

TAUNTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

MINUTES OF MEETING

TIME: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 4:00 PM – 5:07 PM

PLACE: Office of the Commission

PRESENT: Chairman Strojny, Commissioner Corr, Commissioner DeMelo, Manager Holmes, Ms. Karla Doukas (KP Law), Mr. Melanson, Mr. Worthington, Mr. Frank, Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Ready, Ms. Grant, Ms. Britland, Mr. October, Mr. Medeiros, Mr. Thivierge, Mr. Boucher

Chairman Strojny called the meeting to order.

Chairman Strojny called for a roll call.

Present

Absent

Commissioner DeMelo
Commissioner Corr
Chairman Strojny

MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2024

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

24-010

- REGULAR WARRANT OF JANUARY 25, 2024
- REGULAR WARRANT OF FEBRUARY 1, 2024
- REGULAR WARRANT OF FEBRUARY 8, 2024
- REGULAR WARRANT OF FEBRUARY 15, 2024

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

24-011

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS

Interoffice Communication from Dana Sullivan dated February 8, 2024: Subject: Request for Sealed Bids for 10,560 Circuit Feet of Spacer Cable Assembly

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

Request permission to send out invitation for Sealed Bids for 10,560 circuit feet of spacer cable assembly which consists of:

- 12,000 feet of 0.052 Messenger
- 100 Pole Brackets
- 400 Spacers
- 35,000 feet of 1/0 AL Aerial Spacer Type Cable

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to authorize the request from the Transmission and Distribution Department to go out for sealed bids for 10,560 Circuit Feet of Spacer Cable Assembly. Unanimous.

24-012

Interoffice Communication from Dana Sullivan dated February 2, 2024: Subject: Request for Sealed Bids for Transformers

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

Pole Mounted Single Phase Transformers

Transmission and Distribution Department is requesting to send out a request for sealed bids for 50 kVA pole mounted transformers. This size transformer is expected to have shorter lead times and could potentially be available in the next four months. Bid specification will be shortened to hopefully be available at shorter lead times. 2022 was the last time pole mounted transformers were bought and the anticipated arrival is June 2024 and were approximately \$4,200 each. Transformers is to support future electrification.

Pad Mounted Single Phase Transformers

Transmission and Distribution Department is requesting to send out a request for sealed bids for 50 kVA pad mounted transformers for developments. Bid specifications will be shortened to hopefully be available sooner. 2022 was the last time pad mounted transformers were bought and anticipated arrival is June 2024 and were approximately \$6,000 each.

Commissioner DeMelo stated that these are new orders, right?

Manager Holmes responded correct.

Commissioner DeMelo added so we are ordering in advance because it takes so long to get them.

Manager Holmes responded yes.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to authorize the request for sealed bids for Pole Mounted and Pad Mounted Transformers per the request of the T&D Department.
Unanimous.

24-013

Interoffice Communication from Dana Sullivan dated February 6, 2024: Subject: Request for Invitation of Sealed bids – Line Trimming – Berkley

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

Line Clearance Tree Trimming, Town of Berkley

Request permission to send out Request for Proposals (RFP) for Line Clearance Tree Trimming in the Town of Berkley. This trimming will involve all streets and private ways in the City that have overhead construction. The last time Berkley was contracted out for Line Clearance was 2019. This is in line with scheduled tree trimming of every 5 years. Estimated cost is \$1,500,000.00.

Commissioner Corr questioned is there a reason why we have to go out for bid seeing we have a company doing it for Taunton and Raynham already.

Manager Holmes responded when we go out with our RFP we specify the area we want them working in. So when they are done in that area we would go back out for bids. We have broken up our service territory into 5 or 6 sections. Each contract is just for that specific section.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to authorize the request for Invitation of Sealed bids for line trimming in the Town of Berkley for an estimated cost of \$1,500,000.00. Unanimous.

24-014

Interoffice Communication from Dana Sullivan dated February 15, 2024: Subject: Request for Sealed bids for 218W Flood Lights

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

218W Flood Lights

Request to send out sealed bids for 218W flood lights for stock. Price is approximately \$800 each. Lights are needed to replenish long lead times, maintenance activities while lowering system peak.

Commissioner DeMelo asked if these are street lights.

Manager Holmes responded yes.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to authorize the request to go out for sealed bids for 218W Flood Lights. Unanimous.

24-015

AWARD OF SEALED BIDS AND/OR PROPOSALS

Award of Bid for 9,000 Feet 4/0 Copper EPR Underground Cable

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
9,000 Feet 4/0 Copper EPR Underground Cable

IFB 24-01

January 25, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price Per Foot</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$13.750	\$123,750.00	16 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$10.458	\$94,122.00	16 Weeks	Quoting LS Cable - Exception to Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	YES	\$13.998	\$139,980.00	16 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Minimum quantity 10,000'
MVA Power Miami, FL	NO	\$10.610	\$95,490.00	14 Weeks	Quoting Escalation
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$8.293	\$74,637.00	48 Weeks	Quoting CME - Quoting TR-XLPE Insulation

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Arthur J. Hurley for a total purchase price of \$123,750.00; lowest total cost that meets specifications.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to award the bid for 9,000 feet 4/0 Copper EPR Underground Cable to Arthur J. Hurley for a total price of \$123,750.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous.

24-016

Award of Sealed Bid for 9,000 Feet 350 Copper EPR Underground Cable

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024

**Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
9,000 Feet 350 Copper EPR Underground Cable**

IFB 24-01

January 25, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price Per Foot</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$20.470	\$184,230.00	60 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$15.858	\$142,722.00	16 Weeks	Quoting LS Cable - Exception to Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	YES	\$20.824	\$208,240.00	60 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Minimum quantity 10,000'
MVA Power Miami, FL	NO	\$15.490	\$139,410.00	14 Weeks	Quoting Escalation
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$12.549	\$112,941.00	48 Weeks	Quoting CME - Quoting TR-XLPE Insulation

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Arthur J. Hurley for a total purchase price of \$184,230.00; lowest total cost that meets specifications.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to award the bid for 9,000 Feet 350 Copper EPR Underground Cable to Arthur J. Hurley for a total price of \$184,230.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous. 24-017

Award of Sealed Bid for 9,000 Feet 500 Copper EPR Underground Cable

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

**Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
9,000 Feet 500 Copper EPR Underground Cable**

IFB 24-01

January 25, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price Per Foot</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$27.920	\$251,280.00	16 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$21.293	\$191,637.00	16 Weeks	Quoting LS Cable - Exception to Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	YES	\$28.408	\$284,080.00	16 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Minimum quantity 10,000'
MVA Power Miami, FL	NO	\$21.920	\$197,280.00	14 Weeks	Quoting Escalation
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$17.568	\$158,112.00	48 Weeks	Quoting CME - Quoting TR-XLPE Insulation

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Arthur J. Hurley for a total purchase price of \$251,280.00; lowest total cost that meets specifications.

Commissioner DeMelo noted that he appreciated that they have a 40 year warranty on the last 3 quotes.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to award the bid for 9,000 Feet 500 Copper EPR Underground Cable to Arthur J. Hurley for a total price of \$251,280.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous. 24-018

Award of Sealed Bid for (8) 15KV 630 Amp Reclosers with SEL Controls

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024

**Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
(8) 15KV 630 Amp Reclosers with SEL Controls**

IFB 24-02

February 2, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Wesco Manchester, NH	YES	\$34,694.00	\$277,552.00	40 Weeks	Quoting Cooper Recloser SEL Relay
Graybar Boston, MA					No Quote
HasGo Power Equipment Sales LeRoy, NY					No Quote
HiReli, LLC Slaughter Beach, DE					No Quote

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Wesco for a total purchase price of \$277,552.00; lowest total price meeting specifications.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to award the bid for (8) 15KV 630 Amp Reclosers with SEL Controls to Wesco for a total price of \$277,552.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous. 24-019

Award of Sealed Bid for 25,000 Feet 4/0 Aluminum MV-105 EPR Underground Cable

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

**Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
25,000 Feet 4/0 Aluminum MV-105 EPR Underground Cable**

IFB 24-03

January 25, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price Per Foot</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$5.230	\$130,750.00	15 Weeks	Quoting Okonite 220 Mil - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$5.150	\$128,750.00	58-62 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
American Wire Group Miami, FL	YES	\$5.700	\$142,500.00	18 Weeks	Quoting 2 Year Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$3.959	\$98,975.00	16 Weeks	Quoting TR-XLPE MV-90 LS Cable with Escalation - Exception to Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$5.200	\$130,000.00	58-62 Weeks	Quoting Okonite with Escalation
Yale Electric Canton, MA	NO	\$3.880	\$97,000.00	16 Weeks	Quoting TR-XLPE MV-90 Cable
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$3.492	\$87,300.00	48 Weeks	Quoting CME - Quoting TR-XLPE Insulation

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Arthur J. Hurley for a total purchase price of \$130,750.00; lowest total cost and lead time that meets specifications.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to award the bid for 25,000 feet 4/0 Aluminum MV-105 EPR Underground Cable to Arthur J. Hurley for a total price of \$130,750.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous. 24-020

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Award of Sealed Bid for 32,000 Feet 500 Aluminum MV-105 EPR Underground Cable

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
32,000 Feet 500 Aluminum MV-105 EPR Underground Cable

IFB 24-03

January 25, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price Per Foot</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$9.690	\$310,080.00	32 Weeks	Quoting Okonite 220 Mil - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
Arthur J. Hurley Boston, MA	YES	\$9.285	\$297,120.00	58-62 Weeks	Quoting Okonite - Firm Pricing 90 Days - 40 Year Warrantee
American Wire Group Miami, FL	YES	\$11.300	\$361,600.00	18 Weeks	Quoting 2 Year Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$7.945	\$254,240.00	16 Weeks	Quoting TR-XLPE MV-90 LS Cable with Escalation - Exception to Warrantee
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$9.376	\$300,032.00	58-62 Weeks	Quoting Okonite with Escalation
Yale Electric Canton, MA	NO	\$7.770	\$248,640.00	16 Weeks	Quoting TR-XLPE MV-90 Cable
Wesco Hookset, NH	NO	\$6.294	\$201,408.00	48 Weeks	Quoting CME - Quoting TR-XLPE Insulation

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Arthur J. Hurley for a total purchase price of \$310,080.00; lowest total cost and lead time that meets specifications.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to award the bid for 32,000 feet 500 Aluminum MV-105 EPR Underground Cable to Arthur J. Hurley for a total price of \$310,080.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous. 24-021

Award of Bid for 7 Manholes – Myles Standish / John Quincy Adams Ductbank Utility Vaults

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
7 Manholes - Myles Standish / John Quincy Adams Ductbank Utility Vaults

IFB 24-04

February 7, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Freight</u>	<u>5'X7'X10' Vault</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>
Shea Concrete Wilmington, MA	YES	\$0.00	\$3,942.00	\$27,594.00	3 Weeks
Old Castle Precast Avon, CT	YES	\$4,600.00	\$6,697.14	\$46,880.00	3-5 Weeks

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Shea Concrete for a bid price of \$27,594.00. TMLP is requesting to purchase 9 manholes instead of 7 due to future work. Shea has agreed to honor the pricing for a total of \$35,478.00.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to award the bid for (9) manholes to Shea Concrete for a total price of \$35,478.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous. 24-022

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Award of Bid for 30,000 5" DB-60 PVC Conduit

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
30,000 5" DB-60 PVC Conduit

IFB 24-05

February 15, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Wesco Manchester, NH	YES	\$459/100'	\$137,700.00	1-2 Weeks	Firm Pricing
Granite City Quincy, MA	YES	\$459.29/100'	\$137,787.00	3-4 Weeks	Firm Pricing
Ferguson Water Works Canton, MA	YES	\$525/100'	\$157,500.00	4 Weeks	30 Day Pricing

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Wesco for a total purchase price of \$137,700.00 based on lowest cost and deliver time, meeting specifications.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to award the bid for 30,000 5" DB-60 PVC Conduit to Wesco for a total price of \$137,700.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous.

Award of Bid for (1) 15KV 600A Switchgear with Source Transfer 2 Feeder Bays, 1 Primary Metering Bay and 1 Additional Bay

24-023

Manager Holmes read the following bid evaluation into the record:

Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
(1) 15KV 600A Switchgear with Source Transfer
2 Feeder Bays, 1 Primary Metering Bay and 1 Additional Bay

IFB 24-06

February 15, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Wesco Manchester, NH	YES	\$230,993.00	\$230,993.00	74-78 Weeks	No Escalation
Irby Fulton, MA	YES	\$231,233.00	\$231,233.00	63-65 Weeks	Quoting Escalation
Yale Canton, MA	YES	\$235,140.00	\$235,140.00	78 Weeks	No Escalation

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Wesco for a total purchase price of \$230,993.00 based on lowest cost and delivery time, meeting specifications.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to award the bid for (1) 15KV 600A Switchgear with Source Transfer to Wesco for a total price of \$230,993.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous.

24-024

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Award of Bid for (1) 15KV 600A Switchgear with Source Transfer and 6 Feeder Bays

Transmission and Distribution Engineering Bid Evaluation
(1) 15KV 600A Switchgear with Source Transfer and 6 Feeder Bays

IFB 24-07

February 15, 2024

<u>Company</u>	<u>Meets Specs</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Delivery Weeks</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Wesco Manchester, NH	YES	\$235,056.00	\$235,056.00	101-103 Weeks	Firm Pricing
Irby Fulton, MA	YES	\$235,000.00	\$235,000.00	101-103 Weeks	Quoting Escalation
Yale Canton, MA	YES	\$240,065.00	\$240,065.00	103 Weeks	Firm Pricing

The TMLP Engineering Department recommends Wesco for a total purchase price of \$235,056.00 based on lowest cost and delivery time with firm pricing, meeting specifications.

Commissioner Corr questioned that Irby was a little lower but quoting escalation which means it could go up.

Manager Holmes responded right. We won't know the final price until 100 weeks from now so for the \$56 difference we locked in the amount quoted by Wesco.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to award the bid for (1) 15KV 600A Switchgear with Source Transfer and 6 Feeder Bays to Wesco for a total price of \$235,056.00 per the recommendation of the T&D Engineering Department. Unanimous.

24-025

Interoffice Communication from Dana Sullivan dated February 7, 2024: Subject: Approval of Tree Truck #27 Replacement with 2023 Altec LR8-60E70 Bucket Truck

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

We reviewed the present fleet and have developed recommendations for the procurement of a bucket truck to fulfill the needs to efficiently respond to and work on tree trimming, tree removal, ball field lighting, troubleshooting as well as general line construction.

TMLP has been renting this bucket truck from Altec's rental division called Global Rental Company since 1/11/2024 when tree trimming bucket truck #27 was deemed unsafe for the roadway and line construction use. The Altec LT8-60E70 aerial lift is a unique type bucket truck that is equipped with articulating over-center booms. It has the capability to articulate its lower boom and upper boom as well as elevate an additional 10 feet allowing the operator to be able to gain access to "hard-to-reach" areas and heights up to 75 feet. It is also equipped with a forestry chip-box dump body to carry and unload wood chips.

TMLP has been renting this truck for 2 months at the rental rate of \$4,200.00 per month. The rental company will apply a credit of \$2,100.00 towards the purchase of the vehicle, resulting in the purchase price of \$189,850.00 as of March 12th. Renting this truck for a minimum of 30 months would cost TMLP \$126,000.00 in rental fees and at the end own nothing. We would still have to spend an additional \$450,000.00 for the new truck on order which results in a total expenditure of \$576,000.00. Our recommendation is to purchase the rental truck now and save \$381,050.00.

Lead times on manufacturing these types of truck is 2+ years.

The truck is recommended for procurement to fit tree trimming needs:

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Buyout Purchase Price: \$189,850.00

Savings: \$381,050.00

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to approve the request to purchase the 2023 Altec LR8-60E70 Bucket Truck for the purchase price of \$189,850.00 to replace Tree Truck #27. Unanimous.

24-026

COMMUNICATIONS:

Interoffice Communication from Sonja Britland dated February 20, 2024: Subject: TMLP Saves™ Program Clarification

Manager Holmes stated that we opened this program in the middle of January 2024 and have gotten a descent response. We want to clarify a little bit about the program so that we can spread it out going forward.

Manager Holmes read the following memo into the record:

TMLP received \$1,000,000 from the Commonwealth as a part of the state's \$4 billion plan in accordance to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. We are using this to fund the TMLP Saves™ - Heat Pump and Zero Interest Loan Program to our eligible non-gas heat customers. This program offers rebates to eligible residential customers for weatherization (if recommended) and installation of Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pumps (ccASHP) or Ground Source Heat Pumps.

The Sustainability & Commercial Development Department is thrilled with the response to our new residential rebate program TMLP Saves™. With any new program, you garner information to provide better service and as such, we have clarified our rebates to better communicate the incentives and to specify building must be owner-occupied, pending state approval.

If all applicants received a \$10,000 total heat pump rebate, the \$1,000,000 would be utilized by only 100 customers, barring any other program expenses. Therefore, clarifying the rebate to a strictly per ton basis (\$1,250 per ton up to \$10,000) allows the state funding to be dispersed amongst more TMLP customers. Additionally, the applicant must own and occupy one of the living spaces within the structure. This clarification allows TMLP to equitably disperse the ARPA funds to more residential customers, regardless of building type.

The purpose of this program is to help our customers' transition to a more energy efficient heating and cooling solution while reducing their carbon footprint. This program will be available to qualifying non-gas heat TMLP Residential customers within our service territory for as long as grant funding is available. We are looking forward to presenting more program data in the future.

Below is an overview of our process and attached is the rebate incentive chart.

Process Overview:

- 1. Customer requests a home energy assessment through Energy New England.*
- 2. TMLP will verify customer eligibility, property ownership and owner occupancy.*
- 3. Customer will select contractors from the heat pump administrator's website and chooses to receive up to three quotes.*
- 4. Customer submits the TMLP applications with the selected contractor contract and it is reviewed and approved.*
- 5. If our customer is taking advantage of the Zero Interest Loan portion of the program, they will go to a participating lender with the TMLP approval documentation.*

6. The required weatherization and/or heat pump is installed.
7. Our heat pump administrator performs the Quality Assurance (QA) on weatherization and/or heat pump and issues approval to TMLP.
8. TMLP then issues the equipment rebate check.

Attachment

Rebate Information	
Loan	Zero-Interest TMLP Saves™ Heat Pump Loan for energy-saving improvements, up to \$25,000 with terms up to 7 years.
Weatherization	75% + 100% of air sealing, up to \$10,000 total
Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pump:	
Whole & Partial Home	\$1,250/ton up to \$10,000
Ground Source Heat Pump	
Whole Home	\$10,000 Whole Home
Barrier Mitigation	50% up to \$7,000
Low- & Moderate-Income Eligible Adders*	
Weatherization	100% of insulation + 100% of air sealing, up to \$10,000 total
Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pump:	
Whole & Partial Home	\$1,250/ton base rebate + \$1,000/ton up to \$5,000 LMI qualified adder
Ground Source Heat Pump	
Whole Home	\$15,000 Whole Home
Barrier Mitigation	100% up to \$7,000

Manager Holmes stated we are looking for Commission approval on the clarification that it is \$1,250 per ton up to \$10,000 for the rebate.

Commissioner DeMelo asked what does the typical 2,500 square foot home consume in tons.

Ms. Britland responded 3 tons or so is the average.

Commissioner DeMelo stated so the original message was get \$10,000 back but now you are not getting \$10,000 because 3 tons worth of consumption would reduce the rebate. Is that the message we are conveying?

Ms. Britland responded that typically it is to spread out the funds more. Some homes may be a 1 bedroom condo vs. a 3,000 square foot house so the \$10,000 would be more equitably dispersed regardless of the building type adding the strictly per ton basis so that more residents can take advantage of the funding from the State.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to approve clarifying the rebate to a strictly per ton basis (\$1,250 per ton up to \$10,000) in regards to the TMLP Saves™ Program.
Unanimous.

24-027

Major Project Request – Norton Avenue Re-Conductoring

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

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Project Title: Norton Avenue Re-Conductoring

Project Description: Re-conductor Norton Avenue from South Crane Avenue to Harvey Street replacing open wire construction with 1/0 spacer cable. Project will include removing all old open wire and cross arms and replacing with 1/0 kcmil aluminum spacer cable with bracket hardware on new poles set by Verizon. Line is 72 sections, roughly 1.5 miles long and would require 8,000 circuit feet of spacer cable and triplex. This road is heavily treed and is always an issue during wind conditions. This will increase the reliability of the 1500 customers on this circuit. Tree take downs and extra trimming has been included in this project.

Project Justification: Verizon is resetting all poles as needed per our request. Wire has been repaired in multiple locations throughout the length of the road. This area is heavily treed, poles are 60+ years old and in dilapidated shape. Existing open wire construction has brought reliability down on the circuit in this area. Line re-conductoring will improve reliability for all customers on this circuit, especially during wind conditions. This work will improve quality of service and reliability.

Alternates Considered: None considered at this time.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	Project Start Year	2024
	Total Amount Requested	\$600,000.00

Commissioner Strojny asked if these projects have gone through the Management Committee.

Manager Holmes responded yes. They were all discussed in a Management Committee meeting. We took a slightly different approach this year where each Department prioritized their Major Projects and I reviewed this with the Financial Manager to figure out how we could best allocate the funds that we have this year.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to approve the Major Project Request for the Norton Avenue Re-Conductoring for a budget estimate of \$600,000.00. Unanimous.

24-028

Major Project Request – 1814.IP1/1814.IP2 Upgrade

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

Project Title: 1814.IP1/1814.IP2 Upgrade

Project Description: This project will include installing 1.5 miles of duct bank with manholes. New conduit and junction boxes renewing and adding 13.8KV cables, replacing an auto transfer switch and street lighting circuitry. Cables to be installed or renewed from Myles Standish Boulevard to John Hancock Road. Existing modern duct bank has already been installed 5 years ago on John Quincy Adams Road in preparation to replace 50 year old cable. New duct bank and cable will need to be installed from Myles Standish Boulevard to John Quincy Adams Road and modernization of the infrastructure is required to accommodate upcoming needed capacity due to electrification requested by March 2025. This will increase reliability for all customers on these two circuits and will decrease potential outage times and restorals.

Project Justification: Amazon is installing 140 electric vehicle chargers at 800 John Quincy Adams Road in which they will aid in our construction costs to accommodate this additional load and work to extend the line to their facility. This request is to upgrade TMLP's side of the infrastructure upgrades needed to handle this added capacity. Cables and switch are original to the park, now vulnerable to failure if nothing

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was to be upgraded, which will increase reliability and capacity. Direct buried cables will be replaced and street lighting will also be modernized where needed.

Alternates Considered: None considered at this time.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	<u>Project Start Year:</u>	2024
	<u>Total Amount Requested:</u>	\$1,500,000.00

Commissioner DeMelo asked so when you mentioned that Amazon will aid in the construction cost, do we know what that number is.

Manager Holmes responded \$425,000.00.

Commissioner DeMelo asked is Amazon going to be the beneficiary of this.

Manager Holmes responded not all of it. Anything that directly benefits them they pay for. There is other infrastructure that is occurring that will benefit other customers along with this project than Amazon does not cover that, just the added costs from them

Commissioner DeMelo stated there will be 140 electric vehicle chargers, I don't know what the cost of that is.

Manager Holmes responded that Amazon will be paying for their electric chargers.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to approve the Major Project Request for the 1814.IP1/1814.IP2 Upgrade for a Budget Estimate of \$1,500,000.00. Unanimous.

24-029

Major Project Request – School Street / Jones Block Upgrade

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

Project Title: School Street / Jones Block Upgrade

Project Description: This project will include new duct bank, conduit, 3 transformers and 13.8KV cabling around the School Street parking garage area, Jones Block Building on Broadway and Housing for the Elderly. Infrastructure in this area is somewhat inaccessible, ageing and becoming a safety issue while working in the underground system. Work to include making a more reliable cable path for the 3 buildings involved to decrease outage time while adding capacity for future upgrade for electrification in this area.

Project Justification: Existing old lead cables and junction points in the manhole create for future cable faults. Looping both buildings into 2 circuits would decrease outage time for both buildings under faulted conditions. Transformer location for Jones Block is inaccessible and located behind a wall. Transformer would be relocated to a more accessible spot which would increase reliability for these customers and businesses. Approximately 300 feet of duct bank will need to be rebuilt in order to accomplish this system betterment.

Alternates Considered: None considered at this time.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	<u>Project Start Year:</u>	2024
	<u>Total Amount Requested</u>	\$600,000.00

Commissioner DeMelo asked for clarification, so the Jones Block building and the Pine garage are connected to Jones Block and then we are going to cross School Street to the elderly housing, is that correct.

Mr. Sullivan responded yes.

Commissioner DeMelo added so we are not missing anything (i.e. Fire Station), that is all set.

Mr. Sullivan responded yes.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to approve the Major Project Request for the School Street / Jones Block Upgrade the a Budget Estimate of \$600,000.00. Unanimous.

24-030

Major Project Request – 2014.6 Extension to Whittenton Area

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

Project Title: 2014.6 Extension to Whittenton Area

Project Description: 2014.6 Extension requires running new spacer cable from Winter Street to East Britannia Street. Possibly MassDOT Broadway rebuilding may assist in this costing. Three other 13.8KV circuits in the same vicinity would enhance future reliability options while being able to remove load off 4KV system. This part of Whittenton, the poles and wire are 60+ years old and needs to be upgraded from Bay Street to Whittenton Street including Washington Street area. Pole replacement requests have been submitted.

Project Justification: This would be the first step for reliability for the customers in this area and would aid in converting the west side of Rout 138 from 4KV to 13.8KV. Distributed generation, future expansion and electrification are driving this area to be upgraded. Three 13.8KV substations would be able to feed this area with modern construction once poles in this area are upgraded by Verizon, which has already been submitted. This would relieve loading off 4KV Substation #5 and #10 and reduce system loses as a system benefit.

Alternates Considered: None considered at this time.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	<u>Project Start Year</u>	2024
	<u>Total Amount Requested:</u>	\$500,000.00

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to approve the Major Project Request for the 2014.6 Extension to Whittenton Area for a Budget Estimate of \$500,000.00. Unanimous.

24-031

Major Project Request – Fiber Optic Expansion – Raynham

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

Project Title: Fiber Optic Expansion – Raynham

Project Description: The original 48 fiber cable that runs from Route 44/Orchard Street to Route 138 Raynham is over 27 years old and starting to degrade. Also, capacity is maxed out and does not allow for FTTH expansion. New 144 fiber cable needs to be built out. Run new 144 fiber cable from corner of Route 44 and Orchard Street to corner of Center Street and Route 138. Total approximate footage of

cable is 25,000'. This fiber will be prepped for potential FTTH customers. Existing 48 fiber cable will stay in place.

Project Justification: This would open possible FTTH revenue and add future growth to the fiber optic system, while replacing aging cable. Additional FTTH revenue would be put back into the budget for future expansion. Currently one fiber is left for use and would max out the existing cable which needs to be upgraded. Existing cable would remain in place and still be utilized. 144 count fiber cable has already been purchased.

Alternates Considered: None considered at this time.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	<u>Project Start Year:</u>	2024
	<u>Total Amount Requested:</u>	\$350,000.00

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to approve the Major Project Request for the Fiber Optic Expansion – Raynham for a Budget Estimate of \$350,000.00. Unanimous.

24-032

Major Project Request – MIS Data Center Expansion

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

Project Title: MIS Data Center Expansion

Project Description: Expand the capacity of the TMLP corporate data centers to accommodate growth for new servers needed to support the upgrading of current systems. Adding hardware, software and licensing resources to the TMLP corporate data centers is necessary to accommodate the T&D SCADA upgrade project into the current TMLP corporate data centers.

Project Justification: Consolidating solutions to a single platform will benefit the MIS group as they strive to constantly become more efficient in supporting the continuously growing number of technology-related solutions. Including the T&D SCADA virtualized environment in the TMLP corporate data center will:

- Consolidate resources, allowing more efficiency in backups, maintenance and administration.
- Reduce redundant hardware, which will result in energy savings.
- Reduce redundant software licensing, which will result in cost savings.

Alternates Considered: Deploying a standalone T&D SCADA data center is not ideal as it would require purchasing hardware, software and licenses that we already have in the current TMLP corporate data center, in addition to those proposed in this project. Additionally, a standalone T&D SCADA data center would not be able to take advantage of solutions like backups and redundancy already designed into the TMLP corporate data center.

Buying cloud services to host our T&D SCADA servers is not ideal because in the event of a lost internet connection, we will not be able to control our SCADA network.

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	<u>Project Start Year:</u>	2024
	<u>Total Amount Requested:</u>	\$250,000.00

Commissioner DeMelo asked as we are doing this are we considering anything to do with cyber-attacks and cybersecurity.

Manager Holmes responded that we take that into consideration with everything we do technology wise now a days. This should actually make it more secure because it will have the redundancy that it would not normally have if it was its own standalone so this should actually protect the system better.

Commissioner DeMelo stated that if you need any help Bridgewater State just opened a state of the art cybersecurity unit.

Manager Holmes stated that some of us were there. They did a nice job.

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to approve the Major Project Request for the MIS Data Center Expansion for a Budget Estimate of \$250,000.00. Unanimous.

24-033

Major Project Request – 2024 Unit #9 Outage

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

Project Title: 2024 Unit #9 Outage

Project Description: The 2024 Unit 9 Outage is planned to include: (1) a Borescope inspection of the combustion turbine and generator; (2) a Borescope inspection of the steam turbine and generator; (3) insurance inspections of the boiler and various tanks; (4) combustion turbine duct repair work; (5) steam turbine seal steam/lube oil system work; and (6) miscellaneous outage-related service order tasks.

Project Justification: This project will help ensure Unit #9's reliability and availability with ISO-NE. It will also support meeting insurance requirements.

Alternated Considered: None

<u>Budget Estimate:</u>	<u>Project Start Year:</u>	2024
	<u>Total Amount Requested</u>	\$275,000.00

Commissioner Strojny stated that this is the annual inspection we do every year.

Manager Holmes responded yes.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to approve the Major Project Request for the 2024 Unit #9 Outage for a Budget Estimated of \$275,000.00. Unanimous.

24-034

Major Project Request – Unit #9 and #9A Battery Replacement

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

Project Title: Unit 9 and 9A Battery Replacement

Project Description: Replacement of battery banks supplying power to the Unit 9 and 9A protection system components.

Project Justification: NERC standard PRC-005-6 requires TMLP to maintain and test protection system components (such as relays and associated batteries) at periodic intervals. As a result of the most recent load test of the Unit 9A batteries, it was determined that the batteries do not meet the performance requirements as specified by the OEM and, therefore, need to be replaced. In addition, while the Unit 9

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batteries met performance requirements, it is recommended to replace these batteries as well due to their age (manufactured in 2001).

Replacement of the Unit 9 and 9A batteries is necessary to ensure TMLP stay in compliance with NERC standard PRC-005-6.

Alternates Considered: Keep existing batteries. This is not recommended as TMLP could be subject to high monetary penalties if the batteries are not replaced.

Budget Estimate: Project Start Year: 2024
Total Amount Requested: \$90,000.00

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to approve the Major Project Request for the Unit 9 and 9A Battery Replacement for a Budget Estimate of \$90,000.00. Unanimous.

24-035

Letter from the American Public Power Association (APPA) dated December 7, 2023 – Mutual Aid Commendation

Manager Holmes read the following letter into the record:

I am pleased to present an American Public Power Association Mutual Aid Commendation to Taunton Municipal Light Plant. The Mutual Aid Commendation was established in 2018 to recognize public power utilities that have answered the call for assistance and aided another community in restoring power to its customers.

Mutual aid is at the heart of what public power does, and the public power community thanks you for stepping up to help a neighbor in need – whether they are next door or thousands of miles away.

On behalf of the more than 2,000 public power utilities we represent, please accept my thanks.

Sincerely,

Scott Corwin, President & CEO

Commissioner Strojny stated that we have been the recipient of Mutual Aid in the past so we know how vital it can be.

Manager Holmes responded absolutely.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to accept letter from APPA and place on file. Unanimous.

24-036

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Strojny announced that the next Commission meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 4:00 PM.

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

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

Motion by Commissioner DeMelo, seconded by Commissioner Corr to go into Executive Session for Competitive Advantage and Contract Negotiations. Unanimous. (4:46 PM)

24-037


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

In Favor

Absent


Commissioner DeMelo
Commissioner Corr
Chairman Strojny

Executive Session discussion.



SECRETARY *Commissioner*

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 issues concerning Local 1729.

Motion by Commissioner Corr, seconded by Commissioner DeMelo to adjourn. Unanimous. (5:07 PM)

24-038