

Ashburnham Municipal Light Board
Conference Room 24 Williams Road
Ashburnham, MA 01430

Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2016

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

AMLP Manager: Michael Rivers

Others in attendance: Anne Olivari, Jane Dancause and Jeffrey Schrecke.

Meeting was called to order by Ahlin at 6:33 pm with a roll call vote. Ahlin present, Carlisle present and Davis present. Ahlin announced meetings are subject to audio and video recording.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Carlisle and seconded by Davis. All Commissioners voted in favor of approving agenda as presented.

Manager's report and updates:

- a. Manager's expenses just the reimbursement for phone.
- b. IT equipment is ready for swap over all has been done except Edifice. Looking to do the swap over to new vendor the first week in January.
- c. Pole billing- Corporate has not given ok yet, five year contract, taking the middle number. Comcast is done.
- d. Bucket truck has been ordered. Manager and two linemen may go and sit with company as the draw up design,
- e. LED Christmas lights are in, delay in ordering and vendor change but they have been received.
- f. New office administrator is doing well.
- g. Two issues in billing due to L & G upgrade that was scheduled for last spring was finally done but with no real notice and a substation shut down. Both events caused a three day reset in the meter readings being received.
- h. Cushing Academy: We are waiting to hear back from them on information we had requested.
- i. Switching: Last month there were a lot of switching orders and more switching is scheduled for January. Rivers said we would be reimbursed for labor costs.
- j. RMVEC and MMVEC operating agreements were received. They want them signed and returned.
- k. Jeffrey Schrecke is on the standby rotation. All is going well, he will have another first class lineman with him for the first six months.
- l. Hemlock Drive subdivision now has six houses connected.

- m. Green House gas initiative: Municipals are included, we must meet their percentages, now as it is written nuclear is the only one that we have that counts. MMWEC reviewed our portfolio and suggested we wait four years and not go into Peabody. Ahlin had several questions as to how it all fits into the mix.
- n. AMI /capital budget and training as all items that will be worked on going forward.
- o. Rivers stated that upcoming events were January 4th the auditors would be here, inventory counts. January 5th he had two meetings one with Worcester county retirement and a Central Mass Managers meeting.
- p. Corey Hill Road and Central Street intersection project was discussed. Rivers stated there was a miscommunication on to the estimated billing as to who was paying for what, labor and truck time. Carlisle spoke to the question as to the amounts being associated with the job, 15g vs 30g. Questions were raised in regards to number of hours, overtime, materials, what was promised, what Light Board felt they had approved for costs. Also mentioned was a change in the lights going from solar to hard -wired and figures mentioned at Town meeting.

A motion was made by Carlisle to bill the town the actual cost of overtime and materials in the area of five thousand five hundred dollars. Davis seconded the motion. Carlisle and Davis voted in favor of the motion. Ahlin voted nay. Rivers is to notify Police Chief Barrett, Highway Supervisor Nims and the Town Administrator of the decision.

Ahlin discussed the Light Company's position going forward regarding Town department work. Carlisle suggested it be done on a case by case basis and historically there hasn't been many projects of this scope. Rivers did mention part of the cost was associated with after hours' outages on this past project. There was some discussion as to best time to schedule work. Commissioners indicated they were ok with the work being done after hours if need be. There is no time when an outage is going to be well received by all and for safety concerns and business interruptions after hours at times would be the best choice.

Capital Budget and Operating Budget for 2017

Pole replacements planned for 2017 will be roughly 102 and an additional 32 for accidents. Cost per pole is \$1680 with ledge being a large variable.

Tree trimming: Scheduled is all the three phase lines will an estimate of 15g.

Tools: Metering system has potential to be in the range of 750g to 1.4 million depending on system. Verizon metering has changed and has no hardware cost associated with it. Rivers mentioned a pilot program for January to replace 10

meters and see if they work with Landis & Gyr. The cheapest plan would be retro fitting the meters.

Review of Capital budget: AMI, battery storage, office equipment, transformers, pick up truck, pole trailer, new telephone system and miscellaneous equipment. Rivers gave Commissioners sheets covering above items.

Training of linemen to a CDL class A was part of union negotiations that will be started. J. Gendron is to attend Apprentice Three training. Question whether it was possible for J. Schrecke to attend Substation Two. Need to check for coverage from other linemen.

Minutes of November 16, 2016 were read. Carlisle made a motion to accept as written. Ahlin seconded. Ahlin and Carlisle voted in favor to accept. Davis abstained as she was not in attendance for November meeting.

Future agenda items were budgets. Meeting was set for January 18th. Rivers stated he would be at a seminar that day but would be able to attend meeting.

Ahlin made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:58 pm and they would only reopen in regular session to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Carlisle. Vote was taken, Ahlin aye, Carlisle aye and Davis aye.

Sarah Davis, Clerk