Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board Minutes of Meeting Monday, May 24, 2021

Chairman Pasternak called a regular meeting of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board to order at 4:00 pm, Monday, May 24, 2021.

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

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to concur with the payment of **Warrant #E050721** dated 5/3/2021 in the amount of \$64,148.88; **Warrant #E050721** dated 5/3/2021 in the amount of \$15,016.52; **Warrant #E051421** dated 5/7/2021 in the amount of \$212,410.44; **Warrant #E051421** dated 5/10/2021 in the amount of \$269,153.10; **Warrant #E052121** dated 5/13/2021 in the amount of \$222,438.30 and **Warrant #E052121** dated 5/17/2021 in the amount of \$2,906,547.88. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to pay *Bills & Customer Refunds* in the amount of \$194,532.86. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

The General Manager and the Assistant General Manager provided an update to the Commission on the High Speed Internet Project. Crossroads Fiber connected its 1000th customer this month. The milestone was publicized on our Facebook page with a photo op at the customer premises. The meeting with the utilities committee went well and the city council were appreciative of the update.

The investment update scheduled for this meeting will be rescheduled to a future date.

The General Manager and the Assistant General Manager updated the Commissioners on the operation building renovations. Based on recent discussions with the owners project manager, it may make sense to hold off on the project due to the current high cost of labor and materials. We will be sitting down with them to go over the third party estimates and determine a final recommendation. The Commissioners agreed that holding off the bid for a period of time may be the best course of action.

The General Manager and the Assistant General Manager discussed a proposal by PUMIC/PURMA to create a separate captive for commercial property insurance. The cost for this insurance has sky rocketed in recent years due to costs incurred because of major disasters etc. PUMIC/PURMA is looking to create the captive to help lower participants property insurance costs. PUMIC/PURMA has provided benefits to municipal participants for other insurance products. CEL was a founding member of PUMIC/PURMA which has resulted in significant savings. The General Manager and the Assistant General Manager recommend that CEL participate in this new captive and provide the recommended contribution of \$23,517.03.

They also recommend providing additional funds through their dividends if some of the other entities do not participate. Commissioner Pajak made a motion to fund the PUMIC/PURMA Captive based on management recommendation. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

The Assistant General Manager informed the Commissioners that the contractor overseeing the Chicopee Hydro has provided notice that they will no longer be providing these services. Instead of extending the contract they would like CEL to find another company to provide the service. They said they are willing to work out a transition period with a new contractor. CEL was surprised by the announcement and will be meeting with other entities to find a replacement contractor on an expedited timeline.

The General Manager recommended that the Commission go into executive session to discuss trade secrets, personal matters and strategy with respect to collective bargaining and return to regular session after conclusion. Motion was seconded on the basis of a roll call vote as follows:

Pasternak Aye Pajak Aye Sittard Aye

The motion passed 3 to 0

Commissioner Sittard made a motion at 5:24 to adjourn from Executive Session and enter to Regular Session. Motion was seconded on the basis of a roll call vote as follows:

Pasternak Aye Pajak Aye Sittard Aye

The motion passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to adjourn at 5:25 pm. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Jeffrey R. Cady, General Manager

Approved: <u>June 17, 2021</u>