

**SOUTH HADLEY ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS EXECUTIVE SESSION VIRTUAL MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2023**

Present for Board: Chair John Hine, Vice Chair Denise Presley, Paul Dobosh, Kurt Schenker (arrived 6:40) Absent: Ron Coutu

Present for staff: General Manager Sean Fitzgerald, Financial Manager Michael Conchieri, Administrative Assistant Kim Mendoza

Guest: David Moore, Commercial Real Estate (for the property)

At the end of the open session meeting, after the Chair stated the reasons to move into executive session, a motion was made and seconded, and by a roll call vote (see open session minutes), the Board moved into executive session to discuss a possible property and fiber contract. The executive session began at 6:32pm.

PROPERTY:

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the deal at 75 Canal Street had fallen through when the owner leased it to someone else. SHELD has continued to search for property for the past four years including writing letters to and inquiring of landowners. Most properties were over a million dollars, but there has been nothing that meets SHELD's needs.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dave Moore left the meeting.

The second topic was a possible fiber contract with the WiredWest group of six communities who were currently with Whip City Fiber. Their contract expires in December of 2024. They put out an RFP earlier this year. SHELd has had preliminary meetings with them and has an indication that there is interest in our SHELd/Fiberspring ISP services. They are fully constructed, similar to Leverett and Shutesbury.

[REDACTED]

Mr. Fitzgerald feels SHELd could handle the workload in IT and Customer Service/Billing but would need to hire 2 more techs and a contractor for back-up service. Mr. Hine thought that the risk was small because it is already built. After a discussion, Mr. Hine asked the Board for a motion to move forward with the project.

On a motion by Ms. Presley and seconded by Mr. Schenker, it was VOTED: To allow Mr. Fitzgerald to move forward to pursue a contract with WiredWest, by roll call vote; Mr. Schenker-aye, Ms. Presley-aye, Mr. Dobosh-aye, Mr. Hine-aye.

Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Dobosh and seconded by Ms. Presley, it was VOTED: To adjourn the executive session and not return to open session, by roll call vote; Mr. Dobosh-aye, Ms. Presley-aye, Mr. Schenker-aye, Mr. Hine-aye.

The Executive Session ended at 7:13 PM.

Paul Dobosh

Paul Dobosh, Clerk

Approved: September 28, 2023

Paul Dobosh

Paul Dobosh, Clerk

Approved for Release with Redactions: March 28, 2024