Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board Minutes of Meeting Monday, June 25, 2018

Chairman Pasternak called a regular meeting of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board to order at 4:45 pm, Monday, June 25, 2018.

Present for this meeting were Chairman Joseph F. Pasternak, III, Commissioner Robert L. Pajak and General Manager and Clerk of the Board Jeffrey R. Cady. Commissioner Carl E. Sittard asked to be excused. Also present for a portion of the meeting were City Treasurer Marie Laflamme, Assistant City Treasurer Jessica Hebert and Timothy Flynn of Flynn Financial Partners.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to accept the minutes of May 21, 2018 as presented. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to concur with the payment of **Warrant #E060118** dated 05/23/2018 in the amount of \$21,534.41; **Warrant #E060818** dated 05/30/2018 in the amount of \$1,735,739.52; **Warrant #E060818** dated 6/4/2018 in the amount of \$274,688.39; **Warrant #E061518** dated 6/6/2018 in the amount of \$162,687.13; **Warrant #E061418** dated 6/11/2018 in the amount of \$554,029.02; **Warrant #E062218** dated 6/13/2018 in the amount of \$315,119.87 and **Warrant #E062218** dated 6/18/2018 in the amount of \$2,121,828.33 Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to pay *Bills & Customer Refunds* in the amount of *\$353,873.15.* Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to pay Power Bills in the amount of *\$38,249.47*. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager presented the Commission with the Bid for a Cable Splicer Van Mounted on Cab & Chassis. Commissioner Pasternak made a motion, to award the bid for Cable Splicer Van Mounted on Cab & Chassis, consistent with staff's recommendation in response to CEL Bid #18-0463. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.Document: CEL Bid #18-0463

The General Manager presented the Commission with the Annual Bid for Tree Trimming/Forestry Services. Commissioner Pasternak made a motion, to award the bid for Annual Bid for Tree Trimming/Forestry Services, consistent with staff's recommendation in response to CEL Bid #18-0464. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0. *Document: CEL Bid #18-0464* 

The General Manager presented the Commission with the Annual Bid for Single and Three Phase Padmount Transformers. Commissioner Pasternak made a motion, to award the bid for Single and Three Phase Padmount Transformers, consistent with staff's recommendation in response to CEL

Bid #18-0465. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0. *Document: CEL Bid #18-0465* 

The General Manager provided the Commissioners with an update of the Holiday Hill Wind Project. He explained that two participants dropped out of the project which has provided CEL with a chance to increase its share of the project from .5 MW to .75 MW. MMWEC is recommending that CEL increase its participation to .75 MW and the General Manager agrees with the recommendation. Commissioner Pajak made a motion to increase Chicopee's participation to .75 MW.

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion that Chicopee Electric Light agrees to join as a member of the Berkshire Wind Power Cooperative Corporation (Cooperative) an existing municipal lighting plant cooperative which was organized in accordance with GL c 164 s47C; and That the Board hereby approves and the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to take any action deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of a Berkshire Wind Power Purchase Agreement – Phase 2 (Agreement); and that the Board hereby approves and authorizes the General Manager to execute any other documents or take any other action necessary to effectuate the financing of the Berkshire Wind Power Facility by the Cooperative; That the Board hereby certifies that the Chicopee Electric Light is a Massachusetts municipal light plant operating pursuant to and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 164; That the Board hereby authorizes and instructs the General Manager to deliver a certified copy of this vote to the Cooperative's Board of Directors without delay; and that any actions previously taken by the General Manager, which are consistent with the purpose of this vote are hereby ratified and confirmed. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager gave an update on the Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) project. He explained that during the review of meter profiles and meter quantities the team thought it made sense to switch all the meters to remote disconnect. This would require fewer meter types, less truck rolls and provide more safety for field personnel. The cost to implement remote disconnect in all meters will increase the cost of the project by \$650,000. The General Manager believes that this could result in personnel savings in the future as well. Commissioner Pajak made a motion to switch to remote disconnect meters for the AMI project. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The City Treasurer Marie Laflamme, Assistant City Treasurer Jessica Hebert and Timothy Flynn of Flynn Financial Partners gave an update of the investments made on CEL's behalf. Mr. Flynn gave an overview of the markets and explained how CEL's investments have performed. He also compared the portfolios to some industry benchmarks. He explained that the bond market has not been performing well but equities have been performing better. He also explained how they expect the market to behave through the end of the year into next year and how his company was positioning the investments to deal with those changes.

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The General Manager provided an update on Legislative issues. The General Manager explained that some of the recent bills had dropped the MLP's from the RPS standards. He explained that MLP's are in favor of clean energy projects, based on the number of projects completed but the decisions should be made locally and not at state level.

The General Manager provided an update on the building renovations. Due diligence meetings between CEL Staff, OPM, architect and other consultants continue to occur and that the project should go out to bid in September/October timeframe.

The General Manager reviewed the April Financials with the Commissioners. *Document: April Financials* 

The General Manager gave an update to the Commissioners on the fiber to premises project. He explained that the design has been delayed due to issues with the design firm and that negotiations with support providers has taken longer than expected. This has pushed off the pilot for the first business customers.

The General Manager gave an update on the Holiday Hill Wind Project. He explained that MMWEC is still negotiating with the developer for an agreement that has an option to buy the project and that if this falls through, Chicopee, Westfield and Russell will attempt to negotiate a long term PPA with the developer.

The General Manager provided the Commissioners with information regarding the City and City Departments. He explained that the City was looking to consolidate some of its departments with the schools and that they were looking to consolidate the water and sewer into one department with one Commission. He also informed them that the Mayor indicated he would like to increase the MLP board from 3 to 5 members. The General Manager believes this would require special legislation based on attorneys review because the MLB was formed under special legislation. The General Manager and Commissioners discussed these issues further.

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 pm. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Jeffrey R Cady- Clerk of the Board

Approved: July 30, 2018