

Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Wednesday, November 29, 2017
24 Williams Road, Conference Room
Ashburnham, MA 01430

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners: Rick Ahlin, Chairman
Mark Carlisle, Vice Chairman
Sarah Davis, Clerk
AMLP General Manager: Kevin Sullivan
Other Attendees: Brooke Czasnowski, Anne Olivari

Ahlin called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm with a roll call vote. Ahlin present, Carlisle Present. Davis was absent.

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

Ahlin made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 10, 2017. Carlisle so moved. Ahlin seconded. Carlisle aye. Ahlin aye.

General Manager Items:

Tree Trimming: Sullivan stated there was a meeting scheduled for 11/30 at 9:00am to discuss specifics of the job. Davey Tree is planning on starting between 12/4 and 12/11. They are in the process of sending over an updated insurance packet that should be received tomorrow. The plan is to start at the substation and work out. The three-phase will be the priority.

Website/Facebook: The framework is in place for the website. The Facebook page is complete and has gone live. Employees are going to work on coming up with a saying to use on the Facebook page. Carlisle suggested mentioning renewable/clean energy. Sullivan noted the purpose of the Facebook page is to help inform customers about outages, notifications and promotions.

USVI Mutual Aid and Donation of Vehicle #65: Sullivan received an email from Sean Hamilton, Sterling's General Manager, commending Jeremy Holmes and Jordan Gendron on a job well done in the USVI. Hamilton said it was a great experience working with them. On Monday, 11/28, the second wave came back. Truck #65 stayed on St. Thomas and may end up being used by WAPA until the title transfer for the donation on 12/15. The Worcester Telegram expressed interest in interviewing one of the linemen for a business article. NECN was also interested in interviewing for a news clip.

Clean Energy Standards (CES): Sullivan stated that MEAM is asking General Managers to vote on bringing views of the municipal light departments forward. Currently the CES is in the comment period for Investor Owned Utilities. If the proposal was brought together it would allow municipals to maintain with hydro and nuclear. Sullivan shared a memo from Hingham Municipal Light on how they are declaring themselves carbon-free by buying REC's to off-set all "non-clean" energy that they purchase.

Replacements of Meters: Sullivan presented a table in the board packet providing a comparative analysis for two metering options. Sullivan mentioned that Itron is a radio frequency (RF) system while the Landis+Gyr (L+G) system presented is a power line carrier (PLC) system. Currently over 80% of utilities use an RF system. Itron is the leader in the RF arena. Currently the AMLP is using the Landis+Gyr TS1 metering system. If the AMLP decided to move forward with Landis+Gyr they would be upgrading to the PLX system.

The next meeting for the board was scheduled for December 20, 2017 at 4:00pm.

Carlisle made a motion to enter into executive session under **M.G.L. Chapter 30A: Section 21(a)** and the following clauses:

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.

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 return to open session only to adjourn. Carlisle made a motion, Ahlin seconded. Roll call vote was taken at 8:00pm. Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

 (Made In Carlisle, VC)

Sarah Davis, Clerk