

# WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

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## **Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes, November 5, 2017, 5:00pm**

**Present:** Board members William Smith (Vice), Win Handy (Secretary), Anthony Meola (Chairman), and GM Jonathan Fitch were present. Jason Viadero and Matthew Ide from MMWEC were present to discuss 2.5MW Peak/Load Reducer Generator. Mayhew Seavey was present to discuss electricity rate study.

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by Commissioner Smith.

**Agenda:** The Board reviewed and approved the agenda.

**Meeting Minutes:** The Board did not review or approve any meeting minutes. (October 3, 2017 no quorum)

**Customer Questions or Concerns:** GM Fitch gave the Board an update on two underground electric service failures. A direct buried conductor failed at 19 Temple Street and needs to be replaced. A direct buried conductor at 206 Lancaster Street is being replaced this week.

**Financial Statements:** The Board and GM discussed the attached FY2017 financial statements to date. GM Fitch told the Board that Goulet, Salvidio & Associates, P.C. will perform the audit work again this year and begin preliminary audit work soon.

**Natural Gas Generator:** The MMWEC staff discussed with the Board and GM the technical and financial aspects of a potential project to install a 2.5MW natural gas generator to reduce our monthly transmission costs, annual transmission costs, and act as a resiliency generator in the event of outages. The next step is for the Board to consider going out to bid for the project.

**Rate Study:** Mayhew Seavey presented and discussed with Board the attached WBMLP's rate study. The Board, GM, and Mr. Seavey discussed the existing rate of returns for each electricity rate and the potential for a uniform rate of return structure was discussed.

**2017 Power and Transmission Budget:** GM Fitch provided the Board the WBMLP 2018 draft energy and transmission budget. See attached draft 2018

budget. The Board and GM discussed the draft budget components and projects.

**New MassDEP Regulations:** GM Fitch told the Board that MassDEP issued the 7.74 Generator GHG emission limits & 7.75 Clean Energy Standard (CES) in August 2017. The CES excludes MLP's for now, but MassDEP started its stakeholder process to include MLP's. Comments are due November 30, 2017. WBMLP's previous comments are attached. GM Fitch told the Board that WBMLP's comments would be generally the same as the last set of comments and include suggestions and answers to the MassDEP stakeholder process.

**Electrical Distribution Projects:** The Board and GM discussed the most significant distribution upgrade project currently underway to convert the Temple Street feeder to a dual feeder using Hendrix bundle. This will provide two distribution feeders along a paved road that can handle the entire Town load in the event our other ROW feeders are damaged and inaccessible.

The Board and GM are considering the future state of WBMLP. Massachusetts regulators and legislators want to electrify both the transportation sector (gasoline) and the heating/cooling sectors (oil & natural gas). This electrification will require WBMLP's distribution system to be much larger in size and capacity.

**Flywheel Energy Storage System Grant:** The GM expects MassCEC to select grant winners in late November 2017.

**Other:** None

The next meeting is December 5, 2017. The Board meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

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**Anthony Meola Jr,**

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**Winthrop Handy**

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**William Smith**