## Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board Minutes of Meeting Thursday, May 23, 2019

Commissioner Pasternak called a regular meeting of the Chicopee Municipal Lighting Board to order at 5:45 pm, Thursday, May 23, 2019.

Present for this meeting were Commissioner Joseph F. Pasternak, III, Commissioner Robert L. Pajak and General Manager and Clerk of the Board Jeffrey R. Cady. Also present for a portion of the meeting were: City Treasurer Marie Laflamme, Assistant City Treasurer Jessica Hebert and Tim Flynn from Flynn Financials. Commissioner Carl E. Sittard arrived at 5:55 pm.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to accept the minutes of April 22, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Pajak made a motion to concur with the payment of **Warrant #E050319** dated 4/29/2019 in the amount of \$10,401.97; **Warrant #E051019** dated 5/2/2019 in the amount of \$122,939.48; **Warrant #E051019** dated 5/6/2019 in the amount of \$364,511.42; **Warrant #E051719** dated 5/9/2019 in the amount of \$381,884.47; **Warrant #E052419** dated 5/16/2019 in the amount of \$138,235.58 and **Warrant #E052419** dated 5/20/2019 in the amount of \$2,998,749.92. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to pay *Bills & Customer Refunds* in the amount of *\$194,225.36*. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

City Treasurer Marie Laflamme, Assistant City Treasurer Jessica Hebert and Tim Flynn of Flynn Financials provided an update to the General Manager and the Commissioners regarding CEL's financial investments. Mr. Flynn discussed the financial markets and the impact they had on CEL's investments at the end of last year and the beginning of this year. He explained that they continue to monitor the markets and make changes when appropriate to reduce CEL's risk. He reviewed the returns on each of the accounts.

The General Manager reviewed financial information with the Commission. He explained that CEL had been waiting for the OPEB report to be completed so the financial audit could be finalized. After this information was completed, CEL was able to submit the final DPU report. The outside auditor will present the financials at a future meeting.

The General Manager provided the Commission an update on the high speed internet initiative. He explained that Chicopee Comp finished the electric work at Meadow St. and Westover Rd. telecomm huts. All of the fiber for the initial project has been pulled into the huts. The hut at Baskin Dr. has been installed and all electrical work has been completed. CEL staff are finishing up installing racks, patch panels, batteries, Calix gear etc. Splicing in the field to interconnect central offices should be completed in the next couple weeks. A meeting is scheduled with the Contractor to discuss project and work practices. Expecting construction to begin the week of July 15<sup>th</sup> with first installs to begin by end of summer if no issues with

construction. The Pivot Group is coming in to train all employees June  $17^{th} - 19^{th}$ . We currently have a number of commercial customers in the process of signing up for service.

The General Manager provided an update on the building renovations. He explained that the first phase would be an enabling project which would renovate the old stockroom in the administration building into the telecommunications area. This would allow the telecomm gear in the 1895 building to be transitioned over to the new space. Meter Department would use the new telecomm area until the 1895 building is complete which should start in Spring 2020. Hopeful that the bid will go out in July. Has been delayed due to some issues with City Planning.

The General Manager reviewed a draft of an Energy Goals Policy. Commissioner Sittard asked that we clarify whether it is an 80% reduction in GHG or whether we are looking for 80% cleaner energy resources. The General Manager said he would look into this and get back to the Commission.

The General Manager discussed the CEL anniversary date with the Commissioners. Commissioner Pajak had mentioned that the 75 year report indicated that 2019 would be the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary based on the 1894 vote to start a Municipal Lighting Plant. The General Manager explained that both the 50 years and 100 years reports used the 1896 date, which is the date CEL threw the first switch. He believed this made more sense. The Commissioner agreed that the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary should be in 2021 based on this.

Commissioner Pasternak made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm. Commissioner Pajak seconded the motion. Discussion: None; Motion was passed 3 to 0.

Jeffrey R. Cady- Clerk of the Board

Approved: <u>June 25, 2019</u>