

# Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Wednesday, August 30, 2023  
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

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

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

Wright made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

Carlisle made a motion to approve the July 26, 2023, open session meeting minutes and the July 26, 2023, executive session meeting minutes. Wright seconded. All in favor. Ahlin aye, Wright aye, Carlisle aye.

Wright made a motion to approve the March 21, 2023, executive session meeting minutes. Carlisle seconded. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

Wright made a motion to approve the May 18, 2022, executive session meeting minutes. Ahlin seconded. Wright aye, Ahlin aye, Carlisle abstained.

Carlisle made a motion to approve the April 25, 2022, executive session meeting minutes. Ahlin seconded. Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye, Wright abstained.

Citizen Speak: No citizen comments.

General Manager Items:

*Business Assistant Position Update:* Czasnowski informed the Board that she conducted phone interviews with the candidates for the Business Assistant position in August. In person interviews have been scheduled with the finalists for the first week of September.

*Cost of Service Study:* Czasnowski reviewed the draft language changes on the rate schedules that were provided to the Board. Czasnowski will continue to review the findings from the cost of service study and will provide an update and recommendation to the Board at the next meeting.

*Budget & Power Bill Analysis Update:* Czasnowski provided the Board with a spreadsheet comparing recent power bills and discussed the forecast for the remainder of 2023.

*Main Street Sidewalk Project Update:* Czasnowski and Schrecke attended a preconstruction meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The contractor is looking to have the AMLP remove the decorative light posts in October. The contractor will perform the electrical work and will install new precast light bases in the new locations per the engineered plans. The contractor estimates the work to relocate the streetlights will take approximately six weeks. After the contractor has finished, the AMLP will reinstall the decorative lights on the new precast light bases.

*Other Updates:*

- Payment has been received for the proposed large customer interconnection study. The engineering firm has been contacted and the study has been placed on their schedule.
- National Night Out was canceled due to inclement weather.
- Czasnowski has not received any further information from Osmose on when testing of the joint-owned poles will begin.

*New Business:*

- Carlisle asked about the battery performance. Czasnowski stated that MMWEC is continuing to adjust their methodology to better predict the peaks so they can develop the most effective dispatch plans. Czasnowski said she would provide an updated summary at the next Board meeting.

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for September 27, 2023, at 2:00 pm 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.

Wright made a motion that the Ashburnham Municipal Light Board shall enter executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 21(a)(3).

3.) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Carlisle seconded. Vote was taken at 10:58 am. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wright seconded. Vote was taken at 11:45 am. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye

  

---

Candace Wright, Secretary