

**TAUNTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**TIME:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:00 PM – 5:55 PM

**PLACE:** Office of the Commission

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

Chairman Hebert called the meeting to order.

Chairman Hebert requested a Moment of Silence for Frank Mastera, a retiree of the TMLP who passed away.

Chairman Hebert called for a roll call.

**Present**

Commissioner Thomas  
Commissioner Corr  
Chairman Hebert

**Absent**

**MINUTES OF APRIL 24, 2023**

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

**REGULAR WARRANT OF APRIL 27, 2023**

**REGULAR WARRANT OF MAY 4, 2023**

**REGULAR WARRANT OF MAY 11, 2023**

**REGULAR WARRANT OF MAY 18, 2023**

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

**AWARD OF SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS**

**Award of Bid for Electric Line Clearance for East Taunton and Lakeville**

Manager Holmes read the bid evaluation into the record:

*23-064*

*23-065*

**MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2023**

**Transmission and Distribution Evaluation**

***Electric Line Clearance***

***East Taunton and Lakeville***

May 9th 2023

IFB 23-05

<b>BIDDER</b>	<b><u>MEETS SPECS.</u></b>	<b>Estimated Cost Based on 10,000 Hours</b>	<b><u>WORK RATES</u></b>		
			<b><i>Regular Rate</i></b>		<b><i>OT Rate</i></b>
<b>North-Eastern Tree Service Cranston RI 02920</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>\$1,000,000.00</b>			
			Tree Remover	\$58.00	\$87.00
			Tree Trimmer	\$68.00	\$102.00
			Climber	\$68.00	\$102.00
			Groundman	\$58.00	\$87.00
			Lift 50-60'	\$45.00	\$45.00
			Lift 75'	\$50.00	\$50.00
			12" Chipper	\$10.00	\$10.00
			18' Chipper	\$15.00	\$15.00
			Excavator w/ Brush Mower	\$80.00	\$80.00
			Track Loader w/ Brush Mower	\$60.00	\$50.00
			Log Loader	\$60.00	\$60.00
			30 Ton Crane	\$150.00	\$200.00
			60 Tone Crane	\$200.00	\$275.00
			Chip Truck (10CY)	\$30.00	\$30.00
			Foreman	\$72.00	\$108.00
			Truck Driver	\$75.00	\$112.50
			Equipment Operator	\$100.00	\$150.00
<b>Barnes Tree Service Rochester, MA 02770</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>\$995,000.00</b>			
				<b><i>Regular Rate</i></b>	<b><i>OT Rate</i></b>
			Tree Remover	\$76.00	\$ 114.00
			Tree Trimmer	\$76.00	\$ 114.00
			Groundman	\$76.00	\$ 114.00
			Lift 50-75'	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
			Chipper	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00
			Tractor w/ Brush Hog	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
			Skidder	\$ 43.00	\$ 43.00
			Dump Truck/Chip Truck	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00
			Log Loader	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
			Stump Grinder	\$ 38.00	\$ 38.00
			4x4 Truck	\$ 14.50	\$ 14.50
			Foreman	\$76.00	\$ 114.00
			Truck Driver	\$81.00	\$ 121.50
			Equipment Operator	\$76.00	\$ 114.00
<b>Pathfinder Tree Service Walpole MA 02081</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>\$2,000,000.00</b>			
				<b><i>Regular Rate</i></b>	<b><i>OT Rate</i></b>
			Tree Remover	\$100.00	\$200.00
			Tree Trimmer	\$100.00	\$200.00
			Groundman	\$100.00	\$200.00
			Lift 75'	\$70.00	\$140.00
			20" Chipper	\$100.00	\$100.00
			18' Chipper	\$50.00	\$75.00
			Skid Steer	\$75.00	\$100.00
			4WD Utility Truck	\$75.00	\$100.00
			Log Loader	\$100.00	\$100.00
			50 Ton Crane	\$200.00	\$290.00
			70 Tone Crane	\$250.00	\$350.00
			Chip Truck (20CY)	\$75.00	\$100.00
			Foreman	\$100.00	\$200.00
			Truck Driver	\$100.00	\$200.00
			Equipment Operator	\$100.00	\$200.00

*The Engineering Dept recommends award of this bid to North-Eastern Tree service for both the extra work rates and the base bid of \$1,000,000.00 based on day rate of estimated 10,000 hours, lower extra work rates and safety certification*

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to award the bid for Electric Line Clearance for East Taunton and Lakeville to North-Eastern Tree Service for an estimate base bid of \$1,000,000 based on 10,000 hours and the extra work rates per the recommendation of the T&D Department. Unanimous.

23-066

**Award of Bid for Envelopes - Customer Care**

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

*Requests for bids went out to five companies for their pricing on providing window #10 and return #9 envelopes for TMLP billing. Only one company, Bay State Envelope, the current contract holder, returned pricing to TMLP for consideration. Also, Bay State Envelope held their pricing from the 2022 bid amount to the current IFB 23-07.*

*It is recommended that TMLP award bid IFB 23-07 to Bay State Envelope, a one year contract in the amount of \$27,649.20 with an option to extend up to two years for additional service upon mutual agreement.*

Motion by Commissioner Thomas seconded by Commissioner Corr to award the bid for Window #10 and Return #9 envelopes to Bay State Envelope for a one year contract in the amount of \$27,649.20 with an option to extend up to two years for additional service per the recommendation of the Customer Care Department. Unanimous.

23-067

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Public Power Lineman's Rodeo**

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

*On May 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 NEPPA held its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Public Power Lineman Rodeo.*

*Sixteen municipals participated in the rodeo. Each team contained 3 team members.*

*The competition took place on Tuesday in Plymouth New Hampshire at New Hampshire Electrical Co-Op. The competitive events consisted of the following:*

- *Speed Climb*
- *Pole Top Rescue*
- *Line Isolation*
- *Dead-end Framing*
- *3 Phase Insulator Change Out*
- *Climbing Obstacle Course*

*The teams were judged based on their speed, safety and technique.*

*The TMLP placed as shown below:*

- *Pole Top Rescue – Team 1 placed 3<sup>rd</sup>*

*The following employees attended the competition and were broken out into the following 2 teams:*

1. *Dennis Perkins*
2. *Jay DaCunha*
3. *Rob Clancy*

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4. *Tim Rose*
5. *Mike Morais*
6. *Marc Herbert*

*The program provides for the following benefits: safety training, competition, moral building, team work and enhanced job skills and improved inter-company relationships.*

*The employees participating indicated that program was very beneficial.*

*It is anticipated that this program will be offered in the future and we recommend that we support this program going forward.*

Manager Holmes read the following from Local 1729 into the record:

*Dear Dana, Kim and TMLP Commission:*

*On behalf of the TMLP Line Department and Local 1729 we would like to thank you for your support. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this year's rodeo. An event that allowed us to demonstrate our ability as linemen. NEPPA events, especially the rodeo, provide us with not just an opportunity to compete it gives us a chance to have relationships and camaraderie with other linemen from around New England. They also build departmental and company morale. In addition, we also gain knowledge of new tools and supply items that can promote not only safety but potential cost savings. We look forward to competing in the future with your support.*

*Thank you!*

*Dennis Perkins  
Jason DaCunha  
Mike Morais  
Rob Clancy  
Tim Rose  
Marc Herbert*

Manager Holmes stated that I did attend this and it was a great event. It was really good to see everyone working together as a team.

Commissioner Hebert stated that I just wanted to note that it is really great that we did this and I think it is one of many things more recently where TMLP is trying to get out there in the New England Public Power community and for what it is worth I think it is a really good thing and great to see.

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

*23-068*

**Letter from the Taunton Retirement Board to Kim Holmes and the Commission dated April 20, 2023: Subject: Retirement of Katrina Silveira effective July 10, 2023**

Manager Holmes read the following letter into the record:

*Please be advised of the retirement for Superannuation of Katrina Silveira an employee of the Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant on July 10, 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 Tina is a 39 year employee of the TMLP.

The Commission congratulated Tina and wished her the best in her retirement.

Motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Corr to receive the letter of retirement for Katrina Silveira effective July 10, 2023 and place on file. Unanimous.

23-069

**Letter from the Town of Dighton Fire Department dated May 10, 2023: Subject: Letter of Appreciation**

Manager Holmes read the following letter into the record:

*On behalf of the members of the Dighton Fire Association and the Dighton Fire Department, I would like to "THANK YOU" for participating in our 2023 Touch-A-Truck event to benefit Jameson's Journey to Tackle Cancer.*

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to receive letter from Dighton Fire Department and place on file. Unanimous.

23-070

**ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE:**

Commissioner Corr stated that I get a lot of complaints from the residents at 30 Washington Street. When they try to leave the complex at the red light it takes about 3 – 4 cycles to get the green light. Is that something that could be looked into? Does this need to go through the City for approval.

—

Manager Holmes stated we could have the Engineering Department look into this.

Mr. Sullivan stated that the timing will need to be changed through the City.

Commissioner Corr asked that this be referred to the City.

Manager Holmes stated that we will.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chairman Hebert announced that the next Commission meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, June 21, 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. (4:12 PM)

23-071

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

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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.*

  
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SECRETARY

dmt

APPROVED: BY VOTE OF  
TAUNTON MUNICIPAL  
LIGHTING PLANT COMMISSION  
  
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. (5:55 PM)

*23-072*