# MALDEN BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

## REGULAR SESSION
## TUESDAY, JULY 28, 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 (via phone) | X | |
| Members Present | | 3 |

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

**GUEST ATTENDING**: Ben Klene from BHMG

**Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** By Board Member Bennett to Approve the Regular Session Minutes of June 30, 2026.
**SECOND:** By Board Member Trinkler.
**MOTION PASSED**

**BHMG Electrical Study**
Mr. Klene informed the Board when doing the study there were some concerns with increasing loads from Weaver Popcorn and Bernie's Farmers Gin on the airbase substation due to the transformer currently there will be undersized to serve that capacity long term. Mr. Klene informed the Board BHMG recommends upgrading that transformer at the airbase substation.

Mr. Klene informed the Board most transformers in the city's system are in pretty good shape and there's not a lot of concern there. Mr. Klene informed the Board the scope of the study was for the next 5 years with a possible 25-27% increase in the load. Mr. Jenkins indicated that he would like to double the size what was recommended so that if more was needed it would already be there to handle it. Mr. Klene informed the Board the recommendation was a minimum of what should go there but a larger transformer would only benefit in the long term with a lifespan of 20-30 years.

Mr. Klene informed the Board the lead time on these transformers and breakers is more like 1–3-year mark and would be a multi-year project due to pricing continually going up. Mr. Klene informed the Board from the time you decide to move forward and the time installation is finished could be a 2–3-year project.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**
There were no questions concerning the financials.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Electric Department
Mr. Jenkins informed the Board routine maintenance is being done.

Power Plant
Mr. Miller informed the Board operational capacity test runs are being done. Mr. Miller informed the Board he had some issues with the Pielstick in which he mediated but there's been no upgrades and nothing done with generation or auxiliary equipment. Mr. Miller informed the Board the one quote he got is $95,000. Mr. Miller informed the Board the systems need repaired including jack & water issues, air manifold temps to high and cylinder ratios.

Mr. Miller informed the Board, Mid-South Steel submitted a quote for the software needed at the fuel depot with a price of $16,276.00. The Board requested it be put on hold another month while the board reviews the financials.

Water/Wastewater Department
Mr. Krepps informed the Board routine maintenance was being done. Mr. Krepps informed the Board Davis & Pittman lift stations are done. Mr. Krepps informed the Board the panel boxes are fried at Pittman and Vandevanter gave a quote of $6870.00 to repair and Ford lift station is going with $2100 being spent to repair. Mr. Krepps informed the Board well #6 is being used for now and the ammonia is bad. Mr. Krepps informed the Board hydrant flushing is being done right now and should be done by Friday.

Mr. Krepps informed the Board DNR was on him about the water towers dome replacements being done. Mr. Krepps stated even though we had a contract showing it was going to be taken care of, DNR is wanting a definite time and date it would be fixed or they were going to give us a violation. Mr. Krepps informed the Board they are supposed to be here on the 15th to do the work.

Office Reports
Mrs. Merritt informed the Board disconnects for non-payment have been put on hold due to the hot temperatures.

City Council Liaison Santie inquired about applicants for open clerk position and Mrs. Merritt informed the Board she will be setting up interviews for next week.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

Evergy-Draft Contract
Utility Director Mitchell informed the Board, City Attorney Chidister reviewed and he is okay with everything in the new contract. City Attorney Chidister informed the Board if we don't meet the accreditation we won't be paid anything, there would be no penalty but a loss of revenue until we can prove we can meet the capacity stated in the contract.

Mr. Miller informed the Board, Chris Bridges from Evergy will be here August 5th at 10:00am to meet, discuss, and answer any questions the Board has if any of them would like to attend.

Splash Pad
Utility Director informed the Board they were in the process of getting a gate for the splash pad.
There was discussion about the grant money being paid over to BPW and any balances over being paid back within a maximum of five years and about the amount of water that has been used since installing the water meter.

2026-2027 Budget
Board Member Bennett asked why Wayne Shelton was being paid by BPW when he was retired. City Attorney Chidister informed Board Member Bennett that Wayne has a as needed consultant contract with BPW.

**Other Business Deemed Necessary**

City Council Liaison Santie commended everyone for the jobs and work they are doing and being patient while the City works through all of it's issues while trying to ease everyone's concerns.

Mr. Krepps informed the Board he just wanted to let them know that in the near future he will probably be turning in his resignation. Mr. Krepps stated that he is reviewing his retirement options and will provide 30 days' notice once everything is finalized.

Mr. Jenkins informed the Board he is retiring also and has turned in his application.

With nothing further to discuss a motion to Adjourn the Regular Session Meeting of July 28, 2026 was entertained.

**MOTION:** By Board Member Bennett to Adjourn the Regular BPW Session Meeting of July 28, 2026 @ 6:10P.M.
**SECOND:** By Board Member Trinkler.
**MOTION PASSED**

Adjourned Regular Session at 6:10P.M. on July 28, 2026.

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD SECRETARY**

**BOARD PRESIDENT**