

Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Wednesday, September 27, 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 2:00 pm 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. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

Wright made a motion to approve the August 30, 2023, open session meeting minutes and the August 30, 2023, executive session meeting minutes. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Wright aye, Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye.

Ahlin made a motion to approve the March 22, 2022, executive session meeting minutes, the February 16, 2022, executive session meeting minutes, and the January 19, 2022, executive session meeting minutes. Carlisle seconded. Carlisle aye, Ahlin aye, Wright abstained.

Citizen Speak: No citizen comments.

General Manager Items:

Business Assistant Position Update: Czasnowski stated that an offer was made and has been accepted for the Business Assistant position and the tentative start date is October 10th.

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 additional updates and recommendations to the Board at the next meeting.

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

Main Street Sidewalk Project Update: A definitive timeline has not been established for the project. Czasnowski stated she thought it was unlikely that the decorative posts will be removed and reinstalled in 2023.

Battery Storage Updates: Czasnowski provided the Board with a summary of the battery economics to date.

Other Updates:

- Large Interconnection Study – All the required information has been submitted to the engineer for the study.
- Osmose - Osmose began identifying the poles to be tested and will begin the inspection process in the next few weeks.
- MassDOT 101 Project – Waiting to receive notification from MassDOT that the 75% submission point has been reached and at that point AMLP will submit required documentation.
- Tree Trimming – Czasnowski and Schrecke are working with the tree contractor to determine the timeline for the remainder of the tree trimming.
- Celebrate Ashburnham – Celebrate Ashburnham street fair is this Sunday and the AMLP will be setting up a booth and will be participating in the touch-a-truck event.

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for October 18, 2023, at 9:00 am 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.

Carlisle 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.

Wright seconded. Vote was taken at 3:07 pm. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

Carlisle made a motion exit executive session and return to open session only to adjourn the meeting. Wright seconded. Vote was taken at 3:23 pm. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye

Candace Wright
Candace Wright, Secretary