



Minutes of May 16, 2012

Meeting of the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant Board

Present Commissioners: Kevin Lashua, Richard Ahlin & Mark Carlisle

Stan Herriott, Manager

Others Present: Mr. & Mrs. David Dunham from INVESTAR

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

There were no customer or citizen comments.

Chairman Ahlin chose to review the Minutes later in the meeting and began the discussion with Mr. Dunham from INVESTAR. Manager Herriott began the topic by asking what the next steps would be to complete the solar project. Mr. Dunham explained that they have moved away from Toshiba as a partner and have now partnered up with Taleson Solar USA. Their explanation was that Toshiba had become too difficult to work with due to the size and diversity of the company. While Talesun was a company focused solely on the solar industry. Manager Herriott expressed his concern with regard to the financial assurances listed in the PPA and whether or

not Talesun Solar could withstand the financial scrutiny necessary to meet the financial assurances required in the PPA which was set at a \$50,000,000.00 net worth. Mr. Dunham stated this company is a multi-billion dollar company and he felt they would more likely meet the requirements.

Commissioner Carlisle asked Mr. Dunham if he had a purchase and sale agreement in place and signed by the landowners. Mr. Dunham stated that he did have those documents in place. Commissioners Carlisle restated the question and the answer was the same from Mr. Dunham.

Chairman Ahlin inquired about the permits required to move forward. Mr. Dunham felt that he would expect to have the permits in hand by August. Mr. Dunham also stated that the wet land flagging had been completed.

Manager Herriott asked about the electrical design and geography layout of the project. Stating that he would not be able to order any materials until those items were in hand. Mr. Dunham stated that Kevin Soucy was working on that and should have them coming along in about same time frame as the permits. Manager Herriott did say once again that he may be able to start some pole work but would not order anything else until the plans were completed.

Manager Herriott also brought up the issue of remote metering. Stating there could be an issue with ISO and we may want to avoid that. Mr. Dunham felt that if it was necessary something could be worked out.

The Commissioners and Mr. Dunham agreed they would meet again at the next regular meeting which is scheduled for June 20 at 7:00 P.M. At this point the Commissioners thanked Mr. Dunham for attending and the Dunhams exited the meeting.

Chairman Ahlin asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2012 meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Chairman Ahlin, the vote was unanimous. Commissioner Lashua abstained because he was not in attendance at the meeting.

Chairman Ahlin asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of the April 18, 2012 meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Chairman Ahlin, the vote was unanimous. Commissioner Lashua abstained because he was not in attendance for that meeting.

Manager Herriott reviewed the budget through March. The YTD expenses and receipts are running about 1% below projections. Expenses are 3% below the projection.

April Receipts:	\$421,889.00
April Expenses:	\$408,731.00
YTD Receipts	\$1,661,132.00
YTD Expenses	\$1,563,251.00

Manager Herriott gave the Commissioners the balances in the accounts held by AMLP and MMWEC.

Manager Herriott advised the Commissioners that MMWEC has a restated agreement for the programs that MMWEC offers us and it would have to be voted on. Manager Herriott felt that it would be better to have MMWEC representatives attend next month's meeting and give an overview prior to voting.

Manager Herriott brought up the idea of a solar installation on the Library and gave the Commissioners copies of the estimated cost as well as the payback to AMLP through the sale of SREC's. The idea is to have AMLP keep the revenue from the SREC's until we have covered the cost. This is expected to take 7 years. Commissioner Ahlin asked if we were working through MMWEC on this project, Manager Herriott said that we were. The Commissioners as a whole voiced their concerns about the historical makeup of building and putting solar collectors on the building could run into problems with the Historical Society. The Commissioners stated that they want a vote from the Historical Society and the Trustees of the Library before considering the Project. Manager Herriott stated he would let the Library Director know exactly what was necessary before the Commissioners would consider the project further.

Manager Herriott asked the Commissioners if they wanted to make any changes to the voting representatives of the Massachusetts Municipal Self-Insurance Trust Fund of which we are members. Presently Manager Herriott is the voting representative with Chairman Ahlin as the alternate. The Commissioners felt no change was necessary.

Manager Herriott told the Commissioners that he had interviewed 10 candidates and has narrowed it down to 3. The plan is to ask all three candidates to come in and meet the lineman. Manager Herriott is trying to ensure that we get the right person to fit in. Manager Herriott would keep the Commissioner informed.

The Commissioners set the next meeting date for Wednesday June 20, at 7:00 P.M.

Manager Herriott reported Ms. Cohen will attend next month's meeting to talk about her past due and shut off charges.

Manager Herriott reported that all the work for the phone company in the downtown area is complete. He will encourage the phone company to get started.

Manager Herriott reported that he had not yet received the reimbursement check from Night Hawk for the cost associated with their meter shut off devices. Manager Herriott reported another meter base failed and shut a property off without any intervention from us.

Manager Herriott stated the employee benefits was next on the agenda and should be discussed in Executive Session.

Chairman Ahlin asked for a motion to move the meeting into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee benefit changes and would only exit Executive Session to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Commissioner Carlisle. A roll call vote was taken:

Chairman Ahlin **(AYE)**

Commissioner Carlisle (AYE)
Commissioner Lashua (AYE)

The Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 8:15 P.M.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 8:45 P.M.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Carlisle and seconded by Commissioner Lashua the vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Carlisle
Secretary