

Electric Light Department

Town of South Hadley

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South Hadley Electric Light Department

Municipal Light Board Meeting

Executive Session

January 20, 2016

Location: South Hadley Library Trustees Room

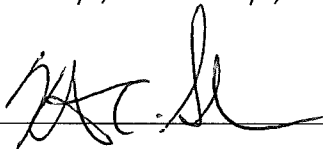
Present: Chair Anne Awad, Vice Chair Dan Whitford, Clerk Kurt Schenker, Attorney Meghan Sullivan

Open session convened at 15:00 and Whitford moved and Schenker seconded a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of discussing strategy related to litigation, because a discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the Board's litigating position, and to prepare for negotiation with non-union personnel, because open discussion could harm our negotiating position, and to not return to Open Session following conclusion of the Executive Session, by a roll call (Awad-aye, Whitford-aye, Schenker-aye: unanimous) vote. The Executive Session convened at 15:08, and was called to order by Board Chair Anne Awad.

An update was presented to the Board by Attorney Sullivan on motions related to the federal lawsuit filed by Robert Blasko against the Department and the Board. Attorney Sullivan informed the Board that it will be heard in federal court in Springfield in a few weeks. She updated us on communication with lawyers for other parties involved in the federal lawsuit. An update was presented to us by Attorney Alice Sullivan on motions related to the current litigation, lawsuit (315CV30185) that will be heard in federal court within a few weeks.

A discussion on strategies for contract negotiations for non-union personnel was held. The Board reviewed options to resolve the issue of the General Manager's employment contract. The Board discussed negotiating Doerpholz retirement. The Board also discussed the potential liability of paying out a total of \$500,000+ of accrued leave to Mr. Doerpholz and the requirement of 90 days' notice for non-renewal of the contract.

The motion to adjourn was made by Schenker, seconded by Whitford. Roll call vote on the motion (Awad-aye, Whitford-aye, Schenker-aye) was unanimous. Executive Session was adjourned at 16:00.



Clerk