

Ashburnham Municipal Light Board  
Conference Room 24 Williams Rd.  
Ashburnham, MA 01430

Meeting Minutes  
March 15, 2017

Commissioners: Richard Ahlin, Chairman  
Mark Carlisle, Vice Chairman  
Sarah Davis, Clerk

AMLP Manager: Michael Rivers

Other attendees: Anne Olivari, Jane Dancause, Brooke Czasnowski and Jeremy Holmes.

Meeting was called to order by Ahlin at 6:31 pm with a roll call vote. Ahlin present, Carlisle present, Davis present.

A motion to add Executive session to discuss items under M.G.L Chapter 30A section 21a, contract items and to discuss Manager's compensation in open session under item 5 was made by Ahlin . Seconded by Davis. Vote was Ahlin, aye, Carlisle aye and Davis aye.

A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Ahlin and seconded by Davis. All Commisisoners voted in favor of approving the agenda as amended.

Manager's report and updates:

- a. Expenses - none
- b. MEAM meeting was cancelled due to the storm.
- c. Training on March 16, 2017 on The Right to Know
- d. Cushing Academy meeting on March 16, 2017
- e. Credit and collection meeting on March 22, 2017 for Rivers and Czasnowski to attend.
- f. March 24<sup>th</sup> is payroll.
- g. April 25 is First aid for linecrew and Dancause and Czasnowski.
- h. Berkshire Wind- nothing done.
- i. Bresnahan Community Center and Light Department had a nice write up in the Gardner News regarding rebates received.
- j. Storage grants- handouts given- apply for one possible grant with the bucket truck diesel upgrade program it would be possible to see 25% of truck cost back.
- k. Demand charge over billing- two industrial customers were over billed. Best way to handle would be issuing refunds. One customer would receive \$2077.46 and other customer receiving \$20,645.97. Rivers asking Board to approve. Board gave approval of cutting checks. Customers will be manually billed going forward to eliminate this problem with software.
- l. Court reimbursement- Paid what was listed but customer has yet to come in to apply for service. Interest charges are still outstanding.

- m. OPEB study was received and the amount to fully fund is \$167238.00
- n. New telephone system is on order and should be in within 2 to 4 weeks.
- o. Bucket truck post award meeting was delayed. Should be next week.
- p. Verizon contract has been signed.
- q. Decorative pole downtown was hit on 3-14-17 during the storm and will be billed to responsible party.
- r. Computer server- still not swapped over. Working on trying to change over the fonts and want to make sure it looks as good if not better than before.

Operating Budget- Continuing to review final numbers and no action will be taken due to pending contract issues.

Rivers mentioned that AMLP did have National Grid load for 8 hours last week.

Search committee was discussed. Carlisle stated it is a five person board. Chairman is Ed Vitone, other members are Larry Barrett, Joe Olivari, Jane Dancause and Ron DeCurzio of MMWEC. The question of a non- residents being on the Board is not an issue as it is a short lived board. Carlisle said he assumed the board would be meeting within the week.

Sick time/attendance award- Discussion was put on hold as it is still part of contract talks.

New Business- Rivers was asked why he felt he deserved a merit and or incentive increase by Ahlin. Rivers was requested to submit it in writing separately for the next meeting. Rivers was asked about the amount of vacation time he had accumulated and his plans as to how much he planned to use. Rivers stated he had no idea of number of days he would use. Rivers stated he would "go by contract". Ahlin wanted to put item in for Executive session. Ahlin asked if he had any other claims and Rivers replied "what is in contract".

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of February 15, 2017 were reviewed. Carlisle made a motion to accept the Minutes. Ahlin seconded. A vote was taken Carlisle aye and Ahlin aye. Davis abstained as she was not in attendance for February meeting.

Next meeting was scheduled for April 12, 2017 at 6:30 pm. Items on the agenda to include search committee update, the operating budget and NDS.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and to go into Executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A section 21 (a) and the following clauses: 10. To discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively –sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of activities

conducted by a governmental body as an energy supplier to Executive Session Minutes, to return to open session only to adjourn. Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken, Ahlin aye, Carlisle aye, and Davis aye. Regular session adjourned at 7:10 pm for Executive Session.

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Sarah Davis, Clerk