

CITY OF GROTON UTILITIES COMMISSION

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

May 26, 2010

A special meeting of the City of Groton Utilities Commission was held this date at which Mayor Popp, Commissioners Duarte, Dunbar-Rose and Rabitaille; Director of Utilities Yatchko, Deputy Director-Administrative Services Collard, Deputy Director-Electric Roche; General Manager-Information Technology Blanchette, General Manager-Major Accounts and Rates & Revenue Requirements Conner, General Manager-Commercial Accounts and Power Requirements Mediavilla, General Manager-Water Stevens, General Manager-Electric Operations Surprenant; Manager-Energy Services Wehner; and Executive Assistant Gaudette were present.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Popp at 5:08 p.m.

Rabitaille / Duarte that the minutes of the special meeting of April 28, 2010 be approved. So voted unanimously.

Dunbar-Rose / Rabitaille that the minutes of the Public Hearing of May 19, 2010 be approved. So voted unanimously.

Duarte / Dunbar-Rose that the minutes of the special meeting of May 19, 2010 be approved. So voted unanimously.

Review and Acceptance of Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for the month of April showing the following balances was presented by Treasurer Dunbar-Rose.

Checking Account Activity for the month of April:

	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Electric General Fund	\$ 703,765
Water General Fund	\$ 12,490
Meter Deposit Fund	\$ 0
Electric Bond Fund	\$ 265
Water Bond Fund	\$ 789

Cash Investment Activity:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Electric General Fund	\$ 14,264	\$ 14,266
Water General Fund	\$ 0	\$ 0
Money Market Fund	\$ 56,482	\$ 104,427
Meter Deposit Fund	\$ 925,910	\$ 926,060
Electric Bond Fund	\$ 2,129,167	\$ 2,046,909

Water Bond Fund	\$ 887,351	\$ 887,495
Economic Development Reserve Fund	\$ 104,063	\$ 104,080
Electric Restricted Fund	\$ 1,463,802	\$ 1,476,290
Water Restricted Fund	\$ 444,780	\$ 444,852

At the end of the tenth month, total investment earnings should be at 83.30% and we are at 70.50%. Earnings for the Electric Division are 8.55%, 103.67% of budget for BL&P, and 32.42% of budget for the Water Division.

Rabitaile / Duarte that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted. So voted unanimously.

Communications and Correspondence

The following communications were received:

- A poster entitled “Professionals Doing Their Jobs – March 29, 2010” from Groton Utilities’ customer Mr. Rob Zuliani, with pictures of the Electric Division personnel working to restore power in the Cushman Street area and a “thank you” to the professional members of Groton Utilities

Public Communications

There were no members of the public present.

CMEEC Board of Directors Report

Director Yatcko stated there has not been a Board of Directors meeting since the last City of Groton Utilities Commission meeting. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2010.

Review of Monthly Financial Report

Total Electric Revenue for the Electric Division for the month of April was \$4,052,475 or 0.2% above expectations. In comparison to last year, Total Electric Revenue is 12.9% less. Total Electric Revenue for the Fiscal Year-to-Date was \$47,682,010, or 0.9% above budget and 1.7% below in comparison to last year. Operation & Maintenance Expense for April was \$621,497, or 9.9% below expectations. In comparison to last year, Operation & Maintenance Expense is 2.2% less. Operation & Maintenance Expense for the Fiscal Year-to-Date was \$6,257,177, or 9.3% below budget and 6.5% above in comparison to last year. Depreciation Expense for the month of April was \$120,613, or 7.2% below budget. In comparison to last year, Depreciation Expense was 1.8% less. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Depreciation Expense was \$1,236,726, or 4.9% below budget and 1.1% more than last year. Net Income for the month of April was \$581,190 or 27.3% above budget. In comparison to last year, Net Income was 13.4% more. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Net Income was \$6,074,611, or 69.5% above budget, and 1.5% more than last year.

Effective January 1, 2010, the State of Connecticut’s mandated Conservation Charge was increased from \$0.0019 to \$0.0022 per kWh and is added as a line item to customers’ bills. More than \$70,000 was charged to customers in April, excluding the Navy and interruptible loads. This amount is included in revenue and expensed as Conservation Expense. This will be transferred to Groton

Utilities' Conservation and Load Management (CLM) Account held at CMEEC in accordance with the Connecticut State Statute. Groton Utilities controls all expenditures from this fund. More than \$86,000 in energy rebates was paid to customers during the month of April with a total Fiscal Year-to-Date of \$422,614.

Total Water Revenue for the Water Division for the month of April was \$619,366, or 3.9% above budget projections. In comparison to last year, Total Water Revenue is 8.2% more. Total Water Revenue for the Fiscal Year-to-Date was \$6,442,644, or 3.4% below budget and 4.5% more in comparison to last year. Operation and Maintenance Expenses for the month of April were \$560,815, or 6.9% below budget. In comparison to last year, Operation and Maintenance Expenses are 6.2% more. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Operation and Maintenance Expenses were \$5,445,295, or 9.6% below budget, and 4.0% more in comparison to last year. Total Operating Expenses for the month of April were \$649,776, or 5.4% below budget. In comparison to last year, Total Operating Expenses are 0.2% more. Total Operating Expenses for the Fiscal Year-to-Date were \$6,335,104, or 7.8% below budget, and 4.0% more in comparison to last year. Net Earnings before Debt Principal for the month of April were \$(7,628) or 90.1% above the budgeted loss. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Net Earnings before Dept Principal were \$272,600 or 589.9% above budget, and 44.3% more than last Fiscal Year-to-Date.

Deputy Director Collard responded to Commissioners questions on the Purchased Power Adjustment (PPA), cubic feet sold versus water pumped to system, and the Sale for Resale revenues.

Review of Director of Utilities' Report

The Director of Utilities' Report dated May 26, 2010 was presented as follows:

May 26, 2010

The City of Groton Utilities Commission
Groton, Connecticut

Ladies and Gentlemen:

*1. **GUC-10-4-146:** As reported at the April 28, 2010 Utilities Commission meeting, Groton Utilities has been approached by more than one alternative energy generation company requesting information on the requirements to install relatively large generation (1 MW to 10 MW) facilities within our distribution system. The energy produced would be sold to the electric market. This will require Groton Utilities to provide interconnection to our distribution system, allowing the generated energy to be injected into our system and virtually wheeled through Buddington Road Substation to be available to the market. These services have a value, and a wheeling tariff needs to be put in place to allow us to provide those services. Copies of the proposed wheeling rate are included in each Commissioner's work binder.

It is recommended that the City of Groton Utilities' Commission adopt a wheeling service rate for the interconnection of generation facilities to Groton Utilities distribution system.

*2. **GUC-10-5-147:** The Community Service Award Selection Committee is comprised of Manager of Economic Development Winkler, Building and Facilities Coordinator Grills and a representative from the Director's office, this year Executive Assistant Gaudette. Management would like to include one representative each from the Utilities Commission and from the City Council to serve on this committee. The Community Service Award Selection Committee is tasked with seeking

nominations from the public, based on specific criteria, in order to present the 7th Annual “Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award” at City Day on August 6, 2010.

Publicity to generate increased interest in this meaningful award has begun. A press release announcing the acceptance of nominations was sent to the local media on April 12, 2010, posted on Groton Utilities’ website (www.grotonutilities.com), Thames Valley Communications’ Community Portal and the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce website.

It is recommended that _____ be appointed to serve as a member of the Community Service Award Selection Committee for the 7th Annual “Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award” to be presented at City Day on August 6, 2010.

*3. **GUC-10-05-148:** In September 2009, the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) Board of Directors approved funding to perform a customer survey at each of the member utilities. The survey is intended to gather information regarding customer knowledge/understanding and acceptance of Smart Grid technology, and the possible implementation of various forms of Time of Use Rates.

The firm retained is preparing the implementation schedule to conduct surveys of member utility customers by conducting one or more focus group interviews and possible individual interviews of commercial/industrial customers.

This project is being conducted as part of the Smart Grid Grant project and will be funded from Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funds.

Groton Utilities has the option of whether or not to participate in this project as conducted per the proposed schedule or rescheduled for a more appropriate time. There will be no direct financial impact to the Groton Utilities’ Electric Division budget.

It is recommended that the City of Groton Utilities Commission authorize Management to participate in the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative’s (CMEEC) Smart Grid Grant Project Customer Survey per the proposed schedule.

*4. **GUC-10-05-149:** As reported at the April 28, 2010 Utilities Commission meeting, Groton Utilities’ Project Management personnel have been in the process of gathering information to present options for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) security and fiber optic infrastructure. Electric Operations is seeking permission to move ahead with Groton Utilities’ Electric Fiber Optic Network Installation Project.

After recent discussions with Thames Valley Communications, Inc. (TVC), it is extremely clear that Groton Utilities would benefit from a partnership with TVC to build and maintain Groton Utilities’ Electric Fiber Network. TVC has quoted an estimate of approximately \$125,000 to setup fiber optic cabling drops using a fiber backbone that already exists. This includes fiber optic cabling drops and network equipment at each of ten (10) Electric Substations and the Operations Building and will tie in at the TVC head end, location at 295 Meridian Street. The quote also proposes a cost of roughly \$1,200 monthly, down from the original quote of \$4,000, to maintain the network once installed. A commitment will be needed by June 2010 to retain the current quote.

Currently Groton Utilities’ Electric Operations is functioning with very old modems over copper to each station at a cost of approximately \$17,000 annually. This network provides 9600 bits

per second data transmission speeds. The proposed network will provide better than 1 gigabit per second data transmission speeds.

This project will create an excellent business partnership within the Groton Utilities infrastructure between the Electric Division and TVC. It will also pave the way to an extremely successful Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Smart Grid implementation.

It is recommended that the City of Groton Utilities Commission authorize Management to issue a purchase order to Thames Valley Communications, Inc., 295 Meridian Street, Groton, Connecticut in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fourteen Dollars and No Cents (\$155,714.00) for fiber optic network installation and maintenance to be paid from funds available in the approved 2005 Electric Bond Fund and furthermore, that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur.

5. **GUC-10-05-150:** After recent discussions with fellow Municipal Utilities, it has become extremely clear that Groton Utilities would benefit from a partnership with Advanced Control Systems (ACS) to build and maintain Groton Utilities’ Electric Division’s Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.

The most beneficial reason for this request is that the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC), Norwich Public Utilities, the Town of Wallingford, and the Mohegan Sun all currently have the ACS SCADA software and hardware installed on their Utility Systems, and they have had an extremely successful experience with the system and service from the company.

Groton Utilities’ Electric Division Management would like to take advantage of this already existing partnership and reduced pricing due to the recent purchase made by CMEEC as part of the 50 in 5 Project.

Savings for each of ten (10) substations could be upwards of \$4,000 for each remote terminal unit (RTU), for an initial savings of \$40,000. Other benefits include:

- knowledgeable staff within CMEEC member companies
- possible local training and user group conferences, which reduces travel expenses
- need for spare parts drastically reduced
- reduced future costs because of partner company collaboration

The currently installed SCADA system has an Intellution Ifix front end, with a mix of four (4) different RTUs. Most of the units are twelve (12) years old and failing. Management believes now is an excellent time to upgrade the system in conjunction with our fellow Municipal Utilities.

Management is prepared to review this project with the Utilities Commission on May 26, 2010, and will seek Utilities Commission approval at the June 16, 2010 meeting.

6. Water Statistics:

	<u>May 17, 2010</u>	<u>Apr.19, 2010</u>	<u>May 18, 2009</u>
Water in Usable Storage	2,556 M.G.	2,573 M.G.	2,572 M.G.
Daily Average Pumping Rate (Week)	5.1 M.G.	4.9 M.G.	4.9 M.G.
Annual Running Average per Day to Date (Year)	5.5 M.G.	5.6 M.G.	5.6 M.G.

Electric Statistics:

	<u>April 2010</u>	<u>Mar. 2010</u>	<u>April 2009</u>
kWhs Purchased	38,173,824	40,192,612	43,480,806
System kW Demand	67,064	65,836	75,002

7. During the month of April, Groton Utilities experienced twenty (20) Call Outs from the customers. These Call Outs only involved two (2) outages, both due to tree related incidents, totaling 135,052 Customer Minutes of lost electric power. During April 2009, there were twenty-two (22) Call Outs involving 131,983 Customer Minutes lost; near identical times.

One of this year's outages involved 1,576 customers for the duration of 84 minutes on the Poquonnock Road feeder, resulting in 132,384 Customer Minutes of lost electric power. This month's one (1) incident on a major feeder almost accumulated the same amount of time as last year's entire month.

8. Energy Assistance Program

Receipt and Allocation of Funds as of April 30, 2010
(As reported by Town Social Services)

	<u>This Month</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Initial Start-up Funds	N/A	\$ 2,000.00
Customer Donations	\$ 163.76	\$ 136,259.32
Groton Utilities' Matching Funds Paid	\$ 1,058.29	\$ 64,599.78
Allocation to Customers	\$ 3,343.95	\$ 199,876.93
Balance on Hand	>>>	\$ 2,982.17

Last 12 Months

Donations	\$ 9,056.04
Matching	\$ 4,512.44
Distributed	\$ 10,759.39

9. CONN-OSHA Recordable Accidents:

Division	Month of April		Year-to-Date		Prior (2009) Year-to-Date	
	LTA	Non-LTA	LTA	Non-LTA	LTA	Non-LTA
Electric	0	0	0	0	4	4
Water	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sewer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Admin/CC	0	0	0	0	0	2

LTA: Lost Time Accident

Non-LTA – Non-Lost Time Accident

10. System reservoirs are at 99.34 percent of total usable storage with stream flows below normal levels.

Precipitation recorded for the month of April was 2.10 inches, which is 2.14 inches below the seventy-nine year Groton average for April. Total precipitation for the first four (4) months of 2010 was 25.06 inches, which is 8.26 inches above the seventy-nine year average for the same period.

11. The Summary of Operations at the Water Treatment Plant for the month of April 2010 is available for Commissioner review.

12. The Water Division is working with Eagle Scout David Scott on his Eagle Scout project of reconstructing a Xeriscape garden at the City of Groton Municipal Building. Xeriscaping refers to landscaping and gardening in ways that reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental irrigation. It is promoted in areas that do not have easily accessible supplies of fresh water, and is gaining acceptance in other areas as climate patterns shift. Some of the advantages of Xeriscape gardens include lower water consumption, more water available for other uses and other people, less time and work needed for maintenance, little or no lawn mowing, and Xeriscape plants, along with proper bed design, tends to take full advantage of rainfall.

13. As part of the Water Treatment Plant Short-Term Improvements Project, a new level indicator for sediment basin levels, and eventual control, has been installed for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) operation and is being evaluated.

14. There were two (2) water main breaks and no water service leaks during the month of April as follows:

- 6-inch water main break at 233 Shennecossett Parkway on April 1, 2010
- 6-inch water main break at 8 Linda Court on April 22, 2010

15. As part of the 13.8 kV Voltage Conversion Project, Groton Utilities' line crews continued the process of upgrading the distribution facilities on Thames Street. During the month of April, Groton Utilities' line crews completed the voltage conversion work on Broad Street and are in the process of changing transformers on Thames Street. Project Management personnel are making arrangements with customers for scheduling the temporary power outages needed for the conversion, which will occur in May. Once the Thames Street distribution lines have been converted to 13.8 kV, the Trails Corner Substation Voltage Conversion will be complete and the work order closed. The Thames Street Voltage Conversion is scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2010. The voltage conversion is an approved 2000 Electric Bond Fund Project.

16. As part of the 308-Line Upgrade Project, Groton Utilities' Electric Operations' personnel continued the installation of the 35 kV underground cables. During the month of April, seventy-two (72) of one hundred ninety-eight (198) splices were installed, and cable racks in thirteen (13) of thirty-two (32) manholes were replaced. Splicing work and replacing the cable racks are scheduled to continue throughout May and will be completed in June 2010. The 308-Line Upgrade Project is an approved 1992 and 2001 Electric Bond Fund Project.

17. As part of the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative's (CMEEC) 50 in 5 Project, during the month of March, Groton Utilities' Electric Project Management personnel completed the engineering of the generator connections to Groton Utilities' distribution for the Bridge Street generator site. A purchase order was received from Sustainable Energy Analytics (SEA) for the costs associated with the connection. The riser pole was set, and the installation of the underground distribution facilities will occur during the month of May.

18. As part of the Stockhouse Road Substation Upgrade Project, a purchase order has been

issued to Howard Industries for the purchase of a new 24/30/40 MVA transformer to replace the failed 2X transformer. Groton Utilities' environmental contractor, TCI, has removed the failed transformer from the site. The engineering design for the modifications to the 2X transformer foundation will include a secondary containment area in the event of an oil leak.

19. As part of the Automated Meter Reading (AMR) Smart Grid Project, Groton Utilities' Electric Meter Department personnel are ordering time-of-use Sensus® Flexnet® meters for residential use to prepare for the upcoming State of Connecticut, Department of Energy (DOE) and Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) Smart Grid Grant Project. Groton Utilities' Electric Operations personnel are working with CMEEC's Account Management team to plan for the Smart Grid Grant Project as it relates to AMR and the population of meters throughout the distribution system.

20. During the month of April, Electric Operations General Manager Surprenant took part in a teleconference regarding potential cyber-security threats to critical infrastructure like power plants and the telecom system, referred to as "aurora vulnerability", and how the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. (NPCC) members are potentially affected by it.

21. The Conservation and Load Management Program results for the year to date are as follows:

YEAR TO DATE REPORT ON CONSERVATION & LOAD MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

MEASURE	# Projects	\$ Incentive	Customer Costs	Annual kWh Savings	Annual Cust Savings	Lifetime kWh Savings	Lifetime Cust Savings
Residential Dwellings Retro	689	\$361,152	\$0	276,732	\$38,742	2,158,511	\$302,192
Appliance Rebates	87	\$5,160	\$61,899	31,727	\$4,442	353,608	\$49,505
Residential HVAC	4	\$4,100	\$79,216	0	\$0	0	\$0
Load Control High Efficiency Motors	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Com/Ind HVAC	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Com/Ind Lighting	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other	2	\$1,125	\$2,350	0	\$0	0	\$0
Program Totals	782	\$371,537	\$143,465	308,459	\$43,184	2,512,119	\$351,697

The \$\$\$ value of savings is based on \$0.14 cents per kWh and not the actual savings over the lifetime of the conservation measure. This is only an estimate based on today's customer costs.

22. On May 6, 2010, Groton Utilities and Thames Valley Communications, Inc. were awarded a 2010 Golden Pineapple award in the category of Associate Member of the Year by the Connecticut Commission on Tourism and Culture. The award is given to a non-tourism based organization recognized for participation, community image and/or creative problem-solving while supporting the tourism industry.

23. Leader Substation Electrician Thomas Silva tendered his notice to retire effective April 23, 2010. Tom joined the City of Groton Highway Department in September 1979, and transferred to Groton Utilities' Electric Division's Substation and Metering section in May 1984. Tom is known as a hard worker and was instrumental in the construction of six (6) electric substations. He has

extensive knowledge of the Groton Utilities' distribution system. A very dedicated employee, Tom was always one of the first to respond to emergencies and power outages and is well respected among his fellow employees for his leadership, knowledge and work ethic. Tom has moved on to his second love of commercial fishing. Management thanks Tom for his years of service and wishes him well in his retirement.

24. Management notes with sadness the passing of Mrs. Kathleen McCain Clark on May 4, 2010. Mrs. Clark joined Groton Utilities on January 13, 1986 and served as the Mayor' secretary before transferring to the Water Division in April of 1996. Mrs. Clark retired on January 1, 2000 after fourteen (14) years of service.

25. The bill for purchased power for the month of April 2010 as received from CMEEC is in the amount of \$3,603,031.61. Effective April 1, 2010, the Purchased Power Adjustment (PPA) increased from \$0.007876 per kWh to \$0.008876 per kWh and was applied to customers' billings. For the month of April, \$233,072 was collected to help offset generation costs. For the month of April, a surplus of \$78,662 will be added to the PPA Fund. The PPA Fund is now a credit of \$152,189 and will be monitored and flowed through to customers at a later date. Effective April 1, 2010, the Transmission Cost Adjustment (TCA) was decreased from \$0.00526 per kWh to \$0.00426 per kWh and \$111,862 was collected to help offset a deficit of \$54,299. The net surplus of \$57,563 will be charged to the TCA Normalization Fund. The TCA Fund now is a credit of \$320,794 and includes interest income on the Fund.

26. Monthly reports as received from the Deputy Director-Electric Division, Deputy Director-Water Division, General Manager-Information Technology and Manager-Economic Development are available in the Director of Utilities' office for Commissioner review.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Paul Yatcko
Director of Utilities

Regarding Report Item No. 22, Commissioner Dunbar-Rose complimented Groton Utilities' Management and Staff on receiving the Connecticut Commission on Tourism and Culture's 2010 Golden Pineapple award in the category of Associate Member of the Year.

Old Business

Report Item No. *1, GUC-10-04-146: Consideration of and Action to adopt a wheeling service rate for the interconnection of generation facilities to Groton Utilities' distribution system

Duarte / Dunbar-Rose that the City of Groton Utilities Commission adopt a wheeling service rate for the interconnection of generation facilities to Groton Utilities' distribution system. So voted unanimously.

New Business

Report Item No. *2, GUC-10-05-147: Consideration of and Action to recommend that _____ be appointed to serve as a member of the Community Service Award Selection Committee for the 7th Annual "Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award" to be presented at City Day on August 6, 2010

Dunbar-Rose / Duarte that the City of Groton Utilities Commission appoint Commissioner Rabitaille to serve as a member of the Community Service Award Selection Committee for the 7th Annual “Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award” to be presented at City Day on August 6, 2010. So voted unanimously.

Report Item No. *3, GUC-10-05-148: Consideration of and Action to authorize Management to participate in the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative’s (CMEEC) Smart Grid Grant Project Customer Survey per the proposed schedule

Dunbar-Rose / Rabitaille that the City of Groton Utilities Commission authorize Management to participate in the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative’s (CMEEC) Smart Grid Grant Project Customer Survey per the proposed schedule.

General Manager Conner gave a brief overview of the survey and how it relates to the Smart Grid project. The format of the survey will be two (2) or more focus groups from each class of customer. The survey is intended to determine how knowledgeable customers are about time-of-use (TOU) rates and which customers would most likely participate should TOU rates be implemented.

So voted unanimously.

Report Item No. *4, GUC-10-05-149: Consideration of and Action to authorize Management to issue a purchase order to Thames Valley Communications, Inc., 295 Meridian Street, Groton, Connecticut in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fourteen Dollars and No Cents (\$155,714.00) for fiber optic network installation and maintenance to be paid from funds available in the approved 2005 Electric Bond Fund and furthermore, that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur

Rabitaille / Dunbar-Rose that the City of Groton Utilities Commission authorize Management to issue a purchase order to Thames Valley Communications, Inc., 295 Meridian Street, Groton, Connecticut in the amount of One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fourteen Dollars and No Cents (\$155,714.00) for fiber optic network installation and maintenance to be paid from funds available in the approved 2005 Electric Bond Fund and furthermore, that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur.

General Manager Surprenant gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed fiber optic network and SCADA system. The main advantages of utilizing a fiber optic network are fast data retrieval from all substations, real-time video surveillance at the substations, and a reduction of expenses from the current leased circuits. Deputy Director Roche and General Manager Surprenant explained the quote from TVC is to provide drops from the existing fiber and would save Groton Utilities’ approximately \$660,000 by utilizing TVC’s existing dark cable. New equipment and software for the SCADA system portion of the project would require additional funds.

Commissioner Dunbar-Rose stated that a form specifying TVC as a preferred vendor due to the financial savings of utilizing the existing fiber would be more appropriate in this instance than the Sole Source Certificate.

So voted unanimously.

Report Item No. 5, GUC-10-05-150: Management review of Groton Utilities’ Electric Division’s Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system upgrade project

General Manager Surprenant gave an overview of the proposed SCADA system. Benefits of the new system would include real-time monitoring of substation equipment, historical data and trending information, event information in real-time during storms or other electric events, and notification prior to dispatching personnel. The project will also include a security camera system. The system will allow for remote triggering of lighting and other security devices.

Commissioner Duarte inquired about the current condition of the SCADA system. General Manager Surprenant replied the current software is eight (8) versions outdated, and purchasing the required updates would cost as much as purchasing new software. Commissioner Duarte asked what else would be needed in the substations after the fiber optic network is connected. General Manager Surprenant stated the existing equipment would be removed and new SCADA equipment would be installed.

Mayor Popp asked who would be monitoring the new system. Deputy Director Roche replied the system would not require constant monitoring as early warning notifications will be sent to Management, the On-Call Manager, and On-Call personnel via text messages. The Commission asked Management to provide a comprehensive project cost for the entire project.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:21 p.m., Rabitaille / Duarte that this meeting adjourn. So voted unanimously.

Attest:

David A. Rabitaille
Clerk