

# Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Wednesday, February 28, 2024  
Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant  
24 Williams Rd, Ashburnham, MA 01430

## Meeting Minutes

Commissioners: Richard Ahlin, Chairman  
Mark Carlisle, Vice Chairman  
Candace Wright, Secretary  
General Manager: Brooke Czasnowski  
Other Attendees: Jeffrey Schrecke, Aili Ruuska

Ahlin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. with a roll call. Carlisle present, Wright present, Ahlin present.

Ahlin announced all Board meetings are subject to audio and video recording.

**Approval of Agenda:** Carlisle made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Wright seconded. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

**Approval of Minutes:** Carlisle made a motion to approve the January 18, 2024 open session meeting minutes. Wright seconded. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

**Citizen Speak:** No citizen comments.

### General Manager Items:

Cost of Service Study: Czasnowski will continue to review the findings from the cost-of-service study. No rate changes will be made until the completion of the financial statements by Goulet, Salvidio & Associates.

Solar Policy Discussion: Czasnowski discussed the AMLP's current solar policy with the Board. She reviewed the billing changes to previously grandfathered customers who now fall under the Residential Distributed Generation Policy (RDGP). She also discussed customer questions about the solar policy. Ahlin asked Czasnowski to prepare a comparison of stand-by charges for review. Czasnowski raised some questions about the policy that she would like the Board to review. The Board agreed to discuss the policy at a future Board meeting.

Budget & Power Bill Analysis Update: Czasnowski presented the Board with a budget summary that reflected the approved 2024 Operating Budget. The presentation showed all items within expected ranges. She also presented the Board with a forecast of the power bills for the year.

Reliability Report: Czasnowski presented the Board with a Reliability Report for electric service in 2023. The results showed an ASAI of 99.96% for the year.

Customer Collections Report: Czasnowski presented the Board with the results of several 2023 customer statistics reports. The Board was given accounts receivable, customer collections, payment, and shut-off letter reports. Czasnowski also discussed the 2023 NextZero rebate report and administrative costs with the Board.

General Manger Review Discussion: Czasnowski stated that per her contract a written evaluation is required by March of the contract year and asked the Board if they would like to discuss. Ahlin stated they would discuss this item in Executive Session.

**Other Updates:**

- *EV Charger:* Czasnowski had a meeting regarding the Stevens Memorial Library EV Charger. As agreed by the Board, the chargers will stay in the municipal rate. Czasnowski will continue to work with the Town in an advisory role as they implement software changes to the stations.
- *Large Interconnection Study:* Czasnowski had a call with the engineer for this project on February 9, 2024. A meeting will be scheduled when quotes for pricing have been received.
- *System Upgrade:* Czasnowski updated the Board that an agreement has been signed with a customer for a large system upgrade. Extended lead time equipment has been ordered.
- *Downtown Sidewalk Project:* Schrecke updated the Board with the start dates for the project. The project is expected to begin the third or fourth week of March 2024 and the decorative posts will be removed by the beginning of April.
- *Auditors:* Czasnowski updated the Board with the final stages of the yearly audit by Goulet, Salvidio & Associates. She confirmed the presentation date of March 20, 2024.

**New Business:** None

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for March 20, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant.

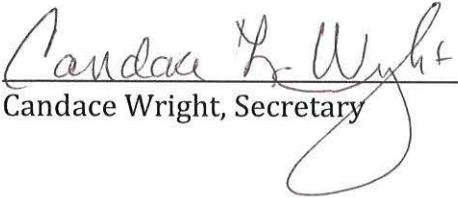
Ahlin stated that the Ashburnham Municipal Light Board shall go into Executive Session to discuss issues affecting the Light Plant pursuant to the points listed below and upon completion will return to open session to adjourn the meeting.

Ahlin made a motion that the Ashburnham Municipal Light Board shall enter executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 21(a)(2).

- 2.) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Carlisle seconded. Vote was taken at 10:19 a.m. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wright seconded. The vote was taken at 10:59 a.m. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

  
Candace Wright, Secretary