

**SOUTH HADLEY ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OPEN SESSION MEETING  
DECEMBER 23, 2024 AT 12:00 P.M.**

Present for Board: Chair John Hine, Vice Chair Paul Dobosh, Ron Coutu, Tom Terry  
Absent: Kurt Schenker

Present for SHEL D: General Manager, Sean Fitzgerald

The open session meeting was called to order by Chair John Hine at 12:00 P.M. stating that the Board would move into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c164 & 47D, for the purpose of contract negotiations with non-union personnel, the General Manager, and then return to open session. Mr. Dobosh motioned, and Mr. Coutu seconded, followed by a roll call vote: Mr. Dobosh-aye, Mr. Coutu-aye, Mr. Terry-aye, Mr. Hine-aye.

Executive session ended at 12:48 PM and the Board returned to open session.

**Vote on General Manager's Contract:**

Mr. Hine asked for a motion to grant the General Manager a 4% base salary increase with a \$12,500 bonus and 1-year contract extension, and to authorize the chair to draft the 9<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the General Manager's Contract effective January 1, 2025. Mr. Dobosh motioned, and Mr. Coutu seconded, the motion as stated by Chair Hine, followed by a roll call vote: Mr. Coutu-aye, Mr. Dobosh-aye, Mr. Terry-aye, Mr. Hine-aye. The motion passed 4 to 0.

**Revision of Vegetation Management Contract:**

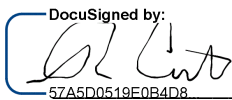
Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the vendor who was awarded the 2025-2026 Vegetation Management contract was unable to fulfill that contract as agreed upon and that SHEL D notified the vendor of termination of the contract. SHEL D Management is recommending that the 2025-2026 Vegetation Management contract be awarded to the next lowest and qualified bidder, Asplundh Tree Company.

On a motion by Mr. Coutu and seconded by Mr. Dobosh, the Board  
VOTED: to accept the recommendation of Management to award the 2025-2026 Vegetation Management contract to Asplundh Tree Company by a roll call vote: Mr. Dobosh-aye, Mr. Coutu-aye, Mr. Terry-aye, Mr. Hine -aye.

**Adjourn**

On a motion by Mr. Coutu and seconded by Mr. Terry, it was  
VOTED: To adjourn the open session by a roll call vote: Mr. Dobosh-aye, Mr. Coutu-aye, Mr. Terry-aye, Mr. Hine-aye.

The open session ended at 1:04 PM.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Ronald Coutu, Light Board Clerk

Approved: January 30, 2025