

# WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

Telephone (508) 835-3681

Fax (508) 835-2952

## **Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes, February 7 2017, 5:00pm**

**Present:** Board members Anthony Meola (Chairman), William Smith (Vice), Win Handy (Secretary), and, GM Jonathan Fitch. The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by Commissioner Smith.

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

**Meeting Minutes:** The Board reviewed and approved the meeting minutes from January 17, 2017 and December 6, 2015.

**Financial Statements:** The Board reviewed and discussed the attached FY2016 financial statements and bank balances to date.

**Retiree Health Insurance:** GM and Board discussed an employee that retired in 2006, before reaching the age of 65. In 2011, the employee turned 65 and was provided instructions to sign up for social security and Medicare. The employee did not sign up for Medicare and a decision was made that the employee wasn't eligible for Medicare. WBMLP recently questioned this again and now the employee may have to enroll in Medicare Part B by March 31, 2017, the open enrollment period, and, there may be a late enrollment penalty.

**2018 Worcester County Retirement Assessment:** GM gave the Board a summary of the current and previous pension assessments due July 1 each year.

Worcester County Retirement Expense			
Year	Increase (%)	Assessment	Increase (\$)
2012		\$91,375	
2013	14%	\$103,781	\$12,406
2014	24%	\$129,118	\$25,337
2015	22%	\$158,098	\$28,980
2016	10%	\$173,511	\$15,413
2017	9%	\$189,754	\$16,243
2018	-12%	\$167,489	(\$22,265)

**Terms and Conditions/Security Deposits:** The Board reviewed WBMLP's current terms and conditions which allows the collection of up to three months in estimated bill as a security deposit from renters and commercial accounts.

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**Legislative Efforts:** The GM gave the Board an update on MEAM legislative activities. MEAM is representing the 40 MLP's by providing a legal opinion opposing MA DOER's proposed solar incentives, and, the Clean Energy Standard proposed by MassDEP. MEAM's opinion is that MassDEP lacks the legal authority to implement a CES. Legislatively, MassDEP never intended for the GWSA to include MLP's in a CES. WBMLP is also working on public hearing submittals to help shape the CES to minimize the impact on WBMLP.

**Special Project 2015A:** The GM and Board reviewed the results of the FCA11 auction. At the last meeting WBMLP sought Board approval to hedge our capacity costs and lock in through participation in project 2015A, approximately 7% of our capacity requirements or 1.5MW's. This joint owned MMWEC project did not clear the FCA11, ISO-NE auction held yesterday. WBMLP will resubmit in the FCA12 (Feb 2018) and FCA13 (Feb 2019).

**Streetlight Grant:** MMWEC solicited bids for new LED streetlights and recommended (4) fixture manufacturers and distributors. Two of the manufacturers have been used by WBMLP. WBMLP will select one of those two manufactures to replace the remaining 500-600 fixtures in Town.

**Community Shared Landfill Solar Project:** The new solar site produced approximately 106 MWh's compared to 133 MWh's estimated amount from Greenskies. There was a lot of down time in January due to commissioning the site and snowfall. 106 MWh's produces approximately \$29,945 in REC revenue, not including the value of the actual energy and transmission benefits.

**Causeway Light Fixture:** Sample fixture installed on the causeway.

**Middle School Energy Fair:** WBMLP is providing LED light bulbs, solar panel, and information about our renewable energy projects for an energy affair at the Middle School in West Boylston.

**Customer issue:** 61 Bowen Street, trimmed spruce tree.

**Other:** None

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**The next meeting is March 7, 2017. The Board meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.**

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**Anthony Meola Jr,**

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**Winthrop Handy**

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**William Smith**