

Mansfield Municipal Electric Department
Minutes of Light Commissioners Meeting
May 17, 2021

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Present: Chair Frank Delvecchio, Vice Chair Jess Aptowitz, Clerk Neil Rhein, Commissioner Mike Trowbridge, Commissioner Steve Schoonveld and Light Department Manager Joseph Sollecito

The meeting was held remotely due to the pandemic and called to order at 4:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Delvecchio read the following:

“Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, 18, and the Governor’s March 31, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Town of Mansfield’s Light Commissioners is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order.

This meeting has been posted on the Town’s website. To provide virtual access to this meeting by the public, the Town is utilizing the GoToWebinar platform. The instructions are below on how members of the public attending this meeting virtually will be allowed to make comments if they wish to do so, during the portion of the meeting designated for public comment. Again, these instructions can be found below or on the Town’s website at www.mansfieldma.com”

A complete copy of the Board packet containing all documents that are referenced in the minutes is on file at the Mansfield Municipal Electric Department office.

Citizen Comments – none

Motion: To approve minutes of the April 12, 2021 Light Commissioners meeting (Trowbridge/Aptowitz) Passes 5/0

Roll call vote: Delvecchio-aye; Trowbridge-aye; Aptowitz-aye; Schoonveld-aye and Rhein-aye

Financial Statements March 2021 – Manager Sollecito presented the financial statements for March 2021. He explained that the generation charge payable which was \$0 in 2020 is now \$219K due to the reset that was necessary because of the way it was functioning. MMED’s operating cash position is \$16.5 million vs \$15.9 million in 2020. Manager Sollecito also noted that energy sales were very impressive as they were up 5.6% compared to last year at the start of the pandemic.

Gilbert Street ROW UG project – Manager Sollecito said MMED accepted bids for manhole and conduit installation for the Gilbert Street ROW UG project. This bid is for the first part of a two part project which has been delayed due to the pandemic. He said there were four bidders and P. DeGirolamo of Foxboro was the lowest bidder.

Motion: To award the Gilbert Street ROW UG Project to P. DeGirolamo of Foxboro, MA for a total of \$671, 180.00

(Rhein/Trowbridge) Passes 5/0

Roll call vote: Delvecchio-aye; Aptowitz-aye; Rhein-aye; Trowbridge-aye and Schoonveld-aye

New MMED Logo – At a previous meeting, Manager Sollecito had told the Board that he desired to standardize the MMED’s brand and logo. He said that he has been working with a team made up of Engineer Chris Cox, Line Foreman Ralph Bellavance, Office Administrator Laurie Anderson and Business Manager Joe Pereira and they have considered approximately thirty different logos. The Town Manager Kevin Dumas was also included to ascertain his opinion. Manager Sollecito presented a recommended logo along with 1st alternate and 2nd alternate options.

Clerk Rhein said he prefers the 1st alternate logo as the word “Department” is not so prominent. He noted that not everything needed to be changed out all at once just because there is a new logo. He thought it should be done gradually as things came up and wondered what the plan is. Manager Sollecito said he had no estimate for the timeline as of yet.

Motion: To approve the recommended logo as the new MMED logo

(Trowbridge/Aptowitz) Passes 4/1

Roll call vote: Delvecchio-aye; Aptowitz-aye; Rhein-nay; Trowbridge-aye and Schoonveld-aye

Mansfield Community Assistance Fund – Manager Sollecito gave an overview of the Mansfield Community Assistance Fund. In 2020 \$5,323.20 was received in donations and \$878.87 was given out in assistance. He explained there were no terminations in 2020 because of the pandemic which is why not a lot of assistance was given out. So far in 2021, \$3,780.29 has been received in donations and \$3,330.24 has been given out.

Comments from Commissioners – Commissioner Schoonveld commented that MMED does a lot for the Town such as putting up lights. He wondered if there were any other needs that are not being met and suggested coming up with a list of items such as the recreation fields. He thought they could help with MMED’s surplus of funds.

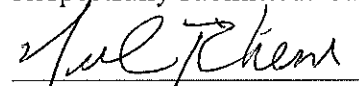
Vice Chair Aptowitz thanked Manager Sollecito for his email regarding Project 2015A in Peabody with MMWEC. He asked that Manager Sollecito keep the Board updated on the project.

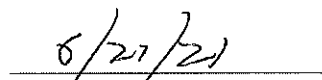
Motion: To adjourn at 4:56 PM

(Schoonveld/Aptowitz) Passes 5/0

Roll call vote: Delvecchio-aye; Aptowitz-aye; Rhein-aye; Trowbridge-aye and Schoonveld-aye

Respectfully submitted: Jacqueline Lee


Signature of Clerk


Date of Approval