



Peabody Municipal Light Plant

Community Owned. Not for profit. It's Ours.

PEABODY MUNICIPAL LIGHTING COMMISSION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

A regular meeting of the Peabody Municipal Lighting Commission was called to order on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at the Peabody Municipal Light Plant, 201 Warren Street Ext., Peabody, Massachusetts at 6:30 p.m.

Present for the meeting were Commissioners William Aylward, Charles Bonfanti, Thomas D'Amato, Thomas Paras and Robert Wheatley; Manager Charles Orphanos, Assistant Manager Bryan Howcroft, Attorney Philip Durkin and Recording Secretary, Barbara Previte.

Chairman Wheatley requested that we take a moment of silence for the COVID 19 victims.

Chairman Wheatley deferred to Manager Orphanos and asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Manager Orphanos wanted to take a moment to introduce three new employees. They are Mark Uvani, who will be assisting in the IT Division, Ivan Tran, who has been hired as the Junior Integration Specialist, who graduated from University of New Hampshire and lives in Peabody. Lastly, Christopher Aversa, who has been hired as our newest Dispatcher. Chris lives in Saugus and stated "I live in Saugus and that is the town that Peabody lost to playing football every Thanksgiving". The Commission collectively welcomed everyone aboard.

- Agenda Item A: Approval of Agenda:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

MOVE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED.

- 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 AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

20-41 MOVE TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 30, 2020.



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MOTION BY COMMISSIONER AYLWARD, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

20-42 MOVE TO APPROVE AND NOT RELEASE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF JULY 30, 2020.

- Agenda Item D: Appointments:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- **REMARKS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC:**

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item E: Correspondence

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item F: Manager's Reports:

STATUS REPORTS:

There being none, the meeting continued.

- Agenda Item G: Committee Reports:

BUILDING COMMITTEE (UPDATE)—Manager Orphanos deferred to Commissioner Paras who mentioned that the fence around the perimeter of the project has been installed. Business (Fred Bettencourt, Inventory Control Coordinator) installed a temporary lock box as well rerouting the traffic around the building (clockwise). The project is anticipated to take approximately 6 to 8 weeks. The carpet and blue panels have been ordered. The project is moving along.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE – Manager Orphanos deferred to Chairman Wheatley to talk about the expectation of the Committee and their job will be to review the exempt employees' salaries. Chairman Wheatley asked Commissioner Bonfanti and Paras to serve on the Committee. The discussion continued about the possibility or potential of losing a long-time employee with over 20+ years here who deserves a raise. Commissioner Bonfanti stated that he personally had a conversation with him. A discussion about the Union contract negotiations and the Union has not taken a vote; therefore, it is in the best interest to wait until the Contract is voted on.

- Agenda Item H: Award of Bids:

There being none, the meeting continued.



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• Agenda Item I: General Business:

- **MMWEC CHECKS (\$41,456.91 AND \$37,470.45)** – Manager Orphanos stated that both checks (July and August) are for Hydro Quebec which will be deposited in the rate stabilization fund.
- **REMARKS OF COMMISSION** – Commissioner Aylward stated that we are happy we are still at work.
- Commissioner Paras welcomed the new employees and thanked Barbara for all her help. She is a big help to us.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER D'AMATO, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER AWYLARD AND UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (5-0):

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 NOT TO RETURN TO THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2020.

Chairman Wheatley declared the Regular portion of the Meeting of September 24, 2020 adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD

Attest:

William C. Aylward, Secretary
Peabody Municipal Lighting Commission