

Minutes of November 16 , 2011

Meeting of the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant Board

Present Commissioners: Richard Ahlin, Mark Carlisle & Kevin Lashua

Stan Herriott, Manager

Chairman Ahlin opened the meeting at 7:00 P. M.

There were no customer or citizen comments.

Chairman Ahlin asked for approval of the August 17 , 2011 Minutes, after some discussion Commissioner Lashua made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 17 , 2011. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carlisle. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Ahlin then called for an approval of the October 12 , 2011 Minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Commissioner Lashua. The vote was unanimous.

Manager Herriott stated that we would be going into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and the Executive Session Minutes from October 12 , 2011 could wait. The Commissioners agreed.

Manager Herriott discussed briefly, the 2011 budget review through October. The budget was mailed to the Commissioners earlier in the month. The Commissioners did not have any particular questions about the YTD budget.

Manager Herriott reviewed the budget through October:

October Receipts:	\$372,046.00
October Expenses:	\$392,410.00
YTD Receipts:	\$4,189,108.00
YTD Expenses:	\$4,084,967.00

Manager Herriott presented the 2012 Draft Operations Budget and told the Commissioners that this would be slated for a vote in December during the regularly scheduled meeting. The Commissioners held a discussion on the changes to the budget for 2012 and said they would review it and be prepared for a discussion at the December meeting. The proposed budget is expected to be \$5,272,918.00 with the projected receipts standing at 5,294,494 with is a deficit of .04%. Manager Herriott stated that this may require a slight rate increase in July of next year. Manager Herriott also felt that the slight difference could be limited by increased sales depending on the weather. The largest impact to the 2012 budget is the cost of electricity being generated by the Berkshire Wind project which came on line in May of 2011. Manager Herriott also noted that the power supply makes up about 60% of the budget with the other major component being payroll.

Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners a copy of the capital budget for them to review. Manager Herriott noted that the major place holders in the budget are the costs to get the remaining wires underground in the center of town, paying for the new bucket truck we ordered and the possible upgrade to the metering system. If approved as presented the capital budget would be \$696,000.00.

Manager Herriott had no expenses for the month of October.

Manager Herriott said that he was still working with Investar to complete the solar deal. Manager Herriott mentioned that there were a couple of issues concerning Toshiba. Manager Herriott had a discussion with them and asked if we agreed to changes would the deal go through. They said it would. The major issue was the cost to cover should they default. This is essentially the difference between the

contract price and the replacement cost of power should they fail to generate. Manager Herriott stated that AMLP would be willing to agree to the schedule that MMWEC had proposed, thereby adjusting the cost difference rather than leaving it to the open market. The second issue was the payment of the PILOT, we wanted to pay these based on cents per KWH and they would prefer that it be paid in 12 equal installments through the year. Manager Herriott agreed to change both of these.

Manager Herriott opened the discussion about the completion of the Downtown project. The only wires that remain overhead are those owned by Verizon and they have requested that we pay \$318,000.00 to cover the cost. The Commissioners will need further detail before considering further payment to Verizon. Manager Herriott said that he is trying to get a meeting with Verizon to discuss the options. The Commissioners agreed to wait until the results of this meeting are completed.

Manager Herriott noted that he had sent out the Wind feasibility study to the Commissioners by email, he did not print out the document due to its size. Manager Herriott went on to say that he had in fact received the \$55,000.00 from the state to cover their share of the cost and he was looking for the Commissioners to accept the report as written. After some discussion Commissioner Carlisle made a motion to accept the report, which was seconded by Commissioner Lashua. The vote was unanimous.

Manager Herriott mentioned that he had entered the Light Department into the Leading by Example for the new green energy program, but we were not selected.

Manager Herriott also mentioned the APPA meeting in Washington is slated for March of next year if any Commissioners were interested.

Manager Herriott had to leave the meeting to assist with a power outage.

Chairman Ahlin asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session. The motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle, seconded by Commissioner Ahlin and a roll call vote was taken

Chairman Ahlin	“AYE”
Commissioner Carlisle	“AYE”
Commissioner Lashua	“AYE”

The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:24 P. M.

The meeting reconvened in open session at 8:31 P. M.

A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Commissioner Ahlin to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Carlisle

Secretary