

**JOINT SELECTBOARD / MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOV. 2, 2021  
VIRTUAL AGENDA  
7 P.M.**

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<p><b>Note: Not all topics listed here may be reached for discussion. In addition, the topics listed are those which the chair reasonably expects will be discussed as of the date of this notice. This meeting may be audio and/or visually recorded.</b></p>
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1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes of Oct. 19, 2021
3. Announcements / Open Forum
4. Joint SHELD Interviews & Appointments
  - A. Ron Coutu
  - B. Paul Dobosh
  - C. Denise Presley
  - D. Carl Cameron
5. Resignation
  - A. Bill Bacis – Conservation Commission
6. Tri-Annual Appointments
  - A. Caroline Martin – Bike Walk
  - B. M. P. Chevette – Bylaw Review
  - C. Eleanor Small – Canal Park, Historic District Study Com
  - D. Jennifer Ducharme – Cultural Council
  - E. Mary Anne Myers – Cultural Council
  - F. Marcella Runell Hall - Cultural Council
  - G. Caroline Martin - Cultural Council
  - H. Jim Bosman - COA
7. Adjourn

**SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCT. 19, 2021  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
VIRTUAL SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM – 7 P.M.**

*Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, Member Chris Geraghty, Clerk Carol Constant, Member Andrea Miles, .and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Cyr called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / OPEN FORUM**

Miles asked about leaf pickup and Maher said there will be three leaf pick-ups per route this year beginning Oct. 25 and ending Dec. 3. See the town website for more information. Cyr asked if there will be any adjustments made to the scheduling at the DPW and Sullivan said no.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Constant moved to accept the draft minutes of Oct. 5, 2021. Etelman seconded. All in favor.

**ROLL CALL**

**Miles – Abstain**

**Etelman – Aye**

**Constant – Aye**

**Geraghty – Aye**

**Cyr - Aye**

**TA LISA WONG WELCOME**

The board welcomed incoming town administrator Lisa Wong.

**JOINT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT UPDATES**

Members agreed to appoint candidates to vacancies on the Municipal Light Board at a joint meeting on Nov. 2 and to the School Committee at a joint meeting on Oct. 26.

**TRI-ANNUAL INTERVIEWS**

The board interviewed Eleanor Small for membership on the Canal Park and Historic District Study committees, and Mary Anne Myers for the Cultural Council.

**MCCRAYS FARM LICENSE AGREEMENT**

Etelman motioned to approve the agreement and authorize the town administrator to sign on the board's behalf. Geraghty seconded. All in favor.

**ROLL CALL**

**Miles – Aye**

**Etelman – Aye**

**Constant – Aye**

**Geraghty – Aye**

**Cyr - Aye**

**JULY LEASE EXTENSION FOR ST. THERESA'S**

Etelman motioned to authorize the town administrator to extend the lease of the town's payments to St. Theresa's for one month. Miles seconded. All in favor.

**ROLL CALL**

**Miles – Aye**  
**Etelman – Aye**  
**Constant – Aye**  
**Geraghty – Aye**  
**Cyr - Aye**

**AGE & DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ACTION PLAN**

Etelman motioned to accept the Age & Dementia Friendly Action Plan and form the corresponding committee. Miles seconded. All in favor.

**ROLL CALL**

**Miles – Aye**  
**Etelman – Aye**  
**Constant – Aye**  
**Geraghty – Aye**  
**Cyr - Aye**

**SEWER USE FEE WARRANT**

Geraghty motioned to approve. Miles seconded. All in favor.

**ROLL CALL**

**Miles – Aye**  
**Etelman – Aye**  
**Constant – Aye**  
**Geraghty – Aye**  
**Cyr - Aye**

**TA REPORT**

Sullivan presented his final report to the board. All members and Maher thanked Sullivan for his service and dedication to South Hadley. Tears were shed.

**ADJOURN**

Etelman motioned to adjourn. Geraghty seconded. All in favor.

**ROLL CALL**

**Miles – Aye**  
**Etelman – Aye**  
**Constant – Aye**  
**Geraghty – Aye**  
**Cyr - Aye**

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted**  
**Kristin Maher**  
**Executive Assistant to Administration**

## Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

1 message

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 1:23 PM

To: chamlin@southhadleyma.gov, kmaher@southhadleyma.gov, ljacobs@southhadleyma.gov

### Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

#### Step 1

##### Committees

*Before the Selectboard or other appointing authority makes appointments, they would like to know a little about you and why you feel you could contribute to the board or committee. Please take a few minutes and complete the brief expression of interest information below and click submit to send your application for consideration.*

**Please Note:** When submitting online, when you click the "submit" button you are agreeing to read a copy of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A "Conflict of Interest" provided by the Town Clerk, if appointed, and to the best of your abilities agree to abide by the provisions of the statute. You may receive a phone call to confirm your interest in the appointment.

Choose From the Following

Other

List your board or committee choices here in the order of preference. If you selected "Other" above, please indicate which board or committee to which you wish to apply.

Electric Light Board

Please give any details regarding your interest in this appointment.

I am a over 30 year resident of South Hadley and have recently retired from a 30+ job at ISO New England and have worked with renewable developers as a consultant post retirement. I believe my unique skills and experience will be essential to help guide South Hadley Electric through the new changes towards a 'carbon-free' environment.

#### Please Provide the Following Information

Name

Ronald Coutu

Email

[ronald.coutu@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.coutu@gmail.com)

Address1

[207 Lathrop Street](#)

Address2

*Field not completed.*

City

South HADLEY

State

MA

Zip

01075

Primary Phone	4135351876
Alternate Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone:	4133875528
<b>General Questions</b>	
Are you a registered voter in the Town of South Hadley?	Yes
Are you a Town Meeting Member?	No
Is any of your immediate family employed by the Town of South Hadley?	No
Do you now or have you previously served in town government?	No
What skills and experience do you have? (Knowledge, other volunteer experience, employment experience, etc.)	35+ years of working on Wholesale Electricity Markets focused on the New England Electricity Markets (where South Hadley gets all of its electricity).
Please list any additional information you think may be helpful in reviewing your application.	Long-time resident of South Hadley, own my home here (not going anywhere soon) and have also owned, with my wife an all electric condo in the past.
How did you learn of the vacancy you are applying for?	Town Website, Channel 15
If you indicated another resident or other above, please provide the resident's name or provide additional details.	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Upload a Letter of Interest	<a href="#">South Hadley Selectboard - Letter of Interest in SHELD Board.docx</a>

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

# SOUTH HADLEY SELECTBOARD

Letter of Interest RE: Municipal Light Board open position

Dear Selectboard Members,

My name is Ron Coutu and I am interested in an appointment to the South Hadley Light Board to fill one of the two positions that are open due to the resignations of Commissioners McAvoy and Awad.

I came to South Hadley in 1984 living in various condominiums and apartments prior to purchasing my home on Lathrop Street in 1997. I have now lived most of my life in South Hadley and plan to stay here for the foreseeable future. I know the value of the local Municipal to getting reliable and reasonably priced electricity, and now internet. I want to do my part to ensure that the municipal can continue to provide these services.

The skillset I bring to the position is unique. I worked for ISO New England, the entity that maintains the reliability of the electricity grid in New England and also runs the wholesale electric markets in which South Hadley Electric participates. As part of my 33-year career there I held various roles starting in the Information Technology department but then transitioning to a role in which I helped to create those wholesale market designs and also helped the technology folks at the ISO implement those designs. I have knowledge of how all of the markets work at the ISO from the high-level down to the nitty-gritty implementations in software. I have also honed my skills as a presenter and trainer and was the lead trainer for the ISO on Markets giving training to customers, regulators and foreign dignitaries visiting the ISO to learn how New England Markets work. I also was sent to explain markets to meeting across the United States

as well as to other countries across the globe. I believe I can explain to anyone how the markets work and more importantly why they may or may not be easy to change to address new issues such as the higher penetration of Renewables.

After retiring from the ISO at the end of 2017, I worked part-time for a company called Boreas Renewables ([www.boreasrenewables.com](http://www.boreasrenewables.com)) who represents many wind and solar developers across New England through mid-2020. I worked with those developers and with RENEW Northeast ([www.renewne.org](http://www.renewne.org)) an advocacy organization of renewable companies, to work on ISO rule changes to remove roadblocks for wind, solar and storage in the New England markets. This gave me a great deal of insight into the renewable industry from their prospective and therefore now I see all of these issues from both sides, the ISO and the renewable developers.

The future holds a lot of potential change for the electric industry in New England (and world-wide) as we move from a fossil-fuel dependent system towards a 'carbon-free' world of electricity production. I believe the skills I have will help the board by having an expert on the board that is there to help others understand the issues facing the transition this new world, be they board members or any South Hadley resident. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with the Selectboard and further answer any questions or issues they may have and would look forward to working with the other board members to continue the long tradition of South Hadley Electric serving the customers of our great town.

SINCERELY,

RONALD COUTU  
207 LATHROP STREET

## Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>  
To: chamlin@southhadleyma.gov, kmaher@southhadleyma.gov, ljacobs@southhadleyma.gov

Mon, Oct 18, 2021 at 10:49 AM

### Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

#### Step 1

##### Committees

*Before the Selectboard or other appointing authority makes appointments, they would like to know a little about you and why you feel you could contribute to the board or committee. Please take a few minutes and complete the brief expression of interest information below and click submit to send your application for consideration.*

**Please Note:** When submitting online, when you click the "submit" button you are agreeing to read a copy of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A "Conflict of Interest" provided by the Town Clerk, if appointed, and to the best of your abilities agree to abide by the provisions of the statute. You may receive a phone call to confirm your interest in the appointment.

Choose From the Following      Municipal Light Board (SHELD)

List your board or committee choices here in the order of preference. If you selected "Other" above, please indicate which board or committee to which you wish to apply.

Please give any details regarding your interest in this appointment.

This opportunity was pointed out to me by friends. I am interested partly because applicants may be difficult to find and I have also realized that the issues SHELD faces are of interest to me. The issues are those of energy generation, conservation, costs and climate impact. Serving on the SHELD board would let me be involved in those issues on the most granular scale.

#### Please Provide the Following Information

Name	Paul A Dobosh
Email	<a href="mailto:pdobosh@mtholyoke.edu">pdobosh@mtholyoke.edu</a>
Address1	<a href="#">26 Jewett Lane</a>
Address2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
City	South Hadley
State	MA
Zip	01075
Primary Phone	4135344055
Alternate Phone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Cell Phone:	9713129782

#### General Questions

Are you a registered voter in the Town of South Hadley?      Yes

Are you a Town Meeting Member?	Yes
Is any of your immediate family employed by the Town of South Hadley?	No
Do you now or have you previously served in town government?	No
What skills and experience do you have? (Knowledge, other volunteer experience, employment experience, etc.)	<p>I have been a member of committees looking at fiber optic options for the town and looking at the use of video communications during the pandemic. I have also been part of the 'conservation corps' helping to maintain the growing number of SH trails and green spaces.</p> <p>I have a PhD in Theoretical Chemistry and spent 42 years at Mount Holyoke College teaching chemistry and computer science.</p>
Please list any additional information you think may be helpful in reviewing your application.	I am the happy owner of a solar panel installation as well as a battery backup system so i have been paying attention to solar power generation. I have no agenda regarding solar energy since I realize it is a complex problem for homeowners and electric companies.
How did you learn of the vacancy you are applying for?	Another Resident
If you indicated another resident or other above, please provide the resident's name or provide additional details.	I first heard of the opening from Nate Therien and Susan Newton who live across the driveway from me. They had heard of the vacancies, and thought my background and interests matched well with the opening
Upload a Letter of Interest	<a href="#">application for board appointment Oct 2021.docx</a>

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October 11, 2021

To the South Hadley SelectBoard:

I would like to apply for one of the interim positions on the Board of the South Hadley Electric Light Department (SHELD).

I have been a South Hadley resident for exactly 50 years. I've been a consistent voter in every election and a long-time user/customer of SHELD, naturally. It is only recently that I have been a participant in town affairs including:

- First term as a member of Town Meeting;
- Participant in Anne Capra's, and now Rebekah Cornell's, Conservation Corps;
- Served on a SHELD committee examining fiber optic options for the town;
- Was part of the group that chose the remote meeting software (Zoom) for use during the pandemic (and continuing);
- Participated in all the open meetings/discussions for the new Master Plan for the town.

My wife's (Judy Gooch Dobosh) work on MPIC has been a big factor in making me aware of the importance of volunteers to the town so I am happy to take this further step and apply for the SHELD board.

I am a homeowner who has installed solar panels and a battery backup system and consequently have become more interested in issues of power generation and use including issues such as peak load. I should state that I have no agenda regarding energy issues but do recognize it is one of the central problems of our time, reaching right down to the local level.

My work experience has been almost entirely at Mount Holyoke College from which I retired in 2013. I obtained my PhD in Theoretical Chemistry and came to Mount Holyoke in 1971 to teach chemistry. I taught in the department for about 15 years but eventually moved over to teaching computer science and helping to create a computer science department. During that transition period I spent several years in charge of the computer and networking systems at the College, including the installation of the College's extensive fiber optic network. The relevance of my education and work experience is that I am very comfortable with technology, scientific issues, numbers, budgets and to some extent personnel issues.

Paul A. Dobosh  
26 Jewett Ln  
South Hadley, MA 01075

# Denise Presley

October 24, 2021

Via Electronic Mail: [kmaher@southhadley.ma.gov](mailto:kmaher@southhadley.ma.gov)

Kristin Maher  
Executive Assistant to Administration  
Town of South Hadley  
116 Main Street  
South Hadley, MA 01075

RE: SHELD Board

Dear Ms. Maher:

This is my application to be considered for a non-elected position on the South Hadley Electric Light Department (SHELD) Board. As some of the readers of this letter will know, as a seven year resident of the Town, I've been a ratepayer with a keen interest in SHELD matters that affect the environment. And over the last few years, I've been really pleased with the management of the organization and how the Board has turned itself around after an arguably turbulent period. Having two openings on the Board at the same time risks the progress that's been made and if I can be of service I'd like to help.

That said I'm hopeful that younger Town residents will step forward to serve out the terms of the Board members who've recently resigned. If not, I'm including a copy of my curriculum vitae, which is typically circulated to parties in my current employment as a commercial arbitrator. It's a detailed description of my background, which includes work experiences in a variety of areas and businesses. While I'm not 'uniquely' qualified to serve SHELD, it may be fairly said that I would bring a depth of experience, which could be valuable to the Board as it considers the broad array of issues that come before it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely,

/s/ Denise L. Presley

Enclosure

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## Letter of Interest for Municipal Light Board Vacancies

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**Carl Cameron** <carl@camerontechnology.com>

Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 6:53 PM

To: kmaher@southhadleyma.gov

Dear Ms Maher,

I am writing to express my interest in applying for one of the vacancies related to the Municipal Light Board. I was one of the candidates who ran for the position during the election in April of this year (736 votes).

My wife and I have lived in South Hadley for 17 years. I recognize how extraordinarily lucky we are as a town, to own and operate a municipal electric utility. If selected as a SHELD Commissioner, I promise to bring new energy, insight, vision, and experience to help the department thrive in today's changing environment.

I believe SHELD should continue to leverage its existing power assets while pursuing other economically and environmentally beneficial power sources. As SHELD continues to transform, I will advocate for renewable energy options, digitalization, and the continued expansion of high-speed internet service for all residents of South Hadley.

My experience includes helping to plan, design, and build an innovative municipal fiber optic network for the City of Holyoke in 1997-1998. Today, in my role as Chief Operating Officer for Valley Health Systems – Holyoke Medical Center, I shape the strategic direction and control operations for a \$100M multidepartment budget. My responsibilities include directing high-impact capital projects from concept through construction.

I understand the importance of being able to communicate complex concepts and collaborate with people who have different points of view.

I believe it is my responsibility to help advance the mission of the organization objectively, without personal bias, based on facts provided by the General Manager. It will be my fiduciary duty to ensure rates remain low for the residents of South Hadley while continuing to provide a highly reliable electric service.

I hope to serve our community as a SHELD Commissioner and ask for consideration from both the Municipal Light Board and Selectboard.

Sincerely,

Carl

Carl Cameron  
38 Highland Ave

## Applicants

**Bike Walk**  
Caroline Martin

**Bylaw Review**  
M. P. Chevrette

**Canal Park**  
Eleanor Small

**Cultural Council**  
Jennifer Ducharme, current associate (2022) wanting FT  
Mary Anne Myers  
Marcella Runell Hall  
Caroline Martin

**Council on Aging**  
Jim Bosman

**Historic District Study Committee**  
Eleanor Small

## Current Vacancies & Terms

**Bike/Walk**  
2022

**Bylaw Review**  
2020  
2021  
2022  
2023

**Canal Park Committee**  
2020  
2020  
2021  
2021

**Council on Aging**  
2022  
2022  
2022

**Cultural Council**  
2024  
2024

**Historic District Study Committee**  
2023  
2024

BOARD/COMMITTEE	Total Number of Members	Number of Current Vacancies
Appropriations Committee	9	1
Bike/Walk Committee	9	1
Bylaw Review Committee	7	4
Canal Park Committee	7	4
Commission on Disabilities	5	2
Conservation Commission	7, 2 Assoc.	0
Council on Aging Board	11	3
Cultural Council	11 Reg, 1 Assoc.	2
Golf Commission	7 Reg, 2 Alt.	1, 1 Alt.
Historical Commission	7	2
Historic District Study Committee	7	2
Master Plan Implementation Committee	9	0
Recreation Commission	9	0
Registrar of Voters	3	0
Sustainability & Energy Commission	5	0
Tree Committee	7	0
Trustees of the Old Firehouse Museum	9	2
Zoning Board of Appeals	3 Reg, 2 Assoc.	1 Assoc.