

# Ashburnham Municipal Light Board

Thursday, January 18, 2024  
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 Shrecke, Aili Ruuska

Ahlin called the meeting to order at 9:04 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 the December 20, 2023 open session meeting minutes. Carlisle seconded. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye.

**Citizen Speak:** No citizen comments.

### General Manager Items:

Cost of Service Study: Czasnowski will continue to review the findings from the cost of service study and will provide additional recommendations to the Board at future meetings. More analysis will be done during the first part of 2024.

Budget & Power Bill Analysis Update: Czasnowski discussed the monthly summary reports provided to the Board.

Battery Storage Update: Czasnowski provided the Board with an update. Peaks were hit in September, October and November.

EV Charging Discussion: Czasnowski discussed the billing of the EV Stations at Town Hall and the Steven's Memorial Library with the Board. She recommended both the stations remain in the municipal rate. The Board had no opposition to this. The Board discussed the fact that the Town is responsible for managing charges for use. Czasnowski will provide the Town and Library with recommendations on charging for use of the stations, as this is

not considered resale. Ahlin requested updates about the usage of the stations at an upcoming Board meeting.

*Sunlife STD & LTD Policy Discussion:* Czasnowski discussed this policy with the Board. The Board discussed options to standardize the policy for union and non-union groups. Czasnowski will consult with an attorney and provide an update at an upcoming Board meeting.

***Other Updates:***

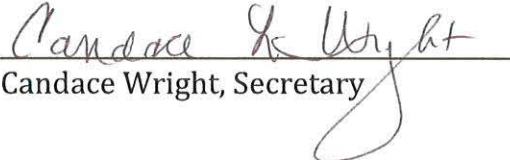
- *Propane:* Czasnowski updated the Board with the cost and amount of propane the AMLP Building has used over the last four years. Results show lower usage since insulating the garage and renovating the office.
- *Large Interconnection Study:* Czasnowski met with MMWEC regarding power costs. She stated she has sent the customer a letter regarding the next steps for the project and she is waiting to hear back.
- *Tree Trimming Update:* Czasnowski stated the tree-trimming project has been completed. Czasnowski and Shrecke will put together a plan for tree trimming this year and will present it to the Board at an upcoming meeting.
- *CDL Training:* The first lineman has begun the class.
- *Power Supply:* Czasnowski provided the Board with an update on information she received from MMWEC. The cold weather has been affecting the power bills and MMWEC is monitoring. ISO – New England is not currently anticipating a capacity shortage.
- *Auditors:* Czasnowski shared with the Board that the Goulet, Salvidio & Associates will be in the office for fieldwork on January 24 and 25. The Financial Statements and DPU Report will be presented in March.

***New Business:***

- Wright submitted a customer question about municipal fiber. This has been discussed by the Board previously and was not something the Board wanted to pursue.

The next meeting for the Board was scheduled for February 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashburnham Municipal Light Plant.

Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wright seconded. Vote was taken at 10:45 a.m. All in favor. Carlisle aye, Wright aye, Ahlin aye

  
Candace Wright, Secretary