

MINUTES OF GAS & ELECTRIC COMMISSION MEETING
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 3, 2017

A meeting of the Holyoke Gas and Electric Department was held on October 3, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. in the Department's offices. In attendance were Commissioners Hoey, Griffin and Sutter; Manager Lavelle; Superintendent Beauregard, Kirk Jonah, Dan Smith, Brian Richards, Kate Sullivan, Brooke McMahon, Terry Sweeney and Attorney John Ferriter.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Hoey called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

MINUTES:

On a motion from Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Sutter, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes from September 12, 2017.

REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF MANAGER:

Financial Report:

Mr. Richards reviewed the draft August financial statements. Chairman Hoey suggested that there is an opportunity to inform ratepayers about the efforts that staff has made to insulate them from certain capacity and transmission cost increase exposure. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

DIVISION REPORTS:

GAS DIVISION

Mr. Smith reported that wholesale natural gas procurements continue consistent with the hedging plan for the current 12-month procurement window. He also presented the October natural gas rate comparisons and noted that the Department is very competitive in all classes. He then gave an update on ongoing capital and maintenance projects. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

ELECTRIC DIVISION

Power Supply:

Mr. Beauregard reviewed the October electric rate comparisons and noted that the Department remains very competitive in all rate classes. He also reviewed the October mark to market report for power supply and stated that all transactions are within policy limits. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

Mr. Beauregard gave an update on ongoing solar and storage projects and reported that the Department and Engie have agreed to terms for the purchase of energy storage services from the Mt. Tom battery storage project. Mr. Beauregard also gave a brief update on demand management activities. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

Mr. Lavelle gave a brief update on legislative efforts to require municipal light plants to comply with the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requirements. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

Mr. Beauregard reported that planned preventive maintenance and capital projects were generally on schedule and he gave an update on the design and planning activities for the Holyoke 17L Substation. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

ELECTRIC PRODUCTION

Mr. Lavelle gave an update on the fall canal outage and other maintenance projects. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Jonah gave a brief update on commercial sales and ongoing projects. There was a brief discussion on the matter.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMERCIAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE REQUEST – GILLIS INSURANCE AGENCY, INC:

Mr. Lavelle recommended that the Commission approve a Commercial Energy Assistance Request in the amount of \$8,100 for the owners of 290 High Street for the conversion to an energy efficient gas-fired heating system. After a brief discussion, and on a motion from Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Sutter, it was unanimously voted to approve the assistance per the recommendation of management.

BID AUTHORIZATIONS:

RELAY REPLACEMENTS FOR HOLYOKE 17L & INGLESIDE 52W: Mr. Lavelle requested authorization to solicit bids for microprocessor relays associated with the Holyoke 17L Substation and Ingleside 52W Substation replacement projects, to replace existing electro-mechanical relays. After a brief discussion, and on a motion from Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Sutter, it was unanimously voted to authorize the bid per the recommendation of management.

BIDS RECEIVED:

INSULATION, ASBESTOS & LEAD ABATEMENT ANNUAL CONTRACT EXTENSION:

Mr. Lavelle recommended that the Commission authorize a one year extension to the Insulation, Asbestos & Lead Abatement Annual Contract with Atlantic Contracting and Specialties, LLC, with minor adjustments to labor rates and consistent with all other terms and conditions of the existing contract. After a brief discussion, and on a motion from Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Sutter, it was unanimously voted to authorize the contract extension per the recommendation of management.

CITY HYDRO NO. 2 WICKET GATE ASSEMBLIES: Mr. Lavelle recommended that the Commission award the contract for the City Hydro No. 2 Wicket Gate Assemblies to Mountain Machine Works, the lowest qualified and eligible bidder. After a brief discussion, and on a motion

from Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Sutter, it was unanimously voted to award the contract per the recommendation of management.

COMMUNICATIONS:

09/29/17 – Draft Commission Meeting Minutes from 09/12/17

09/27/17 – JL/DD/Financial Statements, Balance Sheet August 2017

09/22/17 – JL/JJ/Commercial Assistance – Gillis Insurance Agency, Inc.

09/07/17 – BB/DV/Authorization to Bid – Relay Replacements for Holyoke 17L & Ingleside 52W

09/28/17 – JL/YD/Recommendation – Extension of Insulation, Asbestos & Lead Abatement Annual Contract

09/28/17 – JL/YD/Bid Recommendation – City Hydro No. 2 Wicket Gate Assemblies

NEXT MEETING DATE:

It was agreed that the next Commission meeting would take place on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion from Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Sutter, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the Meeting at 5:54 PM.



HS&E Commission