MALDEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
COMMUNITY CENTER – 607 N DOUGLAS

Board President Clark Duckett called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT
Board President Duckett	X	
Board Member Bennett	X	
Board Member Coleman	X	
Board Member Trinkler	X	
Members Present		4

OTHERS ATTENDING City Administrator/Utility Director Jeff Mitchell, Electric Distribution Coordinator Todd Jenkins, Power Plant Superintendent Drew Miller, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Krepps, City Council Liaison Phil Santie, City Attorney Jonce Chidister, Board Secretary Cathy Merritt

Guest: Richard Cochran

Approval of the Minutes

Board Member Bennett expressed concern about quotes from local businesses on the admin vehicle purchase. Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board he had gotten quotes on two different model vehicles and he went with the quote from out of town due to it being the cheapest but going forward he would be sure to get quotes on the same model of vehicles from local businesses.

MOTION: By Board Member Trinkler to Approve the Regular Session Minutes of March 31, 2026.
SECOND: By Board Member Bennett.
MOTION PASSED

FINANCIAL REPORTS

There were no questions concerning the financials.

Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board the City Council approved the transfer of $500,000.00 from the Economic Development Fund to the Water/Sewer Operations & Maintenance Fund. Board President Duckett informed the Board with the Council's approval to use the funds and the raised rates, the intent is to get the water/sewer debt down and to get the funds in the good standing.

MOTION: By Board Member Trinkler to Approve the Transfer of $500,000.00 from the Economic Development Fund to the Water/Sewer Operations & Maintenance Fund .
SECOND: By Board Member Coleman.
MOTION PASSED

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Electric Department
Mr. Jenkins informed the Board all is good and it's business as usual with the electric department.

Power Plant
Mr. Miller informed the Board at the plant all of the generator sets are running good. Mr. Miller informed the Board there have been some repairs done in the last couple of months that include replacing a raw tower water pump on unit #6, an irrigation central, and had a few exhaust leaks on unit #7. Mr. Miller informed the Board that DNR has finally released their operating permit which will expire in April of 2031. Mr. Miller informed the Board the power purchase contract with SWPA will expire in 2029 and we will be presented with a new contract in about another year or so with another contract that looks virtually the same to the one we currently have.

Fuel Depot
Mr. Miller informed the Board the fuel depot has an automated system that uses a key fob afc computer outside with a keypad with assigned codes for departments to use to get fuel. Mr. Miller informed the Board the software timed out and has resulted in two issues: one being the key fob is no longer being made and the second issue is when the fuel reports were ran the year date had been reverted back in time. Mr. Miller informed the Board the original software owner made a fob for him to get into the system with, the time, month and day are correct but year isn't which shouldn't be a problem. Mr. Miller informed the Board he has contacted Mid-South Steel for a software update and options, will probably be a cloud base software system and fuel keys since they are cheaper than the fobs. Mid-South Steel wants to come and look at our system before they give an accurate dollar amount but gave a rough estimated cost of $17,000-$20,000.

Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board the fuel depot was budgeted at $40,000 to tear down but instead he had it remodeled at a cost of $26,200. Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board the remaining funds can be used to go towards the cost of the software needed for fuel depot.

Scada
Mr. Miller informed the Board a scada system is a supervisory control and data software with lots of components, which allows them to know what's going on in town from the water wells and towers, but the main thing is the electric system which tells us what every distribution breaker is doing in town regarding loads, amp usage, and can open and close amp breakers remotely. Mr. Miller informed the Board that since we fall into their balancing authority, Evergy and Southwest Power Pull will be able to see our load, ask for generation if needed and can see when that load has dropped. Mr. Miller informed the Board we can't be in the balancing authority with Southwest Power Pool without it. Mr. Miller informed the Board our software has not been supported in 10 years, it won't function on any new software out there and the scada system is not a luxury, it is a necessity. Mr. Miller informed the Board, the bids are separated by the electric and water sides of the system and could be split in three fiscal years/phases but it's suggested not to do it that way due to pricing.

Water/Wastewater Department
Mr. Krepps informed the Board while working on Elm St an asbestos line was blown three times but it's good now. Mr. Krepps informed the Board the crew has been working on sewer lines that's been backing up or blocked, doing normal maintenance and there have been no issues with the three lift stations that were repaired in-house.

Office Reports
No reports.

Director Reports

Well #5 Recommendations

Richard Cochran informed the Board one of the issues the City is having is getting chlorine to stay in the system and get to the south side of town. Mr. Cochran believes a lot of that is due to the contaminants in the water. Mr. Cochran informed the Board that while they're not out of compliance, well #5 has 1.5 parts of iron, .006 parts of manganese, .06 parts ammonia, while not harmful it does eat up the chlorine. Mr. Cochran informed the Board one thing to do now would be to switch over to gas chlorination which would be a temporary fix. Mr. Cochran stated at well #5 it would cost around $70,000 and for well #6 $120,000. Mr. Cochran informed the Board the intent is to treat the water as soon as it comes into the ground with some detention time to give the chlorine some time to react. Mr. Cochran stated you'll need an air-tight room to store the chlorine containers in and also will need to give plan and specifications to DNR for approval.

After much discussion it was decided that it would be better to do gas chlorination at well #6.

MOTION: By Board Member Trinkler to Approve Well #6 to be Switched Over to Gas Chlorination.
SECOND: By Board Member Bennett.
MOTION PASSED

Evergy Contract

Mr. Miller stated he wanted to speak a little on energy or load verses capacity when talking about power. Mr. Miller stated load is what we're pulling right now for electricity, energy is what we're currently purchasing or generating, and capacity is what is available to us. Mr. Miller informed the Board our peak load happens in the winter, the highest hit was 11.7 in January of 2025 and it has only hit that twice since Federal Mogul closed. Mr. Miller informed the Board firm capacity is round 22½ megawatts with 13½ megawatts of that coming from the generators at the power plant, we have 9 megawatts from power purchase agreements, 5MW from SWP and 4MW from Plum Point. Mr. Miller stated when talking about paper capacity with our 11.7 load the government wants a buffer, says you need 36% more available to you, ours is 15½ so we will never need our full 22½ MW of capacity .

Mr. Miller informed the Board he has been in touch with Evergy who will always need more on paper and are willing to give us a contract for paper capacity. Mr. Miller stated a 4-year contract starting June 1, 2027 selling 6 MW can bring in $48,000 monthly, $576,000 yearly and $2.3 million over the course of four years. Mr. Miller informed the Board it would be in the contract if there are any issues and if there's a need to pull MW from the deal, we can or if we gain any MW, we can add to the deal also.

Mr. Miller informed the Board they can also offer us a short term, 4 month winter (December – March) contract, which would only be 5MW and bring in about $20,000 a month. Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board he was told this was a contract for paper capacity only that we would not have to generate.

MOTION: By Board Member Trinkler to Approve and Give Authority to City Administrator/Utility Director Mitchell and Power Plant Superintendent Miller to Move Forward and Begin Negotiations with Evergy on Sale of Paper Capacity.
SECOND: By Board Member Coleman.
MOTION PASSED

Cotton Bowl Park

Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board he has someone who is wanting to purchase the Cotton Bowl Park and wanted to bring it before the Board and get their feelings on selling the property.

After discussion the Board decided there was no issues with selling the property and could be presented to the City Council.

MOTION: By Board Member Coleman to Have Utility Director Mitchell Present the Sale of Cotton Bowl Park to the City Council with No Objections from the BPW Board.
SECOND: By Board Member Trinkler.
MOTION PASSED

Grinder/Rotamat
Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board he just wanted to let the Board review the information on the two options to choose from in case something happened due to baby wipes.

BHMG-Electric Substation System Plan
Board President Duckett requested an engineer from BHMG to come to the next board meeting and discuss the plan.

Splash Pad
Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board the concrete is supposed to be poured tomorrow and once the apron get put up the fence and bathrooms will be next.

2026-2027 Budget
Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board he is working on the budget but has been having issues with the financials but hopes to have something situated soon.

Other Business Deemed Necessary

Mr. Miller inquired what decision had the Board made in regard to the scada system.

MOTION: By Board Member Trinkler to Approve the Power Plant Scada System with Cost of $435,451.00 from Vipower Services.
SECOND: By Board Member Bennett.
MOTION PASSED

With nothing further to discuss a motion to Adjourn the Regular Session Meeting of June 2, 2026 was entertained.

MOTION: By Board Member Coleman to Adjourn the Regular BPW Session Meeting of June 2, 2026 @ 6:45P.M.
SECOND: By Board Member Trinkler.
MOTION PASSED

Adjourned Regular Session at 6:45P.M. on June 2, 2026.

ATTEST:

BOARD SECRETARY

BOARD PRESIDENT