

Minutes of November 19, 2008
Meeting of the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant
Present Commissioners: Richard Ahlin, George Ainsleigh
Stan Herriott Manager
Absent Kevin Lashua

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Chairman Ainsleigh called for approval of the agenda. The motion was made by Commissioner Ahlin and seconded by Commissioner Ainsleigh. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Ahlin made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2008 meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Ainsleigh. The vote was unanimous. Secretary Ahlin signed the minutes of the October 22, 2008 meeting.

Manager Herriott reviewed the budget through September. Receipts are tracking about 3% over projections while expenses are running about 5% over projections. The Manager stated the reasons remain the same for the over runs transmission costs and power costs. Power cost is trending down and we have begun to show a profit over the last two months. We are still in the red as far as income from billing by about \$42,000.00. Manager Herriott said that he believes we will finish out the year with a slight profit.

Manager Herriott presented the capital budget for 2009. Manager Herriott said that it was his intent to work next year on completing the overhead electrical work off Main Street. Manager Herriott felt that it will take most of the year to complete. There was some discussion on the proposed Capital Budget and the Commissioners took it under advisement and will vote both the O&M Budget and the Capital Budget in December.

Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners information on various things that are impacting the department.

- MMWEC Market Outlook showing the downward trend in energy cost projections.
- Information on the AMLP carbon foot print analysis as opposed to the New England average. Presently we are well below the average and that will help us going forward as the carbon markets develop.
- Manager Herriott gave the 2009 HELPS budget for energy management. The required budgeted amount is \$10,304.00. Typically, we do not meet the total amount of money budgeted. The budget is influenced by the number of people that call for audits and submit rebate requests for appliances. The numbers are difficult to predict from year to year.
- Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners copies of the projected legal cost and the projected saving if we were successful in the suit. It has been the position for the MMWEC member systems to oppose all RMR contracts on the basis that it just adds cost to the customers while enriching the generators. Manager Herriott said that MMWEC members will continue to oppose these going forward. He also mentioned that Boston Edison was the only investor owned utility that ever intervened in a RMR case and they only did so because they made a deal with the DPU to keep 80 cents on every dollar they recovered.
- Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners the DPU notice regarding the new low income rules. Manager Herriott said that it did not really affect municipals except for the requirement on making a payment plan, which we already do, and we are far more liberal with our customers than the state requires.
- Manager Herriott gave copies of thank you letters from the Oakmont Student Council for letting them participate in Downtown Days. Also one from Brian's Road Race for the help we gave them.
- Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners a copy of the properties that we have shut off for non payment.

- Manager Herriott discussed the memo for the attorneys about the current situation with FPL and the New Hampshire PUC. The PUC is concerned with the fact that because FPL is a single asset LLC if some event happened at Seabrook that FPL felt was too costly to repair they could just walk away from the project leaving the PUC and the rest of the joint owners (Mass Municipals own 12 %.) with the total decommissioning costs. Presently the decommissioning fund due to the financial situation is underperforming so they are concerned that there will not be enough monies to do the decommissioning. Also because there is a step up provision the other joint owners would have to bare the difference in cost which would likely be substantial.
- Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners copies of the recent Town Manager's reports.

Manager Herriott reported that the Downtown Lighting Project was completed and the pipe was in except for a short run up Water Street that will be done next year. Manager Herriott reported that the wind test tower (MET) is in place and will be raised weather permitting on Friday November 21, 2008.

The Berkshire Wind Project is moving forward and we have just about finalized the turbine purchase and will be going out to bid soon for the construction phase of the project.

Manager Herriott went on to say that we have done a great deal in our 100th Anniversary year. The celebration of the 100th Anniversary at the Downtown Days which was a success for everyone that attended, to the Downtown Lighting Project and underground project. The Lighting Project is complete and we have received many compliments on how great the lights look. The wind test tower which after a few years work is scheduled to go into service on Friday, November 21, 2008 this is the first step to the sighting and utility grade wind turbine in Ashburnham, and our further investment in wind which the Berkshire Wind project. Finally the solar project, which was inspired by the Oakmont High Seniors will be complete by year end.

Manager Herriott believes AMLP has really shown how Municipal Light Plants especially Ashburnham are leaders in their respective communities

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Ahlin and seconded by Commissioner Ainsleigh to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.
The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Ahlin

Secretary