

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

Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2016

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

Others in attendance : Anne Olivari, Jane Dancause, Jeremy Holmes, Jeffrey Schrecke, and Jordan Gendron.

Ahlin called the meeting to order with a roll call vote at 6:30 pm. Ahlin aye, Carlisle aye and Davis was absent. Ahlin announced that all meetings are subject to audio and video recording.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Carlisle and seconded by Ahlin. Both members voted to approve agenda.

Manager's report:
Warrant will be ready for signing on Friday at noon.

No unusual expenses just the wireless reimbursement.

New Office Manager started work on Monday, November 14, 2016. All paperwork had been completed and filed.

Auditors will be in the office November 29, January 4th for inventory, January 24 and 26th for the yearly audit work.

Computer upgrade and IT work going well, desktops were missing but should be in on Friday, new printer is in, email conversion going well with storage per account increasing dramatically. Upgrade is to Windows 10 from Windows 7. IT Vendor Staff will be here Monday to assist AMLP staff with any issues.

Cushing Academy project planning is underway, finalizing details on purchase and ownership of the switch they want, hopefully all will go well. A meeting is scheduled for January 17th.

National Grid has agreed to reimburse for labor and truck time for our substation switching for their transmission line work being scheduled for later in the month.

Truck bid: Rivers said we will be purchasing under a state contract. It would be two different bids, Altec body and International chassis. Discussion centered around using truck as a trade in verses sell it outright, upgrading frame, 300 hp engine, change in exhaust to save money, expected delivery date for truck chassis and completion date being 7 to 9 months out, reach of truck would be 55', cab guard, pros and cons of stainless steel body compared to fiberglass, extended warranty. Rivers passed out spec sheets for Commissioners to compare. Ahlin questioned whether the tools should be part of bid price. A motion was made by Carlisle to approve an amount not to exceed \$230,000 for the purchase of the new truck. Motion was seconded by Ahlin. A vote was taken with both Commissioners in favor of spending up to but not exceeding the \$230 g.

Rivers mentioned he attended a MEAM meeting, and there could be a lot of pending industry changes due to the new Greenhouse gas state regulations and the change in the presidential administration. Rivers has a newsletter going into the December billings. Board was in approval of giving away Christmas lights for a donation to the local food bank.

Storage grants: no word received back on our status. Rivers and Carlisle attended a meeting with a representative of Tesla and said MMWEC may have ideas on a very aggressive plan in the future.

Streetlights: The GO program has no major projects in the works at this time. We are going to try to use remaining MMWEC grant towards storage projects. The deadline is December. Discussion as to could this be available to be used to change the Downtown area lights to LED as the cost of a change per light was in area of \$500.00 each.

Rivers stated the voltage reduction went well.

Cashman Hill project going well, four houses should be connected within the month.

Pole drilling went well and the costs were less than expected.

NEPPA meeting scheduled for December 2nd.

Rivers said Comcast and Verizon agreements were waiting for signatures.

Willard Road pole replacement complete except for waiting for cable and telephone to transfer so we can pull old poles.

Rivers said the new telephone system will not be tied into the town.

There are no updates on the metering, ATT is no longer a viable option. Will review the RFP from Templeton as they are also upgrading their metering system.

Discussion informed Commissioners on some notifications regarding the Town accountant and changing of vendor numbers. Also bond allotment would be close to 2 million dollars covering the land, truck, AMI, storage, possible EV charging stations at the storage site all within the next 16 months.

Meeting Minutes:

The amended Minutes of September 21, 2016 and the Minutes of October 19, 2016 were presented. A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Carlisle and seconded by Ahlin. Both voted in favor to accept the Minutes.

No Executive session was scheduled.

Next meeting was scheduled for December 21, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 pm, seconded by Ahlin. Ahlin aye and Carlisle aye.

Sarah Davis, Clerk