

Reading Municipal Light Board of Commissioners
Executive Session
230 Ash Street
Reading, MA 01867
October 28, 2009

Start Time of Executive Session: 8:43 p.m.

End Time of Executive Session: 10:01 p.m.

Attendees:

Commissioners:

Mary Ellen O'Neill, Chairman

Phil Pacino, Secretary

Bob Soli, Commissioner

Richard Hahn, Vice Chair

Ellen Kearns, Commissioner

Staff:

Vinnie Cameron, General Manager

Beth Ellen Antonio, Human Resources Mgr.

Executive Session Minutes

September 30, 2009

Mr. Pacino made a motion seconded by Mr. Hahn to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of September 30, 2009 as presented.

Motion carried 4:0:1.

Executive Session Minutes

Commissioner O'Neill explained that the Board of Commissioners had received Executive session minutes that are recommended for release. The Board of Commissioners also received the proposed redactions in the minutes to be released.

Mr. Cameron explained that he proposed the redactions based on guidelines he had received from legal counsel.

Discussion ensued.

Motion for Release of Executive Minutes

Commissioner Pacino made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hahn that the Reading Municipal Light Department Board of Commissioners approve the release of the Executive Session meeting minutes, as redacted, for January 9, 2003, January 23, 2003, February 13, 2003, February 27, 2003, March 13, 2003, March 27, 2003 and April 22, 2003.

Motion carried 5:0:0.

Union Negotiations

Mr. Cameron stated that after the last meeting he had given a lot of thought to the direction set by the Board of Commissioners in the prior Executive Session but was now asking them to possibly reconsider the position they had taken previously. Mr. Cameron believes that a █% increase for a one-year contract is low and that he believes that a █% increase would be more appropriate.

Mr. Cameron said that his memo states his reasons for a █% increase. Mr. Cameron also presented a table that was attached to his memo that shows utility company increases are in the █% to █% range.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Cameron stated that he recommends a █% increase for the unions for the first year, which amounted to approximately \$██████ or about █% of the RMLD's annual operating cost. He also stated that we have many employees retiring this year and through attrition the Department could possibly save almost the entire cost of the proposed increases...

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Cameron asked the Board for their direction regarding the union wages.

Discussion regarding various options ensued.

It was the sense of the Board that a three-year increase would be capped at █%, that the first year should be █%, and that no year would have a █% raise.

Mr. Cameron understood the direction and thanked the Board for their patience in this matter.

Motion to Adjourn

At 10:01 pm Mr. Pacino made a motion seconded by Mr. Soli that the Board return to Regular Session for the purpose of release of Executive Minutes and adjournment.

Motion carried 5:0:0.

Chair O'Neill called for a poll of the vote:

Ms. O'Neill, Aye; Mr. Hahn, Aye; Mr. Pacino, Aye; Mr. Soli, Aye; and Ms. Kearns, Aye.