated January 14, 2022: Subject: Cancellation of William Strojny's Retirement effective April 9, 2022

Manager Goulart read the following letter into the record:

Please be advised of the CANCELLATION of William Strojny's retirement for superannuation that was scheduled for April 9, 2022.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Respectfully yours,

Karen Medeiros, Assistant Executive Director

Motion by Commissioner Hebert, seconded by Commissioner Corr to accept letter of cancellation of William Strojny's retirement effective April 9, 2022 and place on file. Unanimous. 22-020

Letter from the Taunton Retirement Board to Kenneth Goulart and the Commission dated January 20, 2022: Subject: Retirement of Craig Foley effective March 19, 2022

Manager Goulart read the following letter into the record:

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Please be advised of the retirement for Superannuation of Craig Foley an employee of the Taunton Municipal Light Plant on March 19, 2022 under the provisions set forth in Section #5 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

Please pay regular compensation and accumulated benefits up to the day before retirement.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Respectfully yours,

Karen Medeiros, Assistant Executive Director

Manager Goulart stated that Craig is a 33 year employee of the TMLP.

The Commissioner wished Craig all the best and health and happiness in his retirement.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to receive the letter of retirement for Craig Foley and place on file. Unanimous.

22-021

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE:

Manager Goulart stated that we received a letter from the Taunton DPW requesting the opportunity to discuss gray water discharge at the Cleary-Flood Station property, and their intent to work that out with us. This will have an impact on the timeline of the Taunton Pathway Committee concerning the Taunton River Trail. I will make sure to put this letter on the agenda for the next Commission meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Blackwell announced that the next Commission meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 4:00 PM.

Chairman Blackwell stated "The next items on the agenda are executive session topics, one of which involves collective bargaining contract negotiations involving the TMLP unions. I note that Commissioner Corr and I have immediate family members employed by the TMLP who are members of two of those unions and that have a financial interest in the contract negotiations. Commission Corr, for the record, could you please state the facts that has created your conflict?"

Commissioner Corr stated "Thank you Mr. Blackwell. My wife, Kristine Sullivan-Corr, is employed by the TMLP as a Senior Clerk in the Accounting Group and is a member of the Local 462C union. My son, Mitchell Corr, is employed by the TMLP as a Resource Analyst in the Energy Supply & Planning Department and is a member of the Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant Professional Employees Association. My wife and my son are immediate family members who have a financial interest in the collective bargaining contract negotiations."

Commissioner Blackwell stated "My son, Mark E. Blackwell, Jr., was hired by the TMLP on July 3, 1989, and continues to be employed by the TMLP. My son is an Electrical Plant Supervisor in the Power Production Department and is a member of the Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant Professional Employees Association. My son is an immediate family member who has a financial interest in the collective bargaining contract negotiations."

Chairman Blackwell stated "For the record, (1) the Board of Commissioners does not have a sufficient number of members necessary to take a valid vote as a result of disqualification of members due to conflicts of interest concerning collective bargaining contract negotiations, (2) the Board of Commissioners has a legal obligation to negotiate and vote on collective bargaining contracts and no other board or authority may negotiate and vote on collective bargaining contracts for the Board of

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Commissioners; and (3) as a last resort, and based on advice from TMLP counsel, the rule of necessity is being invoked so that Commissioner Corr and I, who were disqualified, can participate in collective bargaining contract negotiations with the TMLP unions."

Chairman Blackwell stated that the next order of business is Executive Session for Competitive Advantage and Contract Negotiations.

Manager Goulart stated that we will not be returning to Public Session and will be adjourning in Executive Session.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to go into Executive Session for Competitive Advantage and Contract Negotiations. (4:23 PM)

22-022

The Commission was recorded in a roll call vote to go into executive session as follows:

In Favor

Absent

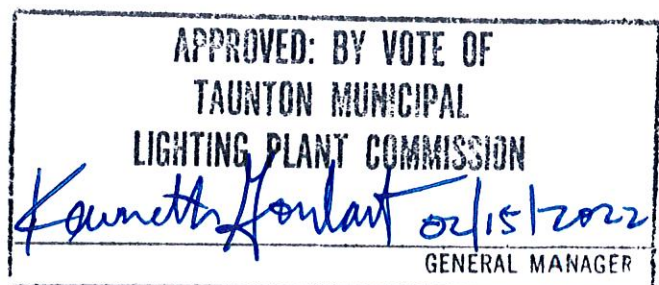
Commissioner Hebert
Commissioner Corr
Chairman Blackwell

Executive Session discussion.



SECRETARY

dmt



EXECUTIVE SESSION

Competitive Advantage

Manager Goulart and the Commission discussed numerous topics on this subject.

Contract Negotiations

Manager Goulart and the Commission discussed numerous topics on this subject.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to adjourn. Unanimous. (5:13 PM)

22-023