



Peabody Municipal Light Plant

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PEABODY MUNICIPAL LIGHTING COMMISSION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 17, 2020 RESCHEDULED TO DECEMBER 22, 2020

A regular meeting of the Peabody Municipal Lighting Commission was rescheduled because of inclement weather on Thursday, December 17, 2020 and rescheduled to Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at the Peabody Municipal Light Plant, 201 Warren Street Ext., Peabody, Massachusetts at 6:30 p.m.

Present for the meeting were Commissioners Charles Bonfanti, Thomas D'Amato, Thomas Paras and Robert Wheatley; Manager Charles Orphanos, Assistant Manager Bryan Howcroft, Attorney Philip Durkin (via telephone / teleconference) and Recording Secretary, Barbara Previte.

- Agenda Item A: Approval of Agenda:

Chairman Wheatley stated there is no meeting because no meeting has been scheduled. An agenda has been posted and Recording Secretary Barbara Previte sent it via email to the Commission. She will print out copies for everyone.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (4-0):

MOVE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

Chairman Wheatley requested that we take a moment of silence for the COVID 19 victims. Chairman Wheatley suggested that we make this part of agenda each month prior to approving the Agenda.

- Agenda Item B: Announcement:

Chairman Wheatley acknowledged that this is an open meeting and informed the public that the meeting is being recorded by hand and voice recorder.

- Agenda Item C: Approval of Minutes:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (4-0):

20-65 MOVE TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020.



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The next item on the agenda is the Executive Session Minutes of November 19, 2020 which Commissioner Paras is asking to hold in abeyance and put the minutes on the January 28, 2021 agenda.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (4-0):

20-66 MOVE TO HOLD THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2020 AND PUT THEM ON THE JANUARY 28, 2020 AGENDA.

- Agenda Item D: Appointments:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- **REMARKS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC:**

There were three employees at the meeting. They were Jennifer Santoro, Heather Kotchian and Tim Pierce. Jennifer Santoro stated she was an employee, Union steward and ratepayer in Peabody. She as well as her co-workers wanted to show support to the Manager, Charles Orphanos. Chairman Wheatley stated that they should read the rules of attending a Commission meeting and it was not suitable for her to speak regarding this subject.

- Agenda Item E: Correspondence

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item F: Manager's Reports:

STATUS REPORTS:

The Manager stated that everything was outlined in his status report which was part of your agenda package. Manager Orphanos asked if any of the Commissioners had any questions. The Commission was satisfied with what was reported in the status report.

- Agenda Item G: Committee Reports:

BUILDING COMMITTEE (UPDATE)— Commissioner Paras deferred to Manager Orphanos' status report that gave an update on the building renovations. Manger Orphanos stated that the contractors also known as New England Builders and Contractors are presently working on installing external drainage gutters on the front entrance. The gutters should be completed the week of December 14. Once the gutters are complete, the new paneling can be installed.



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COMPENSATION COMMITTEE – Chairman Wheatley deferred to Commissioner Bonfanti who stated that once the strategic plan is brought forward, the Compensation Committee will evaluate the job titles and salaries.

POLICY COMMITTEE – Chairman Wheatley deferred to Commissioner D'Amato regarding the policies. Commissioner D'Amato stated that he has a draft of a social media policy. He asked his fellow Commissioner if they want to review it now; leave in their respective mailbox or put on the agenda for January. The Commission collectively said to leave in their mailbox as well as send electronically. Recording Secretary Barbara Previte will send it to the Commission electronically for review and comment.

- Agenda Item H: Award of Bids:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item I: General Business:

- **BUDGET MEETING** – Manager Orphanos asked the Commission on what their preference is on moving forward with the Budget Meeting. A general discussion occurred where the Commission said maybe it should be accomplished in two meetings. The best day of the week for the Commission is Friday. Collectively, the Commission stated the last Friday of January which is January 29 and the first Friday of February which is February 5, 2021. The Commission asked Recording Secretary Barbara Previte to talk with Commissioner Aylward and see if the dates would work for him.

- **MMWEC CHECK (\$37,455.74)** – Manager Orphanos stated that this check is for Hydro Quebec which will be deposited in the rate stabilization fund.

- **REMARKS OF COMMISSION** –Collectively, the Commission wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Enjoy your family and stay safe and healthy.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI AND VOTED BY ROLL CALL WITH COMMISSIONERS D'AMATO, BONFANTI AND PARAS VOTING AFFIRMATIVE AND WHEATLEY VOTING NEGATIVE (3-1):

20-67 MOVE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21(a) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND TO DISCUSS TRADE SECRETS OR COMPETITIVELY SENSITIVE INFORMATION AND TO RETURN TO THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 22, 2020.

Chairman Wheatley declared the Regular portion of the Meeting of December 22, 2020 recessed at 6:50 p.m.



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The Commission returned to the Regular Meeting of December 22, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PARAS AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (4-0):

20-68 MOVE TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH M.G.L. c.30A §21 (a) 10 TO DISCUSS COMPETITIVELY SENSITIVE INFORMATION AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PARAS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI AND VOTED BY ROLL CALL WITH COMMISSIONERS D'AMATO, BONFANTI AND PARAS VOTING AFFIRMATIVE AND COMMISSIONER WHEATLEY VOTING NEGATIVE (3-1):

20-71 MOVE TO RATIFY MOTION #20-70 REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE MANAGER.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BONFANTI AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (4-0):

20-72 MOVE TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 22, 2020.

Chairman Wheatley declared the Regular portion of the Meeting of December 22, 2020 adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD

Attest:

William C. Aylward, Secretary
Peabody Municipal Lighting Commission