

Electric Light Department

Town of South Hadley

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Municipal Light Board Meeting

Executive Session

December 22, 2015

Present: Chair Anne Awad, Vice Chair Dan Whitford, Clerk Kurt Schenker, Michael Conchieri

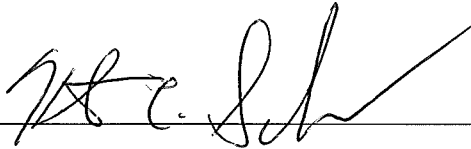
Location: South Hadley Electric Light Department Executive Meeting Room.

The Open Session convened at 15:30. A motion was made by Whitford and seconded by Schenker to enter a scheduled Executive Session and to not return to Open Session upon adjournment for the purpose of discussing the possible extension of the current Union Contract and with an explanation in Open Session that to discuss collective bargaining strategy in public would harm our negotiating position and to discuss negotiations with fiber optic companies which, to do so in Open Session, would harm our position and, related to fiber optics, to discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively-sensitive information regarding fiber optics because to do so in Open Session would harm our competitive position. The motion to enter Executive Session was done by roll call vote: Awad-aye, Whitford-aye, Schenker-aye.

Executive Session convened at 15:32. Ms. Awad shared the proposal of the Bargaining Unit members that we extend the current contract for one year, to June 30, 2017. The contract expires on June 30, 2016. The Members would like a percent increase in pay, to be negotiated, if we agree to extend. Board Members discussed, delegated Ms. Awad to negotiate and agreed that extension of the current contract was preferable to negotiating an entire new agreement without permanent management in place. We agreed that a modest pay increase would be the only term negotiated with no other terms changed from the current contract. This allows Management time to negotiate a full three year agreement for July 1, 2017.

Also discussed, was the current status with the Fiber Optics Project, its potential financial status, and who will represent SHELLED in contact with them. For the last year, Axia has been less responsive than in the past. Mr. Doerpholz reported having difficulty in getting return calls from our contact there. Recently they have been slow to respond to requests for information. Board conclusion was that we might need to seek other vendors to work with us if Axia does not follow through. Dan Whitford volunteered to be the contact and to reach out to Axia and there was no dissent.

Whitford moved and Schenker seconded a motion to adjourn from Executive Session. Roll call vote on the motion: Awad-aye, Schenker-aye, Whitford-aye. The Executive Session adjourned at 16:30.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W.C. Schenker", is written above a horizontal line.

Clerk