

TAUNTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

MINUTES OF MEETING

TIME: Monday, April 24, 2023 4:00 PM – 5:50 PM

PLACE: Office of the Commission

PRESENT: Chairman Hebert, Commissioner Corr, Commission Thomas, Manager Holmes, Mr. Pollart (KP Law), Mr. Melanson, Mr. Worthington, Ms. Britland, Mr. Tremont, Mr. Frank, Mr. Bell, Mr. October, Mr. Grilo, Ms. Ready, Mr. Medeiros, Ms. Silveira, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Botelho

Chairman Hebert called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hebert called for a roll call.

Present

Absent

Commissioner Thomas
Commissioner Corr
Chairman Hebert

Chairman Hebert requested a Moment of Silence for Edward Goldrick, a retiree of the TMLP who passed away. —

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Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Hebert to approve. Commissioner Thomas abstained. Motion carried.

23-049

- REGULAR WARRANT OF MARCH 23, 2023**
- REGULAR WARRANT OF MARCH 30, 2023**
- REGULAR WARRANT OF APRIL 6, 2023**
- REGULAR WARRANT OF APRIL 13, 2023**
- REGULAR WARRANT OF APRIL 20, 2023**

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

23-050

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS:

Request to Advertise for Armored Car Services

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

It is time to solicit new proposals for Armored Car Services. Customer Care creates a cash deposit daily of approximately \$4,000 - \$12,000 per day. Our current contract with Brinks is up and we need to solicit for an armored car provider.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to authorize the request to advertise for Armored Car Services for the Customer Care Department. Unanimous.

23-051

Request to Advertise for Envelopes

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

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In 2022 we went out for bid for envelopes (both #9 return & #10 window). At that time, our bidder could only bid on one year due to market volatility.

With that in mind, I am asking permission to seek quotes for the purchase of envelopes for a three year period. This will include both Electric and Internet customers.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to authorize the request to seek quotes for the purchase of both #9 return and #10 windows envelopes for a three year period. Unanimous.

23-052

AWARD OF SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS

Rental Bucket Truck Purchase

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

T&D is requesting to buy out the current rental agreement on a 2018 Altec T40 personnel bucket truck. TMLP has been renting this bucket truck since 2021, due to supply chain issues spanning over the past 5 years.

Outright purchase price of the truck would be \$92,890 which includes a credit of \$25,610. Today's bucket truck prices exceed \$250,000 and this would create a savings of over \$125,000 for a highly versatile bucket truck containing an articulating and telescopic boom. Truck is perfect for tight spaces, trouble calls, service work, traffic signal maintenance and standby coverage. Purchase of this truck would also aid in releasing another bucket truck for additional line construction as needed.

Current strategically vetted bucket trucks are still on order and should be arriving within 9 months. Purchasing of this rental bucket truck would serve the needs of the T&D Department well into the future and would replace one of the over aging bucket trucks.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to authorize the request to buy out the current rental agreement for a 2018 Altec T40 personnel bucket truck for \$92,890.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Department. Unanimous.

23-053

Award of Bid for 9,000' 4/0 Aluminum 15KV Underground Insulated Cable

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

<u>Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation</u>					
<u>9,000' 4/0 Aluminum 15KV Underground Insulated Cable</u>					
IFB 23-06					April 20, 2023
<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Unit Price Per Foot</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	12 Weeks	\$4.420	\$39,780.00	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing - Provides a 40 Year Warranty - 220 Mil Cable
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	54 Weeks	\$4.260	\$38,340.00	CME - Manufacturing Issues - Escalation
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	46 Weeks	\$4.363	\$39,267.00	LS Cable - Manufacturing Issues - Escalation
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	40 Weeks	\$6.990	\$62,910.00	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing - Provides a 40 Year Warranty - 175 Mil Cable

TMLP Engineering Department recommends awarding bid to Arthur J. Hurley meeting specs at a firm price of \$39,780 and lead times.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to award the bid for 9,000' 4/0 Aluminum 15KV Underground Insulated Cable to Arthur J. Hurley for a firm price of \$39,780.00 and lead times per the recommendation of the T&D Department. Unanimous.

23-054

COMMUNICATIONS:

Interoffice Communication from Tom Worthington & Ken Bell to Kim Holmes dated April 12, 2023:
Subject: IPV4 Subnet Purchase

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

ISG requires a new block of 1024 IPV4 addresses due to our continuing expansion of FTTH customers. Currently, we are at 84% capacity on our existing subnet. As a result, ISG will need to purchase additional IP addresses to support the future growth of residential customers. Because IPV4 addresses have been depleted worldwide, the purchase can only be made through a third-party IPV4 broker. We have identified three brokers and have chosen Brander Group based on ease of transaction, company responsiveness and delivery assurances of a clean subnet. The vetting committee has approved this expenditure for 2023.

Below is a short comparison of IPV4 brokers.

	Brander Group	IPV4 Market Group	IPV4 Global
Approx. Cost / IP	\$41 - \$48 / IP	@ \$43 - \$49 / IP	No response
Provide Clean IP's	Yes	Yes	N/A
Blacklist Report	Yes	No	N/A
Payment Options	PO / Brander Escrow / Escrow.com	PO / Wire Transfer / Escrow	Escrow.com

ISG recommends that the TMLP Commission approve the purchase of 1024 IP addresses through Brander Group for an estimated priced per IP of \$41 - \$48 per IP Address totaling \$41,948 - \$49,152.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to approve the request to purchase 1024 IP addresses through Brander Group for an estimated price per IP of \$41 - \$48 per IP address totaling \$41,948 - \$49,152 per the recommendation of the ISG Department. Unanimous.

23-055

Interoffice Communication from Mark Medeiros & Peter Botelho to Kimberly Holmes dated April 18, 2023: Subject: Unit #9 Stack Repair Change Order to ICC Commonwealth

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

The IFB 22-18 Unit 9 Stack Repair effort was awarded to ICC Commonwealth Chimney by the TMLP Commission in December 2022 for a contract bid price of \$133,740.

The IFB 22-18 Unit 9 Stack Repair scope of work was based on the 2021 Unit 9 Stack Inspection performed. The scope of work included an estimated 75-100 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair. ICC Commonwealth Chimney, however, has determined approximately 500 square feet of Gunitite stack lining needs repair due to additional deterioration that has occurred to the Unit 9 stack since the 2021 stack inspection. It is noted that even with the additional 500 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair

needed, the total area of repair is still a very small portion of the overall Unit 9 Stack interior area (i.e. approximately 5%).

ICC Commonwealth Chimney labor and materials needed to do the additional 500 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair is a not-to-exceed price of \$22,054.72. This additional cost is within the authorized Major Project budget request of \$250,000.

Action Requested:

Please authorize ICC Commonwealth Chimney to perform the additional 500 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair for a not-to-exceed price of \$22,054.72.

Commissioner Thomas questioned if the original contract for \$133,740 was for 75-100 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair and this change order is for 500 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair for \$22,054.72 the original cost seems high.

Commission invited Mr. Mark Medeiros to the table.

Mr. Medeiros stated that the original contract included additional work besides the Gunitite stack lining repair. It also included the cleaning and repainting of various components of the stack.

Commissioner Hebert asked if more change orders are expected.

Mr. Medeiros responded that ICC Commonwealth has given us an overview and no other change orders are required.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to approve Change Order #1 to ICC Commonwealth to do an additional 500 square feet of Gunitite stack lining repair on the Unit 9 Stack for a not-to-exceed price of \$22,054.72. Unanimous.

23-056

Interoffice Communication from Dana Sullivan to Kimberly Holmes dated March 21, 2023:

Subject: Justification for County Street 115KV to 13.8KV Substation #22:

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

TMLP Commission approved double ended Substation #22 back in 2015 on County Street and got all ISO applications and approvals to proceed with land purchase and construction of new substation for \$6,000,000. This substation was and is still needed to increase customer reliability, accommodate future load growth, mandated electrification, elimination of high circuit fault currents from Cleary with 9A/G9 generator for easier relay coordination and safer line work. It took 7 years to sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement for land for construction of the new substation.

A System Impact Study was done in conjunction with National Grid, who are currently working on a feasibility study to complete the design work. PLM, our power consultant, is working on design of structures, relay panels and wiring of the new substation. Infrastructure and duct bank has already been installed prior to County Street road reconstruction in an effort to save money.

Current load projections are down 5% due to distributed generation installations but with government mandated electrification, system additions and large commercial customer upgrades and demands, potential load growth may exceed 20% in the next 10 years. This new substation would assist other substations diversifying potential load off of other substation transformers, creating additional growth throughout the service territory, while strengthening the existing distribution system.

Wetland delineation has been completed and the Conservation Permit will need to be filed to begin construction. Due to supply chain issues, transformer lead times of 3 years, TMLP has estimated the project at \$12,000,000 which will be bonded with the City of Taunton, subject to Commission approval.

Commission invited Mr. Dana Sullivan to the table.

Commissioner Hebert asked since there is a 3 year lead time on the transformers is this \$12 million likely to float.

Mr. Sullivan responded no. Hopefully the budget will stay within the prices PLM quoted.

Commissioner Hebert stated that you will do what you can on the project and not wait on the transformers.

Mr. Sullivan responded yes.

Major Project Request – New 115KV to 13.8KV Substation #22

Project Title: New 115KV to 13.8 Substation

Project Description: Replace existing 115KV to 13.8 double ended substation to Cleary off the generation buss to new location located on County Street. System study has been completed determining that this is the best location electrically and financially.

Project Justification: The existing 13.8KV distribution switchgear off the Cleary 9A/G9 generator buss was installed in the late 1970's. This switchgear is 50 years old and should be replaced. Having distribution system off this buss while generators are running creates over 20,000A of fault current. This condition makes relay and breaker coordination difficult to reliably feed customers and exceeds incident energy levels (cal/cm²) for safe working level on the distribution feeders. This has been vetted by the Strategic Planning Committee and was approved back in 2015. Time, supply chains and ever rising material costs has changed the budgetary numbers for the project. Land purchase took 7 years for approval and completion through National Grid. Subject to TMLP commission approval, this project will be bonded with the City of Taunton.

Alternates Considered: None at this time.

Budget Estimate: \$12,000,000

Project Start Year: 2023

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to approve the Major Project Request for the new 115KV to 13.8 Substation #22 for a Budget Estimate of \$12,000,000. Unanimous.

23-057

Major Project Request – Revision #1 to Major Project #1138 – New 115KV Switching Station at Cleary

Manager Holmes read the following Major Project Request Form into the record:

Project Title: New 115KV Switching Station at Cleary (Rev. 1) Project #1138

Project Description: (Reference MPR Form 1138) REV #1 requests authorization for more funding to complete additional work at New Cleary for 115KV Switching Station. Original Budget of \$10,000,000

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(including 2 change orders for \$66,081) an additional \$250,000 is requested in order to replace G9 Relaying scheme in late 2024.

Project Justification: The existing Ring Buss and all relaying was installed in the early 1970's and the existing circuit breakers, relays and disconnects are nearing the end of their useful life. The original project budget was under budget before design work, relay costing and escalation was known, and was to be included in original budget of \$10,000,000. Design work and relays have been bid, all that remains is mainly labor and small amount of material. Month long shutdown is needed in order to complete relaying. Numerous old electro mechanical relays will be replaced with modern microprocessor type, providing more reliable information.

The current ring buss is 67% PFT (Pool Transmission Facilities), the new design may qualify for 75% PFT. Investment for PFT expenditures is reimbursable at approximately 12%, while the interest rate bond will be approximately 4%.

Alternates Considered: Leave existing outdated relaying.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	Project Start Year:	2017
	Amount of this Request:	\$250,000
	Total Approved to Date:	\$10,000,000
	Total Amount Requested:	\$10,250,000
	Amount Spent to Date:	\$10,000,000

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to approve Change Order #1 to Major Project Request #1138 for \$250,000 and a new Total Budget Estimate of \$10,250,000. Unanimous.

23-058

Interoffice Communication from Kimberly Holmes to the Commission dated April 20, 2023:
Subject: Termination of Power Purchase Agreement with Palmer Renewable Energy

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

In February 2020 the TMLP entered into a Purchased Power Agreement (PPA) with Palmer Renewable Energy for power to be generated by their proposed biomass plant. The Commercial Operation Deadline in TMLP's PPA with Palmer Renewable Energy was March 31, 2023. Palmer Renewable has not met that deadline; as a result, TMLP has exercised its right to terminate the contract effective April 1, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to receive and place on file. Unanimous.

23-059

Letter from the Taunton Retirement Board to Kimberly Holmes dated March 23, 2023: Subject: Retirement of James Irving effective April 15, 2023

Manager Holmes read the following letter into the record:

Please be advised of the retirement for Superannuation of James Irving an employee of the Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant on April 15, 2023 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 Holmes stated that Mr. Irving is a 34 year employee of the TMLP.

The Commissioner wished Jim the best in his retirement.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to received letter of retirement and place on file. Unanimous.

23-060

Letter from Edward F. Leddy Preschool to TMLP Commission dated March 20, 2023: Letter of Appreciation

Manager Holmes read the following letter into the record:

Dear TMLP Commission,

On behalf of the staff and students here at the Edward F. Leddy Preschool I would like to thank you for your generous donation of funds for the purchase of 15 Go Talk Communication Devices for our students. These devices will assist our non-verbal students in their ability to communicate their wants, needs and ideas. We have seen great progress with our students who have been using them, and the additional devices will allow us to service even more!

TMLP has been a wonderful community business partner for our school, whether it be to provide us with tools we need to better assist children, or to provide volunteers for Read Across America, Safety Day and Special Olympics. Sonja Britland, your TMLP representative to our School Council, has been a true asset to our school, and a pleasure to work with. We value our relationship with TMLP!

Sincerely,

Lisa Pereira, Principal, Edward F. Leddy Preschool

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to received letter of appreciation from Leddy Preschool and place on file. Unanimous.

23-061

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Hebert announced that the next Commission meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 4:00 PM.

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

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to go into Executive Session for Competitive Advantage and Contract Negotiations. (4:25 PM)

23-062

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

In Favor

Commissioner Thomas
Commissioner Corr
Chairman Hebert

Absent


Manager Holmes stated that no votes are anticipated and we will be adjourning in Executive Session.

Executive Session discussion.



SECRETARY

dmt

APPROVED: BY VOTE OF
TAUNTON MUNICIPAL
LIGHTING PLANT COMMISSION
 5/23/23
GENERAL MANAGER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Competitive Advantage

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

Contract Negotiations

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

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn. Unanimous. (5:50 PM)

23-063