Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board Minutes of Meeting Thursday, June 18, 2020

Chairman Pajak called a regular meeting of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board to order at 4:00 pm, Thursday, June 18, 2020

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

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to accept the minutes of May 26, 2020 as presented. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to concur with the payment of *Warrant #E060520* dated 5/29/2020 in the amount of \$32,372.41; *Warrant #E060520* dated 6/1/2020 in the amount of \$37,292.09 *Warrant #E061220* dated 6/8/2020 in the amount of \$329,317.71 and *Warrant #E061220* dated 6/4/2020 in the amount of \$2,126,343.47. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager explained that due to impacts of lower power costs and kWh sales that he has been reviewing the Purchase Power Adjustment. Although it's hard to determine the exact costs and kWh's for the rest of the year he used estimates to review the PPA. He recommends lowering the current PPA from .00435 to .0002. Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to change the Purchase Power Adjustment to .02 cents/kWh. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager also notified the Commissioners that he asked the City Treasurer to increase the Rate Stabilization transfer from \$150,000 to \$300,000 a month to help offset any problems caused by delinquencies and lower kWh sales. He will monitor and correct as necessary. Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to change the Rate Stabilization transfer from \$150,000 to \$300,000 a month. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

The General Manager gave the Commissioners an update on the building renovations. He stated that more activity will start in another week or two with the installation of the elevator cladding and removal of scaffolding after it is completed. The generator will ship July 6th and the elevator will be shipped around the middle of July. The project continues to be delayed due to COVID-19.

The General Manager updated the Commissioners on the Hydro Plant repairs. He told them that the entire plant is currently down because after the inspection the second penstock had issues similar to the first and that similar repairs will need to be completed. The contractor is currently working on the other penstock and is fabricating the

replacement pieces to complete repairs. Some additional work needed to be completed due to some continuing leaks when gates were closed.

The General Manager notified the Commissioners that most employees were back to work full time with some still working remotely. Operations are working 2 shifts (6-2:30 and 7-3:30) to reduce staff in building at beginning and end of shifts. We continue to follow state guidance to ensure employee safety. Will be starting in home installations of fiber when state guidance allows.

The General Manager gave an update on the High-Speed Internet project. He explained that CEL staff and the contractor have continued to build out the fiber network to allow for expansion when installs are allowed.

The General Manager notified the Commissioners that they were having discussions with the union to extend the contract one year due to the current COVID-19 situation instead of seeking a longer term agreement.

The General Manager reviewed the draft financials with the Commissioners through April. The investments have recovered by \$980,000 in April due to recovery in the market. Would expect additional increases in May due to the continued recovery in the market. Net Income was \$960,000 higher than budget through April before investments \$550,000 of the income was due to interest income and \$450,000 that was billed to the city for their portion of the AMI project.

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to adjourn at 5:00 pm. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 2 to 0.

Jeffrey R. Cady- Clerk of the Board

Approved: <u>July 22, 2020</u>