

# Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Monday, November 24, 2025

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  
AMLP Staff: Aili Ruuska  
Other Attendees: Phil Papoojian (Town of Ashburnham Select Board)

Ahlin called the meeting to order at 9:00 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:** Wright made a motion to approve October 15, 2025, open session meeting minutes. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

**Citizen Speak:** Phil Papoojian introduced himself as the Select Board Liaison. He discussed the collaboration with the AMLP and Economic Development committee on the Banner Program and the effort that has been made to streamline the process going forward.

### General Manager Items:

*Solar Interconnection Discussion:* Czasnowski discussed the Residential Distributed Generation Policy and the changes that were made in October. She detailed a pending application and explained how the current policy does not cover a hybrid inverter. The Board discussed the proposed project and provided recommendations on specific requirements needed to move forward.

*Capital Expenditure Discussion (Decorative Streetlights):* The Board discussed the proposed placement and cost of additional decorative streetlights downtown. Czasnowski informed the Board that the estimated cost would be approximately twenty-five thousand dollars to install the new decorative posts (not including AMLP labor). She will discuss the project with the Town before moving forward and provide an update at an upcoming Board meeting.

Monthly Dashboard: Czasnowski provided the Board with a monthly snapshot of customer service and operational performance metrics.

Battery Storage Update: The battery continues to be used to reduce peak loads. Czasnowski provided the Board with a summary of the battery savings through September.

Budget and Power Bill Review: Czasnowski presented the Budget and Power Bill Analysis, noting that all operational budget items remain within expected ranges except for power. Czasnowski reviewed how the Purchased Power Cost Adjustment will help recover additional power costs, which have remained high this year.

Legislative Updates: Czasnowski shared with the Board an email from MMWEC that provides a status update on Chair Cusack's energy bill that was released in November.

General Manger Goals: Czasnowski discussed progress on her goals and objectives. She continues to work on the new battery energy storage system and the impact study for the project has been completed. MMWEC is nearing completion on the Cost of Service Study and they plan to present the results at the January meeting. An Arc Flash Study was completed by PLM in 2025, and staff continue to work on GIS updates. The Capital IT plan is moving forward this month.

***Other Updates:***

- Bookkeeper/Accountant Position: AMLP received over fifty applicants for the Bookkeeper/Accountant position. Initial phone interviews were held, and seven candidates were interviewed in person.
- Tree Trimming: Mayer Tree is continuing tree trimming in town.
- National Grid Agreement: Czasnowski is working with MMWEC to renew the National Grid Transmission Services Agreement, and it will be finalized by the end of the year.
- Vehicles: The new F150 has been received. The utility body vehicle and 2015 Explorer will be sold at auction.
- Brush Cutter: Czasnowski discussed the brush cutter and answered questions from the Board about how the DPW's brush cutting schedule impacts AMLP.

***New Business:***

- Osmose Pole Replacement: Carlisle inquired about the total number of poles Osmose marked for replacement. Czasnowski replied that approximately 350 poles in the territory were marked for replacement and that the majority have been replaced.
- Digger Bid Update: Czasnowski will review previous bids. She expects this will move forward in the coming months.

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for December 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wright seconded. The vote was taken at 10:25 a.m. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye Ahlin aye.

  
Candace Wright, Secretary