

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

Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2017

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

AMLP Manager: Michael Rivers

Other attendees: Anne Olivari, Jane Dancause, Jeremy Holmes and Jeffrey Schrecke.

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

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Carlisle and seconded by Ahlin. Both Commissioners voted in favor of approving the agenda as written.

Manager's report and updates:

- a. Expense listed was reimbursement for phone.
- b. Town has two policies presented for Board to review. Policies are concerning Code Red and social media policies that will apply to Board and employees. Rivers to send to Board.
- c. Duplicate bills in House and Senate dealing with all fossil fuels be eliminated by 2025. Rivers stated there is a possibility of them being passed.
- d. Seabrook debt payment has dropped by 204 k which is a step going towards the closing of Seabrook within in two years.
- e. Cushing Academy was presented with two proposals and they have accepted and are purchasing a spare transformer.
- f. Forward capacity auction is lower than last year.
- g. Court hearing on former customer resulted in customer making full payment to the court. We should be getting paid shortly.
- h. Demand charge error centering around three customers going back as far as 2009 will result in reimbursements of close to 25k.
- i. OPEB study is done. The cost to fully fund is 167k.
- j. New telephone system has not been ordered, Rivers looking for Board input. System is old, have five lines. Board briefly discussed age of system and gave approval for Rivers to order.
- k. Worcester County Retirement funding is set at 5.05%. There is a discount of 3 to 4 thousand dollars if paid before July 1st. We will pay in time to take advantage of the discount.
- l. Bucket truck update - there is a post award meeting set for March 10th.
- m. Storage grant-nothing to report.

- n. Motor vehicle accident hit a decorative pole in the downtown area, unknown driver. Cost for new pole is in area of \$3500.00 regular light not LED.
- o. Verizon contract should be signed by the end of next week.
- p. Berkshire Wind is going up about 100k.
- q. Office staff, non-contract, have submitted a request for benefits. It was decided to table until there was a full Board.
- r. Auditors will be at a GASBY meeting that Rivers will attend. There are no office visits scheduled. Rivers to bring paperwork requested to them.
- s. Upcoming events:
- t. February 22- MMWEC meeting
February 27- GASBY- auditor meeting
March 15- MEAN Managers meeting
March 22- Credit collection meeting

Operating Budget:

Residential sales have dropped a bit. Municipal sales are a bit lower due to all the energy programs. Continuing to review final numbers and any action on rates would be done once the full Board has reviewed.

Ahlin brought up the SREC payments that have been received by AMLP from the Oakmont project. The school has stated they will pay the yearly monitoring fee roughly \$500.00. The schools will be credited for their SREC credit. It may have gone off track with a change in personnel at the school department.

Murray Road solar is running fine with no issues to report.

Library mailer was an item requested by Davis. Will be tabled until next meeting, same with the review of the attendance award.

Search committee was discussed. Believe plan is to include a town resident, Board member, member with electrical back ground, an employee. Board total would most likely be five members. Some discussion on if a non resident was a member of the group and their specific duties/role in the process.

Rivers informed Board that the IT server will back up to the cloud, IT company has been very good with responding to calls and issues for reasonable rates. The server will be changed over at the end of the month as to not interfere with billing.

Rivers gave a brief update on the February 8th MEAN meeting he attended and the clean energy programs that were discussed.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of January 18, 2017 were reviewed. Carlisle made a motion to accept the Minutes. Ahlin seconded. A vote was taken Carlisle aye and Ahlin aye.

Next meeting was scheduled for March 15, 2017 at 6:30 pm. Items on the agenda to include search committee update, Berkshire wind, and the operating budget.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting and to go into Executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A section 21 (a) and the following clauses: 10. To discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively –sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of activities conducted by a governmental body as an energy supplier to Executive Session Minutes, to return to open session only to adjourn. Ahlin seconded the motion. A vote was taken, Ahlin aye, Carlisle aye. Regular session adjourned at 7:20 pm for Executive Session.

Sarah Davis, Clerk