

WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583
Telephone (508) 835-3681

Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes (to be approved)

5:00 PM, October 6, 2026, 29 Prospect Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

Present: Commissioners Jim Pedone, Tony Meola, and James Kingsley. WBMLP staff Chris Trudeau. The Board meeting started at 5 PM.

Agenda: The Board approved the agenda without any changes or corrections.

Meeting Minutes: The Board reviewed and approved the attached meeting minutes from May 5, 2026.

Energy Supply: Staff updated the Board on the Special Project/PPA cost per MW pricing and volume changes. The Board and staff discussed the differences between a VPPA and a PPA and agreed to keep and move forward with the purchase power agreement.

Fall Fest: Staff confirmed for the Board that a MLP booth will be set up at the West Boylston Fall Fest is Saturday, October 17th, from 11 AM to 4 PM at Goodale Park. Staff will promote e-bill, Smarthub, ACH payments, and general rebate information. One staff member from MMWEC/NextZero will also attend and assist with promoting the NextZero rebate and energy efficiency programs.

Touch-A-Truck: Staff confirmed that one lineman and a bucket truck will participate in the town's Touch-A-Truck event is October 10th, from 10am to 2pm at the Middle/High School.

Tree Trimming RFP: Staff confirmed that Dillon Tree started trimming in September and is on schedule to be completed by December 31, 2026.

29 Prospect Street Garage Generator: Staff confirmed that the \$46K quote for a 60 kW diesel generator was accepted and the order was placed on September 1st. The concrete pad was poured and is ready for delivery of the generator and connection to ATS. An electrician will be hired to complete the install before the end of December.

2027 Rebates: Staff let the Board know that WBMLP will offer the same rebates in 2027 as we did in 2026, with one additional item. A \$500 rebate for qualifying

WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583
Telephone (508) 835-3681

window mount heat-pumps will be the new addition. Information will be promoted in the office and on the website.

Solar 1 – Shrewsbury Street: Staff updated the Board on considering the replacement of forty-five (45) poorly working/damaged Evergreen ES-A-210-fa3 solar modules. These panels showed heat spots during infrared scanning. WBMLP received a quote for \$43,906.64 to supply the materials and do the work.

The Board agreed that we can't justify replacing the panels at this time considering that the inverters will reach end of life in 2031, and the panels will be 20 years old. Additionally, replacing the (45) panels may only produce an additional 9,000 kWh annually. This is only worth about \$1,900 annually at our \$0.10 per kWh average price of wholesale energy and transmission. Staff and the Board agreed to reassess the need and cost to repower the site in 2030/2031.

Front Door and ADA Ramp Improvements: Staff informed the Board that Davis Architect is preparing the design and bid documents for phase 1 and 2 of the project. The first phase will install the new stairs, door, and raising height of customer service area floor to match new stair landing height. The second phase will install a prefab aluminum ramp mounted on concrete footings, sidewalk, and a new ADA parking space. Once the two phases are designed WBMLP will solicit bids for the Board's consideration.

In September the garage ceiling below the first floor was removed to expose the structure. Davis Architect took pictures of the structure to engineer the design modifications and allow the electrical wiring to be removed/relocated.

Convergent BESS: Staff informed the Board that the 3MW BESS was operational in July 2026. National Grid's peak load occurred on July 2nd, HE 19. The BESS discharged 2,959kW and reduced West Boylston's load. WBMLP's share of the estimated monthly savings for July 2026 was \$13,972.17. In August peak was on August 7th at HE 19 and was offset by BESS resulting in an estimated savings of \$13,958.01. In September BESS had to take the system offline to perform a repair.

Vendor Warrant: Staff presented the 10/13/2027 warrant to the Board for review. The Board signed approval for payment.

Financials: Staff presented the Board with the August 2026 Income Statement and Bank Balances. Staff confirmed a transfer of funds from the depreciation investment account in May/June to fund capital purchases and projects.

WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583
Telephone (508) 835-3681

Other Business: The Board and staff discussed the following.

- **All Boards Meeting:** The Town Administrator coordinated the meeting and plans to continue with quarterly meetings. Jim provided an informal update on WBMLP business and received thanks from several board and committee members. Jim shared information, updates and comments from the meeting. Members of the sidewalk committee were asked to keep MLP staff informed of streets that have utility poles. Woodland Street is one street tagged for sidewalks. The next sidewalk committee meeting is planned for January 2027.
- **Ripple Fiber:** The Board confirmed that a redundant circuit for the municipal buildings should be available soon. James confirmed that fiber is in the neighborhood but has not yet been connected to his home. The Board discussed Eaton Fiber's acquisition of Ripple Fiber and the change in service plans and pricing.

Next Meeting is November 10, 2026. Meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM.

James Kingsley

Jim Pedone

Tony Meola