

*Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, March 22, 2021*

Chairman Pasternak called a regular meeting of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board to order at 4:00 pm, Monday, March 22, 2021.

Present for this meeting were Commissioner Robert L. Pajak, Commissioner Carl E. Sittard, Commissioner Joseph F. Pasternak, III and General Manager and Clerk of the Board Jeffrey R. Cady and Assistant General Manager James Lisowski.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to accept the minutes of February 23, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Sittard seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to concur with the payment of **Warrant #E031221** dated 3/5/2021 in the amount of \$182,674.88; **Warrant #E031221** dated 3/4/2021 in the amount of \$443,118.45; **Warrant #E031921** dated 3/11/2021 in the amount of \$220,807.46 and **Warrant #E031921** dated 3/15/2021 in the amount of \$2,452,072.19 Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to pay **Bills and Customer Refunds** in the amount of **\$234,340.66**. Commissioner Sittard seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to pay **Power Bills** in the amount of **\$2,332,241.85**. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

The General Manager and Assistant General Manager discussed the Operations Building Renovations. They explained that they were waiting for final drafts from the architect and would review with the team. Current plan is to release bid in May/June and award sometime in July. Contractor is not expected to start until September/October due to need to transfer equipment and facilities out of 1895 Building.

The General Manager provided an update on the Electric Vehicle Program. He explained that the program is up and running and website has been updated. He also let the Commissioners know that he had a meeting set up with city planning to discuss making provisions at the downtown city parking lot to incorporate electric charging stations.

The General Manager and the Assistant General Manager discussed succession planning efforts. They are currently interviewing someone for the Senior Engineering position but have not had any luck filling the Telecomm Engineering position. Looking at some alternative options for that position in the near term.

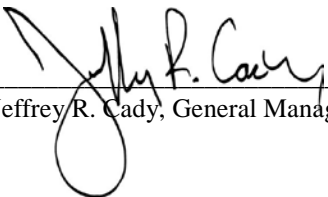
The General Manager notified the Commissioners that CEL will be entering into negotiations with IBEW Local 455 for a new collective bargaining agreement. The current 1 year extension ends June 30, 2021.

The General Manager and Assistant General Manager gave an update on the Hi-Speed Internet project. They explained that Crossroads Fiber continues to expand into new areas and customers are continuing to sign up for service. We are still running into issues with material delays which is impacting construction.

The Assistant General Manager gave an update on the Hydro Penstock replacement. He explained that the contractor was making progress even though this project is behind schedule. He expects the contractor to complete the project by the end of May if they don't face any additional hurdles.

The General Manager provided an update on legislative issues. He reminded the Commissioners the Governor signed the climate bill legislation which includes MLP's. The language calls for 50% carbon free by 2030, which CEL is well positioned for based on REC purchases and new power purchasing strategies. He also explained that CEL will continue to monitor legislation that could impact CEL.

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to adjourn at 4:55 pm. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.



Jeffrey R. Cady, General Manager

Approved: April 27, 2021