Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board Minutes of Meeting Monday, September 24, 2018

Chairman Pajak called a regular meeting of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board to order at 6:00 pm, Monday, September 24, 2018.

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

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to accept the minutes of August 30, 2018 as presented. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to concur with the payment of *Warrant #E091418* dated 9/10/2018 in the amount of \$138,634.49; *Warrant #E091418* dated 9/11/2018 in the amount of \$288,735.01; *Warrant #E092118* dated 9/13/2018 in the amount of \$172,531.21 and *Warrant #E092118* dated 9/17/2018 in the amount of \$1,532,174.68. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to pay *Bills and Customer Refunds* in the amount of *\$94,510.25*. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to pay *Power Bills* in the amount of \$2,585,015.21. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager and the Commissioners discussed the In-Lieu of Tax Payment to the city. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Sittard to update the In-Lieu of Tax Payment to \$600,000 with an additional \$140,000 for Hydro Plant for a total of \$740,000. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager gave an update of the Chicopee Hydro. He explained that work was continuing on the project but they have been having issues dewatering the plant due to seeping at the head gate and excessive rains. He is hopeful that one of the units will return to service within a couple of months.

The General Manager gave an update on the Fiber High Speed Internet project. He explained that designs were continuing and the hope was to have final draft designs for the entire city by the end of October. He also let the Commissioners know that an advertisement would be going out for a Telecommunications Manager as this project requires a full time position to move it forward. He discussed issues with billing and collections when bundled with the electric bill.

The General Manager provided an update on the AMI project. He explained that 13 meters have been deployed near CEL's offices to communicate with a gateway device at CEL. This is allowing them to populate the system for the Harris and Honeywell systems. Information will be used in testing and training. All meters for the pilot project in the Memorial Drive/Pendleton area have been ordered. Installation will start in November and the pilot will take place over a 2 to 3 month period. Installation will start in Spring over a 2 year period.

The General Manager notified the Commissioners that the FCC has been working on rules to address small cell antennas throughout the United States. New regulations will include municipals and will limit the fee that can be charged. It will take away some of the control that CEL has over the poles and the process for attaching to them.

The General Manager reviewed the August Financials with the Commissioners. He explained that due to the hot summer kwh sales were high for July, August and will also be high for September due to billing cycles. Electric Sales for August were \$737,544 above budget and \$2,616,634 over budget year to date. Even though CEL has purchased more power than budgeted the energy costs have been lower than forecast resulting in Net Power cost of \$118,901 under budget for the month and \$403,813 over budget year to date. Net Income for the month was \$1,094,775 over budget for the month and is \$2,350,865 for the year. The General Manager explained that stopping the rate stabilization transfer for Sep-Dec should lower the net income variance. He will present updated financials at the next meeting to see where we are.

Commissioner Sittard made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Jeffrey R. Cady- Clerk of the Board

Approved: October 24, 2018